



United Nations Development Programme

Government of the Egypt

Interim Evaluation of UNDP/GCF Project: Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt (ECCADP) (GCF ID number FP053)

Final Report

Mission Members:

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SYNOPSIS

Title of UNDP supported GCF financed project: Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt (ECCAE Project)

UNDP Project ID: 00101999

GCF ID Number: FP053

Evaluation time frame: May 2018 to January 2022

Board approval date: 2 October 2017

Project implementation start date: 29 May 2018

Project operational closure: 29 May 2025

Date of evaluation report: 28 February 2022

Region and Countries included in the project: Egypt

Implementing partner and other strategic partners: Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation

Interim Evaluation team members: Mr. Roland Wong, International Interim Evaluator

FAA Effectiveness date: 2 October 2018

Acknowledgements:

The Interim Evaluator wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the time and effort expended by all Project participants and stakeholders during the course of the ECCADP Interim Evaluation. In particular, we wish to thank UNDP Egypt, the Project Management Unit of the ECCAD Project, and other key Project stakeholders (both from Government agencies and the private sector) for making the efforts to recall details of their time while on the project. In particular, we wish to thank Dr Ragab Abdel Azim, the national project director and the numerous public and private stakeholders for being generous with their time to provide their passionate opinions on the potential impact of this Project. We sincerely hope that this report on ECCADP implementation will lead to the built capacity to implement comprehensive and systemic steps to reduce coastal flooding threats along the Nile Delta and the entire North Coast of Egypt.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

E-1. This report summarizes the findings of the Interim Evaluation conducted via virtual meetings between 7-21 February 2022 for the UNDP-GCF Project: “*Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt*” (hereby referred to as the *Egypt ECCAD Project*, *ECCADP* or the Project) that received a US\$ 31,384,800 grant from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in November 2018.

Project Information Table

Project Title:	<i>Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt (Egypt ECCAD Project)</i>			
GCF ID Number:	FP053		<i>at Board approval (Million US\$)</i>	<i>at mid-term (Million US\$)</i>
UNDP Project ID:		GCF financing:	31.385	11.246
Country:	Egypt	IA/EA own:	0.100	0.045
Region:	Middle East	Government:	73.707	70.650
Focal Area:	Adaptation	Other:	0.000	0.000
UNDAF/ Country Programme Outcome	UNDAF priority area 5: Environmental Sustainability and Natural Resource Management	Total co-financing:	73.807	70.695
Implementing Partner:	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI)	Total Project Cost:	105.192	81.941
Other Partners involved:	N/A	ProDoc Signature (date project began):		29 May 2018
		(Operational) Closing Date:	Proposed: 29 May 2025	Actual: 29 May 2025

Project Description

E-2. The main objective of the ECCADP Project is to “reduce coastal flooding risks in Egypt’s North Coast due to the combination of projected sea level rise and more frequent and intense extreme storm events.”. It was designed to do so by supporting:

- construction of 69 km of sand dune dikes at five vulnerable hotspots within the Nile Delta that were identified during an engineering scoping assessment (Output 1); and
- developing an integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) plan for the entire North Coast, to manage long-term climate change risks and provide Egypt with adaptability to impending flood risks (Output 2).

Project Progress Summary

E-3. The ECCADP ProDoc was signed on 2 October 2018. The Project started up implementation in November 2018 with the recruitment of the project manager and with the SPA survey of a 14 km length of coastal protection in Kafr El Shiekh Governorate; that section of coastal protection proceeded to design completion by January 2019. Two contracts each with 7 km soft protection

were advertised and then awarded in April 2019 with an estimated total value of US\$3.5 million. This was a key start to the good progress of the Project as of January 2022.

E-4. For Output 1:

- as of January 2022, coastal protection construction works in Kafr El-Sheikh have been completed with construction works in progress at Port Said (91% completion), Dakahlia (40 % completion), Damietta (47% completion), and Behira (69% completion) (see Para [4747](#));
- progress of the coastal protection construction works included launching 5 more contracts in 2020 and 3 more contracts in 2021, and SPA engineering teams completing field surveys and design works for 55 kms in the hotspots by early 2021 (see Paras [5151](#) and [5252](#));
- notwithstanding that progress did not include the development and implementation of an operations & maintenance programme for the installed soft protection structures, the completed dyke system within the Governorate of Kafr El-Sheikh had been tested twice in December 2020 and 2021 under heavy storms. This meant the system was able to prevent sea water flooding inland and not requiring any maintenance work afterwards.
- in 2020, a socio-economic study was completed to develop the baseline conditions for the hotspots, assess the real impacts of the coastal protection on the inhabitants of the hotspots, and help improve the livelihood for local communities (see Para [5151](#));
- the COVID-19 pandemic slowed down all Project activities as of March 2020 (see Paras [6161](#), [6262](#), [7979](#) and [104104](#)).

E-5. For Output 2:

- there was procurement of a high spec server (2.2 GHz Xeon processor with 128 GB RAM and 2.5 TB storage) as a part of the UNDP-GEF project ACCNDP, to collect and disseminate the national observation data (Activity 2.1) (see Table 2);
- an International Consulting firm was selected to develop the ICZM Plan. They started their work in March 2021 with a literature review to collect the relevant information needed for next steps of the plan development, and meeting most of the key stakeholders (Activity 2.2) (see Para [5656](#));
- a capacity building program was developed in 2020 to introduce the ICZM approach for local government institutions involved in long-term management of the north coast. This included coastal sectoral staff at governorate level in raising their capacities to ensure smooth implementation of the ICZM plan in 2021 (see Paras [4848](#) and [4949](#));
- ICZM Plan Inception report was completed in December 2021 including the training programme that will continue to be implemented in 2022 and 2023 (Activity 2.3) (see Paras [2727](#) and [6060](#)).

E-6. The Project achieved the following since it started in 2018:

- completion of 5 Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) on behalf of Shore Protection Authority for coastal protection works at the five vulnerable hotspots in the Nile Delta. These ESIAs received approval from the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) (see Para [5151](#));
- upscaling of the nature-based coastal protection solutions in the Nile Delta covering 49 km against a mid-term target of 25 km. Implementation of the soft coastal protection measures in the 5 most vulnerable hotspots reached 70% and construction is expected to be completed in

2022 (see Para [4747](#));

- a consortium of international and national consulting firms has been recruited to develop an ICZM plan for the whole North Coast. Analysis and assessment of various risks has been initiated including those of climate change, and will be completed by the end of 2022 (see Paras [5656-5858](#));
- a comprehensive capacity building program was initiated in 2020 and is ongoing for officials in relevant government entities as well as municipalities to support the nature-based construction activities and the development of the ICZM plan (see Paras [5656-5858](#)).

Conclusions

E-7. The ECCADP Project is contributing to the achievement of climate-resilient sustainable development along the North Coast of Egypt. Good progress is being made by the Project on construction-related activities of soft coastal protection structures on the Project. For example, communities in the Governorate of Kafr El-Sheikh have not been inundated by the winter storms for the first time in several decades, enabling them not to bear the risks and impact of unabated coastal inundation and associated damages. This robust development work by the Project can be attributed to Government of Egypt (GoE) co-financing and the high level of attention and support from the GoE to the Project, which is clearly linked with country strategies and development plans (see Paras [101101100100-101101](#)).

E-8. There is also strong development of the ICZM plan which started in 2021 with the international consulting firm now completing a “diagnosis phase” with risk and vulnerability analysis and assessment scheduled for later in 2022. With ongoing tool development and awareness raising and knowledge dissemination, Government stakeholders will strengthen their decision-making and institutional capacities for resilient coastal management, paving the way for development of the ICZM plan in 2023 (see Paras [102102-103103](#)).

MTR Ratings and Achievement Summary

E-9. Table A has the summary of MTR ratings and achievement summary.

Recommendations

E-10. Recommendation 1: Ensure the “diagnosis” phase is completed in 2022 to allow for the “preparation of the ICZM plan” to take place in 2023, and ICZM implementation in 2024 and 2025 (see Para [106106](#)).

E-11. Recommendation 2: Ensure institutional arrangements place a prominent role for EEAA in implementing the ICZM (see Para [107107](#)).

E-12. Recommendation 3: Make requests for grant tranches 3 to 6 months in advance to avoid adverse impacts from delays in GCF disbursements (see Para [108108](#)).

E-13. Recommendation 4: Ensure the “diagnosis” phase of the ICZM plan is a success by ensuring the comprehensive awareness raising programme is being implemented (see Para [109109](#)).

- E-14. Recommendation 5: Guide the formulation of the ICZM plan to practical and implementable actions that takes into account the existing and anticipated physical, environmental, social, economic and institutional issues and activities and climate change impacts (see Para [110110](#)).
- E-15. Recommendation 6: Use the ICZM and the National Observation System to guide the development and implementation of an operations & maintenance programme for the installed soft protection structures (see Para [111111](#)).
- E-16. Recommendation 7: Post a dedicated website for the ECCAD Project (see Para [112112](#)).

Lessons Learned

- E-17. Lesson #1: When there are several small assignments in one region, the best approach to recruiting consulting services is to lump all project sites into one large assignment for one consulting firm (see Para [113113](#)).
- E-18. Lesson #2: On-line meetings are the best way to overcome delays due to Covid-19 restrictions (see Para [114114](#)).
- E-19. Lesson #3: Implementation of the precautionary measures succeeded in controlling the spread of Covid-19 infections amongst workers at the construction site of the soft coastal protection structures (see Para [115115](#)).
- E-20. Lesson #4: A strong NPD translates into strong Project implementation (see Para [116116](#)).

Table A: Interim Evaluation Ratings & Achievement Summary Table for “ECCADP” in Egypt

Measure	IE Rating ¹	Achievement Description
Project Formulation		Design well laid out in PRF complete with mostly SMART indicators. The only issue has been the need to reword some of the Output 2 indicators and the overall Project outcome (see Para 4141).
	Stakeholder Participation Rating: 5	Relevant stakeholders were consulted during the PPG phase through extensive consultations and involvement of government officials at MWRI including SPA, CoRI officials. GoE ownership of ECCADP is strong (see Para 3333).
Progress Towards Results	Fund-level impact achievement Rating: 6	With 49 km of completed soft coastal protection structures, Project progress is ahead of the mid-term level target of 25 km. This means there is increased resilience of infrastructure and the built environment to climate change (see Para 4747).
	Outcome A5.0 Achievement Rating: 5	With regards to “strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive planning and development”, the Project has been in the initial stages of preparing the ICZM plan including over 50 people attending workshops for ICZM tools, the most important tool being the risk assessment tool (see Para 4848).
	Outcome A7.0 Achievement Rating: 5	With regards to “strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks”, more than 150,000 people now have reduced exposure to climate risks due to soft coastal protection measures (see Para 5050).
	Output 1 Achievement Rating: 6	Regarding “reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding damage in hotspot locations in Nile Delta”, benefits of reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding damage have been realized for 49 km of the North Coast (see Paras 5151 to 5454).
	Outcome 2 Achievement Rating: 5	Regarding “development of an integrated coastal zone management plan (ICZM) for the entire North Coast of Egypt”, this is being achieved through the international consulting team and the PMU meeting with 45 key stakeholders, and the International Consulting firm undertaking an action plan with specific activities (see Paras 5555 to 5858).
Project Implementation & Adaptive Management	Implementation Approach Rating: 6	The implementation approach of ECCADP has been excellent (see Para 6565 Error! Reference source not found.).
	Monitoring and Evaluation Rating: 5	The monitoring and evaluation systems setup for ECCADP are rated as satisfactory considering the diligent reporting of the progress of activities against the ECCADP PRF (see Paras 7474 - 7676 Error! Reference source not found.).
	Stakeholder Participation Rating: 5	The most important stakeholder engagement activities has been the International consulting firm and PMU meeting all the stakeholders to be involved in the development of the ICZM Plan in 2021, and the Project Board meetings (see Paras 7777 to 7878).
Sustainability	Sustainability Rating: 3	Government responses remain uncertain to the utilization of the many tools being presented to implement and manage the ICZM plan (see Paras 8686 8686 and 8989 Error! Reference source not found.).
Overall Project Achievement and impact	Rating: 5	The Project is contributing to the achievement of climate-resilient sustainable development along the North Coast consisting of reduced vulnerability of coastal communities to future impacts of climate change that includes sea level rise, more frequent intense storms and heightened destructive wave energies that have caused recent significant damages to livelihoods and economic assets (see Paras 100100 - 104104).

¹ Evaluation rating indices (except sustainability – see Para 70): 6=*Highly Satisfactory (HS)*: The project has no shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 5=*Satisfactory (S)*: The project has minor shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives;

ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym	Meaning
ACCNDP	Adaptation to Climate Change in the Nile Delta through Integrated Coastal Zone Management project (UNDP-GEF Project)
APR	Annual Performance Report
CC	Climate Change
CoRI	Coastal Research Institute
CPAP	UNDP’s Country Programme Action Plan
ECCADP	“Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt” Project
EEAA	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
EoP	End of Project
ESIAs	Environmental and Social Impact Assessments
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
FAA	Funded Activity Agreement (GCF)
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GoE	Government of Egypt
GOPP	General Organization for Physical Planning
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IE	Interim Evaluation
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
INV	Investment
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MWRI	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NCPSLU	National Center for Planning State Land Uses
NPD	National Project Director
NWRC	National Water Research Center
OFP	GEF Operational Focal Point
PIF	Project Identification Form
PMU	Project Implementation Unit
PRF	Project results framework
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RToC	Reconstructed Theory of Change
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound
SPA	Shore Protection Authority
TDA	Tourism Development Authority
ToC	Theory of Change

4=*Moderately Satisfactory (MS)*: The project has moderate shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 3=*Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)*: The project has significant shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 2=*Unsatisfactory (U)*: The project has major shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 1=*Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)*: The project has severe shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives.

Acronym		Meaning
UNDAF		United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP		United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC		United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USD		US Dollar

1. INTRODUCTION

1. This report summarizes the findings of the Interim Evaluation (IE) conducted during the 26 January-21 March 2022 period for the UNDP-GCF Project entitled: **“Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt”** (hereby referred to as the Egypt ECCADP Project, Project or ECCADP). In May 2018, this Project received a US\$31,384,800 grant from the Global Climate Fund (GCF). The Project objective is to “reduce coastal flooding risks in Egypt’s North Coast due to the combination of projected sea level rise and more frequent and intense extreme storm events”.

1.1 Purpose of the Interim Evaluation

2. In accordance with UNDP and GCF M&E policies and procedures, all UNDP-GCF projects are required to undergo an IE at the mid-point of implementation of a project. The IE is critical for informing and improving the implementation of projects or programmes, and for helping the Fund to report on results and lessons relevant to GCF objectives. As such, the IE for this Project serves to:
 - assess early signs of project success or failure with the goal of identifying the necessary changes to be made to set the Project on-track to achieve its intended results;
 - strengthen the adaptive management and monitoring functions of the Project;
 - enhance the likelihood of achievement of Project and GEF objectives through analyzing Project strengths and weaknesses and suggesting measures for improvement;
 - enable informed decision-making;
 - create the basis for replication of successful Project outcomes achieved to date;
 - identify and validate proposed changes to the ProDoc to ensure achievement of all Project objectives; and
 - assess whether it is possible to achieve the objectives in the given timeframe, taking into consideration the pace at which the Project is proceeding.
3. This IE was prepared to:
 - be undertaken independently of Project management to ensure independent quality assurance;
 - apply UNDP-GCF norms and standards for interim evaluations;
 - assess achievements of outputs and outcomes, likelihood of the sustainability of outcomes, and if the Project met the minimum M&E requirements; and
 - provide recommendations to increase the likelihood of the Project delivering all of its intended outputs and achieving intended outcomes.

1.2 Scope and Methodology

4. The scope of the IE covers the entire UNDP-supported, GCF-financed, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI) implemented ECCADP Project and its components as well as the co-financed components of the Project. This IE assesses 41 months of Project progress, achievements and implementation taking into account the status of Project activities, outputs and the resource disbursements made up to 31 December 2021. The IE also reports on the progress against objective, outcome, output, and impact indicators listed in the latest Project Results Framework (PRF) as

provided in Appendix F as to how these outcomes and outputs will be achieved within the Project duration (up to 29 May 2025) or with a Project extension. The IE report concludes with recommendations, as appropriate, for the key stakeholders of the Project. The IE is approached through the criteria of *relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact*, as defined and explained in the UNDP “Guidance for Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-supported, GEF-financed Projects”, and the GEF M&E policy (in the absence of detailed GCF M&E policy).

5. The methodology adopted for this IE includes:

- Review of Project documentation (e.g. Annual Performance Reviews (APRs), meeting minutes of Project Board) and pertinent background information;
- Interviews with key Project personnel including the current Project Manager, technical advisors, and Project developers;
- Interviews with relevant stakeholders including personnel from Implementing Partner, other government agencies and institutes and private sector entities; and
- Virtual visits to Project sites due to the COVID-19 pandemic substituted by interviews with beneficiaries.

A detailed itinerary of the Mission is shown in Appendix B. A full list of people interviewed and documents reviewed are given in Appendix C and Appendix D respectively. The IE Team for the UNDP-GCF project was comprised of one international IE consultant.

6. The Project was reviewed in the context of:

- *Project strategy*: This includes an analysis of the ECCADP Project design (and PRF) as outlined in the ProDoc to identify if the strategy is effective in achieving the desired outcomes;
- *Progress towards results*: This is to include information provided from, amongst others, Project work plans, APRs, relevant Project reports and information provided from various Project stakeholders;
- *Project implementation and adaptive management*: This would be an assessment of the quality of support to the Project from UNDP as well as the Implementing Partner of the Project, the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI). Assessment parameters would include management arrangements, work planning, finance and co-finance, Project level monitoring and evaluation systems, stakeholder engagement, reporting and communications; and
- *Sustainability*: The likely ability of an intervention to continue to deliver benefits for an extended period of time after the end-of-Project (EOP). The IE sustainability assessment essentially sets the stage for the Terminal Evaluation during which sustainability will be rated under the four categories of sustainability, namely financial, socioeconomic, institutional framework and governance, and environmental.

7. Since this assignment has coincided with the severe global travel restrictions in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this IE has mainly relied on field information gathered by the International IE Consultant based in Vancouver. With progress achieved, the lack of field visits to Project sites has adversely affected the quality of the IE. A limitation of this IE has been the inability of the International IE Consultant to have face-to-face interviews with all key stakeholders. Regardless, the IE Consultant has made every effort to understand the Project and present a fair and a well-balanced

assessment of the Project. Any gross misrepresentation of the Project has been resolved through discussions with the Project team.

1.3 Structure of the IE Report

8. This IE report is presented as follows:

- An overview of ECCADP Project activities from a development context from its commencement of operations on 1 November 2018 to the present;
- An assessment of Project strategy and design;
- An assessment of Project progress towards results;
- An assessment of Project implementation and adaptive management;
- Assessment of sustainability of Project outcomes; and
- Conclusions and recommendations.

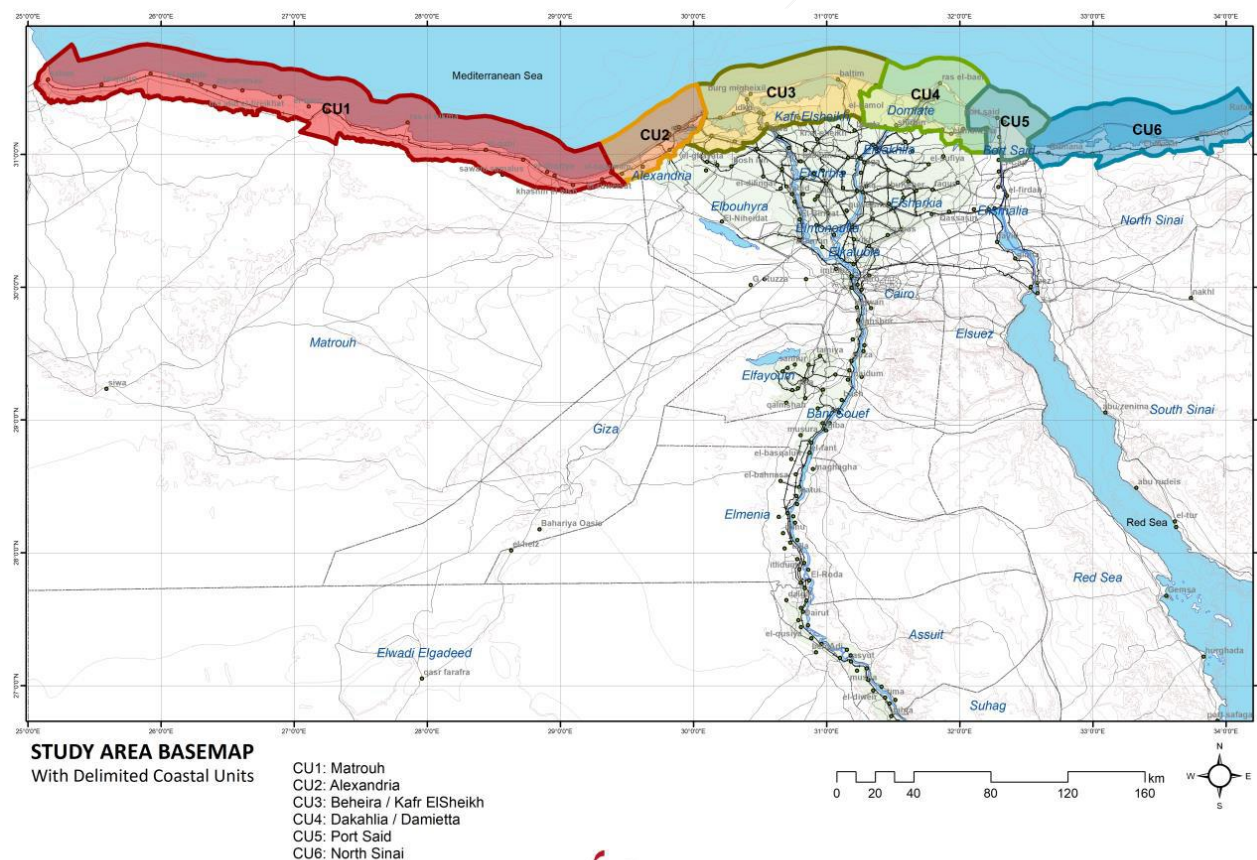
9. Though there is no specific guidance to preparing GCF Interim Evaluations, the GCF Programming Manual and the GCF Evaluation Policy provide generic guidance to GCF Evaluations. However, to increase the likelihood of a project delivering all of its intended outputs and achieving intended outcomes, all UNDP vertical-funded projects undergo a mid-term evaluation including ECCADP.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

2.1 Development Context

10. The ECCADP seeks to support adaptation efforts of the Government of Egypt (GoE) in the Nile Delta, the area identified by the IPCC in its Fourth Assessment Report as one of the world’s three “extreme” vulnerable hotspots. The vulnerable hotspots in the Nile Delta are situated in Northern Egypt, located approximately 150 km to the northwest and northeast of Cairo, and stretching 250 km along the Mediterranean coast from Alexandria in the West to Port Said in the East. The Nile Delta is about 20,000 km² and is home to approximately 40 million Egyptians. The Nile Delta is also one of the world's most fertile farming areas, accounting for approximately 90% of Egypt’s agricultural sector output. It is also the source of more than 60% of Egypt’s annual fish catch from 3 main Delta lagoons, Idku, Burullus and Manzalla, separated from the Mediterranean by a mere 0.5-3 km sand belt and dune system. In all, the Nile Delta is responsible for 50% of the country’s economic activity through agriculture, industry and fisheries, contributing about 20% of the country’s GDP and accounting for the employment of 30% of the national labor force. A base map of the North Coast of Egypt is shown on Figure 1.

Figure 1: Base map showing Nile Delta and the North Coast of Egypt²



² From NIRAS Inception Report of 30 January 2022

11. Extreme storm events, driven by the combination of high tides associated with sea level rise and storm surges, have led to devastating coastal flooding and consequential millions of dollars in damages, such as flooding events in Alexandria in 2010 and 2015. Moreover, coastal areas in the Nile Delta have been vulnerable to an increasing frequency and intensity of extreme coastal storms associated with sea level rise. Notwithstanding a considerable level of uncertainty in climate modeling efforts, the Southern Mediterranean has already seen a measurable increase in the number of natural disasters, from an average of 3 natural disasters per year in 1980, to more than 15 per year in 2006. This increase in frequency and severity of storm surges is already evident over the past 7 years, with 3 extreme storms most commonly associated with 1-in-50 year storm events. Despite its relatively negligible contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions, Egypt is disproportionately burdened with the need to cope with climate change risks.
12. Potential impacts of climate change in Egypt estimates a reduction of 16% in agricultural production by 2030 and up to 47% by 2060, with reductions in agriculture-related employment of up to 39% leading to millions of people losing their jobs and threatening food security in the country. Coastal flooding or permanent inundation of 3 main delta lagoons (Idku, Burullus and Manzalla) would lead to a decline in water quality, adversely impacting fishery activities. Climate change induced sea level rise also threatens critical infrastructure for the Egyptian economy and trade such as roads and ports. Loss of beaches and higher temperatures affecting coastal ecosystems could reduce annual tourist revenues by US\$10 to 12 billion. All these factors make this ECCADP Project, to protect the low-lying Northern coast of the Nile Delta region, a high priority for adaptation to climate change in Egypt. These priorities are well-reflected in Egypt’s Initial (GoE, 1999), 2nd (GoE, 2010) and 3rd (GoE, 2016) National Communications under UNFCCC. With Egypt being far below levels needed for food self-sufficiency, any loss of prime agricultural land due to coastal flooding will have a direct adverse impact on the livelihoods of millions of people and lead to hardship throughout the entire economy.

2.2 Problems that ECCADP Seeks to Address

13. Past efforts and projects have not produced the kind of transformational change required for Egypt to sustain long-term coastal resilience along its North Coast. Rather, past projects started the process of producing transformational changes. An Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Scoping Study in Egypt was developed under the UNDP-GEF Project “Adaptation to Climate Change in the Nile Delta through Integrated Coastal Zone Management” (ACCNDP). The study aimed at initiating the process of achieving sustainable management of the Egyptian northern coastal area through the holistic understanding of coastal threats and opportunities, and through the provision of adequate institutional framework. The study entailed:
 - compiling, analyzing and integrating existing information of the Northern Coast;
 - identifying key issues and management priorities;
 - involving coastal stakeholders in the definition of coastal issues to achieve a shared understanding and ownership of future coastal planning stages;
 - applying a division methodology, whereby the coastal stretch was divided into homogeneous coastal management units;
 - conducting a sectoral and integrated diagnosis of the physical, ecological, socioeconomic and legal and institutional aspects of each coastal unit, including SWOT analysis and identification of key issues;

- conducting a legal and institutional assessment of main opportunities and constraints for ICZM development in Egypt; and
- providing conclusions and recommendations for the establishment of an ICZM process for the North Coast of Egypt.

2.3 ECCADP Description and Strategy

14. The ECCADP Project presents a paradigm shift in Egypt’s coastal protection practices by:
 - opting for critical soft coastal protection³ over shoreline armoring in 5 exposed hotspots that require immediate attention. Operation and maintenance needs for the 69 km of soft protection measures in the hotspots are being made beyond the Project implementation period, as committed by the GoE for the next 20 years. These measures are to directly benefit approximately 768,164 people and indirectly benefit 16.9 million people in urban and rural communities; and
 - strengthening the local coastal management capacities to ensure implementation of an ICZM plan. The Project thus seeks to instigate transformative change in not only the current practices in coastal protection, but also in the perceptions of stakeholders within coastal management so that shorelines are perceived as a part of an integrated coastal system. The ICZM plan is to provide benefits through capacity building to enable stakeholders to conduct a robust diagnosis of coastal threats, update regulatory and institutional frameworks to account for sea level rise, and setup and utilize a coastal observation system for ongoing data collection and analysis.
15. Output 1 deals with the critical soft coastal protection divided into 3 major activities.
16. Activity 1 of Output 1 focuses on the development of soft coastal protection (pre-construction) detailed designs, and site-specific assessments undertaken for protecting 69 km of the Nile Delta in 5 vulnerable hotspot locations. It involves the following major sub activities:
 - Sub-Activity 1.1.1: Generation of local data needed to characterize the vulnerable hotspot locations;
 - Sub-Activity 1.1.2: Use of the local data generated to undertake flood modeling with and without soft coastal protection to establish detailed design characteristics for each hotspot;
 - Sub-Activity 1.1.3: Finalization of all in-depth design documents, specifications, and engineering drawings necessary for development of a comprehensive bill of quantities for the soft protection measures.
17. Activity 2 of Output 1 focuses on constructing location-specific coastal soft protection structures at the 5 vulnerable hotspot locations. It involves the following major sub activities:
 - Sub-Activity 1.2.1: Initiate a tendering process to select local contractor(s) to construct the coastal protection measures;
 - Sub-Activity 1.2.2: Carry out all site preparation activities;

³ These measures were designed to mirror natural coastal features and sand dunes and transform the areas from high to low-risk zones for coastal flooding. The “soft” coastal protection measures are stabilized with a combination of rocks and local vegetation species to encourage dune growth by trapping and stabilizing blown sand. Importantly, the soft coastal protection measures are providing beneficial reuse of existing dredge material that would otherwise be disposed into the marine environment.

- Sub-Activity 1.2.3: Construct the 5 coastal protection measures;
 - Sub-Activity 1.2.4: Conduct and maintain records for site inspection during the construction period.
18. Activity 3 of Output 1 focuses developing and implementing an operations & maintenance programme for the installed soft protection structures. It involves the following major sub activities:
- Sub-Activity 1.3.1: Develop a soft coastal protection maintenance manual to govern future maintenance and rehabilitation activities, tailored to Nile Delta conditions;
 - Sub-Activity 1.3.2: Codify the procedures in the manual within the governing regulations of the SPA;
 - Sub-Activity 1.3.3: Conduct operations and maintenance activities over the lifetime of the project consistent with the coastal protection maintenance manual.
19. Output 2 deals with the “diagnosis” and “preparation of the ICZM plan” and is divided into 4 major activities.
20. Activity 1 of Output 2 focuses on the development of national capability to conduct long-term climate change risk-induced hazard, vulnerability and risk high resolution assessments of erosion and flooding under climate change scenarios on an ongoing and iterative basis. It involves the following major sub activities:
- Sub-Activity 2.1.1: Characterization of marine dynamics based on the numerical modelling of wind, waves, currents and sea level change in the future;
 - Sub-Activity 2.1.2: Establishment of coastal modeling systems consisting of databases, methods and tools suitable for modeling shoreline dynamics in the North Coast context;
 - Sub-Activity 2.1.3: Conducting high-resolution hazard assessment under a set of climate change scenarios to develop flooding maps that account for storm surge inundation levels that factor in projected sea level rise;
 - Sub-Activity 2.1.4: Conducting of vulnerability and risk high resolution assessment under climate change scenarios to integrate the exposure of coastal areas and their sensitivity to flooding and erosion impacts.
21. Activity 2 of Output 2 focuses on the development of a climate change risk-informed ICZM plan to include a Shoreline Management Plan (SMP), a Coastal Management Plan (CMP) and a regulatory legislative institutional framework. This is the core activity of the ICZM policy cycle where the ICZM plan for the North Coast of Egypt is developed. It involves the following major sub activities
- Sub-Activity 2.2.1: Development of a Shoreline Management Plan for climate change adaptation;
 - Sub-Activity 2.2.2: Development of a regulatory and legislative framework to ensure effective implementation of climate change adaptation activities under ICZM principles;
 - Sub-Activity 2.2.3: Development of an institutional governance mechanism at the national and governorate levels to ensure a shared ownership of the ICZM Plan with concerned authorities and civil society groups in the planning process;
 - Sub-Activity 2.2.4: Establishment of the monitoring and evaluation system to enable managers to take appropriate corrective actions;

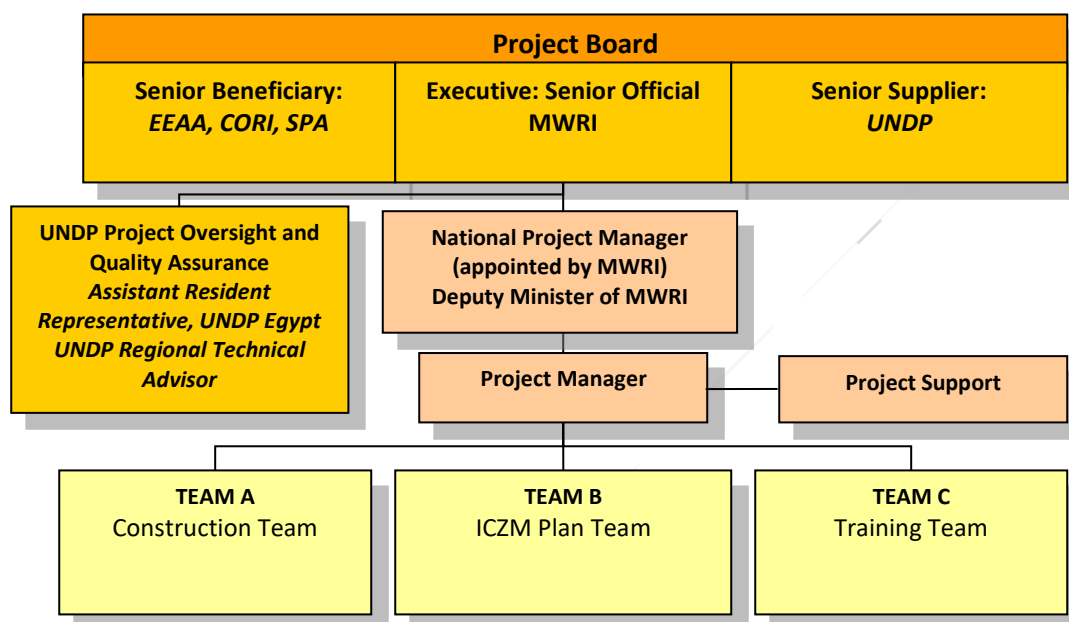
- Sub-Activity 2.2.5: Initiate implementation of the coastal protection measures generated from the ICZM plan.
22. Activity 3 of Output 2 focuses on the development of a capacity building program on climate change risk management for institutions involved in the long-term management of the north coast. It will involve the following major sub-activities:
- Sub-Activity 2.3.1: Assessment of capacity needs for ICZM planning;
 - Sub-Activity 2.3.2: Transfer of coastal observation and modelling systems to coastal management;
 - Sub-Activity 2.3.3: Design and implementation of modular training program for MWRI/SPA and EEAA to build skills for professional development of coastal management practitioners;
 - Sub-Activity 2.3.4: Design and implementation of the modular training program for other stakeholders;
 - Sub-Activity 2.3.5: Monitoring and evaluation of the capacity building program results;
 - Sub-Activity 2.3.6: Design and implementation of a programme to promote sustainable livelihoods of poor women in hotspot areas.
23. Activity 4 of Output 2 focuses on the implementation of specific components of a national observation system. It will involve the following major sub-activities:
- Sub-Activity 2.4.1: Procurement and installation of observation monitoring equipment for coastal zone management of climate change induced risks on coastal areas;
 - Sub-Activity 2.4.2: Development and implementation of a capacity building programme for MWRI/SPA and EEAA that focuses on training in the operation of all elements of the national observation system;
 - Sub-Activity 2.4.3: Design and implementation of a quality control assurance programme amongst the participating institutions and agencies for the collection, evaluation, and distribution of data generated from the various components of the national observation system.
24. With GoE's co-financing in the form of a cash grant, ECCADP offers a mechanism to implement comprehensive and systemic steps to reduce coastal flooding threats along the Nile Delta (in the near-term) and the entire North Coast of Egypt (in the mid- to long-term). The ECCADP Project seeks to instigate transformative change in not only the current practices in coastal protection, but also in the perceptions of stakeholders within coastal management so that shorelines are perceived as a part of an integrated coastal system.

2.4 Project Implementation Arrangements

25. The Implementing Partner for the ECCAD Project is MWRI. The Implementing Partner is responsible and accountable for managing this project, including the monitoring and evaluation of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and for the effective use of UNDP resources. The Implementing Partner is responsible for:
- Approving and signing the multiyear workplan;
 - Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and
 - Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

26. The Project Board is responsible for making by consensus, management decisions when guidance is required by the Project Manager, including recommendations for UNDP/Implementing Partner approval of project plans and revisions, and addressing any project level grievances. To ensure UNDP’s ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions are made in accordance with standards that ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, final decision shall rest with the UNDP Programme Manager. The Project organization structure is shown on Figure 2.

Figure 2: Project Organization Structure



2.5 ECCADP Timing and Milestones

27. The ECCADP was designed as a 7-year project that commenced on 29 May 2018 scheduled to end on 29 May 2025. Progress to date has been satisfactory as further detailed in Section 3.2. A summary of significant events for the first 42 months of the ECCADP Project include:

- the Government of Egypt signing the ECCADP ProDoc on 2 October 2018 along with the recruitment of the Project Manager in November 2018, and the first tranche of GCF money in UNDP’s account;
- field surveys and design work completed for 14 Kms of coastal protection system in Kafr El-Sheikh in early 2019;
- Initiated the first comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) submitted by Shore Protection Authority for coastal protection works in Kafr El-Sheikh in July 2019;
- two contracts awarded for soft coastal protection structures at Kafr El-Sheikh in April 2019;
- tendering process for International Consulting firms to develop the ICZM plan was first advertised in July 2019, then deferred until October 2019;
- The project organized an awareness session about the project objectives and outputs in the international annual event Cairo Water Week which was led by the Minister of Water Resources

- and Irrigation and Minister of Environment as well as UNDP Resident Representative and UNDP-GCF Regional Technical Advisor;
 - two contracts awarded for soft coastal protection structures at Kafr El-Sheikh in 2020;
 - two contracts awarded for soft coastal protection structures at Dakhelia in August and December 2020;
 - one contract awarded for soft coastal protection structures at Damietta in January 2021;
 - one contract awarded for soft coastal protection structures at Behira in January 2021;
 - contract signed with International Consulting firm to support development of the ICZM plan for the North Coast in January 2021;
 - completion of a socio-economic study for the protected hotspots in five governorates, namely, Behira, Kafr El-Sheikh, Dakhelia, Damietta and Port Said in March 2020;
 - comprehensive awareness programme for the coastal sectoral government officials at governorate level to raise their capacities on ICZM to ensure support to development and implementation of the ICZM plan in March - October 2020;
 - international consulting team together with the PMU meeting with 25 key stakeholders as a part of the “diagnosis phase” of the ICZM plans in June and July 2021;
 - coastal protection works in Kafr El-Sheikh completed in August 2021;
 - inception phase of the international consulting firm’s assignment was completed in December 2021.
28. In summary, the ECCAD Project effectively commenced on 1 November 2018 with the Project Manager position filled at that time. The contracts for soft coastal protection works started almost near the commencement of the Project, with little time lost. The International Consulting firm for ICZM started work in March 2021. There was also extensive stakeholder outreach during 2020 and 2021 that provides indications of strong country ownership.

2.6 Main Stakeholders

29. The main stakeholders for the ECCADP Project is the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI), who serve as the Project’s Implementing Partner accountable to UNDP and responsible for managing the Project. This would include the monitoring and evaluation of Project interventions, achievement of Project outcomes, and the effective use of resources made available by UNDP.
30. To achieve the specific ECCADP objective of “reducing coastal flooding risks in Egypt’s North Coast due to the combination of projected sea level rise and more frequent and intense extreme storm events”, ECCADP needed to engage a small range of government stakeholders in Egypt (as specified in the ProDoc) and summarized as follows:
- *The Shore Protection Authority (SPA)*. SPA falls directly under the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation and is responsible for protection of the Egyptian coasts along the Mediterranean and Red Sea. This includes managing the shoreline in coastal areas that have socioeconomic or natural resource value that are threatened by erosion. SPA develops coastal zone management plans, designs projects for shore protection, and issues license for projects located in the coastal zone area. It is a key player in the implementation of Project activities because of its experience in coastal protection structures and planning activities in the North Coast;
 - *The National Water Research Center (NWRC)* is the research executive arm for the MWRI. In particular, the Coastal Research Institute (CoRI) is responsible for investigating coastal processes

along the Nile Delta as well as all the entire Egyptian coasts; monitoring the evolution of the Egyptian coast; study the dynamics of its shores; and finding out efficient and cost-effective control methods to protect valuable coastal infrastructure from erosion. It works closely with SPA on diagnosing coastal threats and has been at the forefront of calls for urgently protecting areas under threat from sea level rise-induced flooding, and for the development of an ICZM plan to guide future development plans along the North Coast;

- EEAA hosts the ICZM national focal point as well as the GCF DNA. EEAA acts as national focal point for all environmental issues and oversees strategic directives related to compliance with national and international environmental norms;
- *General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP), National Center for Planning State Land Uses (NCPSLU), Tourism Development Authority (TDA) and Coastal Governorates* were also included as stakeholders;
- General beneficiary stakeholders are the Fishermen’s association and Farmer’s association.

3. FINDINGS

3.1 Project Strategy

31. The IPCC has singled out low-lying river deltas to be one of the most vulnerable systems to climate change and sea level rise. Low-lying river deltas are home to millions of people, highly productive agricultural lands, industrial and transport infrastructure and valuable touristic assets. Compounding the vulnerability of these areas is the fact that deltas, areas of land formed from sediment where a river flows into the sea, are subsiding due to natural factors (compaction of river sediments over time) and anthropogenic factors (construction of dams that restrict the flow of sediment that would otherwise reach the river mouth, built-up delta lands, and groundwater abstraction). The downward motion heightens vulnerability to coastal flooding, particularly when combined with sea-level rise.
32. One of the three most vulnerable deltas in the world to climate change is the Nile Delta in Egypt. This region accounts for more than 50% of Egypt’s economic activity through agriculture, industry and fisheries. The Nile Delta contributes about 20% of the Egypt’s GDP and accounts for the largest source of employment, around 30% of the labor force. As Egypt does not produce enough food to feed its current population, any loss of prime agricultural land in due to coastal flooding from sea level rise will have a direct adverse impact on the livelihoods of millions of people and lead to hardship throughout the entire economy.
33. The ECCADP Project design was developed during the PPG phase through extensive consultations and involvement of government officials at MWRI including SPA, CoRI officials. The design sought to reduce coastal flooding risks in Egypt’s North Coast from a combination of projected sea level rise and more frequent and intense extreme storm events. It was formulated in close consultation with government, international organizations, finance institutions, and NGOs. Output 1 focuses on the construction of 69 km of “soft” coastal protection measures consisting of sand dune dykes at 5 vulnerable hotspots (as shown on Figure 2) within the Nile Delta that were identified during previous technical feasibility studies. Output 2 focuses on the development of an ICZM plan for the entire North Coast, to manage long-term climate change risks and provide Egypt with adaptability to impending flood risks.
34. Barriers that were to be addressed by the Project include:
 - a lack of high-quality data to inform planning decisions;
 - absence of a suitable framework for implementing integrated approaches to coastal adaptation;
 - weak institutional coordination to build coastline resilience to impacts of sea level rise; and
 - low institutional capacity to anticipate and manage expected sea level rise impacts.

The Project was to facilitate transformational change in the short-term by reducing coastal flooding threats along vulnerable hotspots in the Delta and in the long-term by integrating additional risks of climate change into coastal management and planning, budgeting and implementation of risk reduction measures.

35. The “soft” coastal protection measures have been designed to mirror natural coastal features and sand dunes, transforming these hotspots from high to low-risk zones for coastal flooding. For some of the soft coastal protection structures, a “beneficial reuse” of existing maintenance dredged

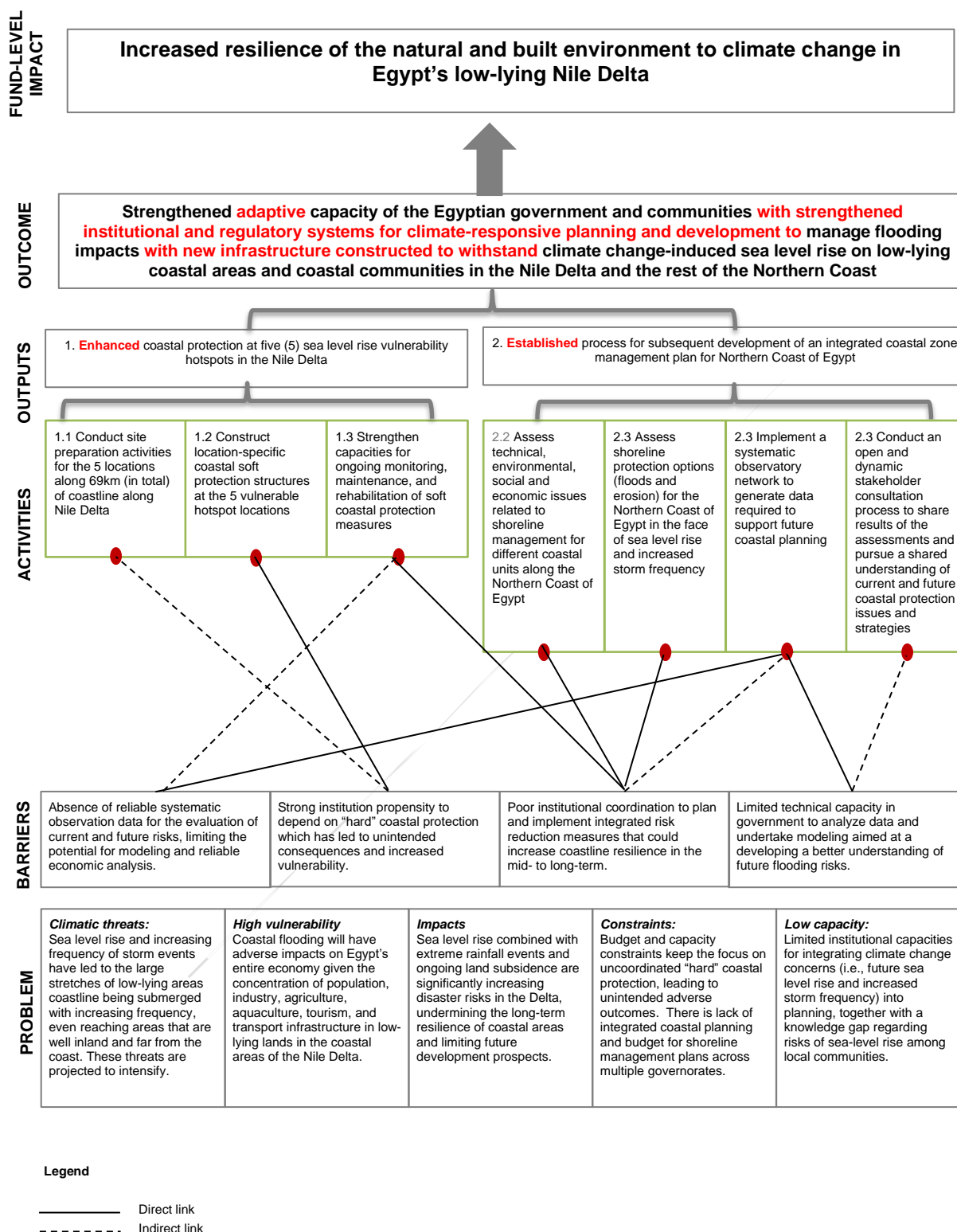
material was planned for use as a clay core in the dykes that would be stabilized with a combination of reeds, rocks and local vegetation species; this would encourage dune growth by trapping and stabilizing blown sand. More importantly, the soft coastal protection measures provide a beneficial reuse of existing dredge material that would otherwise be disposed into the marine environment. These measures were to directly benefit 768,000 people and indirectly benefit 16.9 million people in urban and rural communities.

36. With coastal areas in the Nile Delta particularly vulnerable to climate variability and changes in sea level, the ICZM plan in combination with the soft coastal protection measures was undertaken to anticipate and manage expected sea level rise impacts. The ICZM plan was also to provide benefits through capacity building to enable high resolution diagnosis of coastal threats, updated regulatory and institutional frameworks to account for sea level rise, and a coastal observation system for ongoing data collection and analysis. This would reduce the occurrence of extreme events that have resulted in devastating coastal flooding and millions of dollars in damages, such as the loss of life during coastal floods in Alexandria in 2015.

3.1.1. Original Project Design

37. Grant financing was requested from GCF to complement parallel co-financing from the GoE to reduce the impact from sea level rise-induced coastline flooding along 5 vulnerable hotspot areas in the Nile Delta of Egypt at Port Said, Damietta, Beheira, Dakahlia, and Kafr El-Sheikh. This leads to 2 benefits:
 - the GCF funds are to be used to meet the additional cost of a public good that is urgent to adapt to a changing coastal environment, which in the absence of climate change, would not have been required. Specifically, the Project reduces the coastal flooding risks from the combined effect of sea level rise and an expected increase in the incidence of extreme storms. There is no private benefit; and
 - the Project has been structured in a way to catalyze strategic planning and knowledge generation in ICZM that will have long-term benefits.
38. The GCF investment is modest in contrast to the financial losses that will be avoided, both in the short and long-term. The investment also does not lead to creation of distorting subsidies given the general lack of private sector financing of coastal protection in this area. During the devastating coastal flooding that occurred in October 2015, 400 buildings suffered severe structural damages and in the district of Wadi El Kamar, the lives of 100,000 people were adversely affected, including deaths that could have been avoided.
39. The GoE's co-financing is in the form of new and additional cash grants. Together with the GoE's commitment to a high level of co-financing, the Project offers a mechanism to implement comprehensive and systemic steps to reduce coastal flooding threats along the Nile Delta (in the near-term) and the entire North Coast of Egypt (in the mid- to long-term). In addition, the GoE has made commitments for all operations and maintenance needs for the 69 km of soft protection measures beyond the Project implementation period for the next 40 years.
40. All of these design features are reflected on the ECCADP Theory of Change. A re-constructed Theory of Change (RToC) for ECCADP illustrated on Figure 3.

Figure 3: Re-Constructed ECCADP Theory of Change (changes in red font)



3.1.2. Analysis of Project Results Framework

41. The Project Results Framework (PRF) of the ECCADP Project shown in Appendix E generally meets most of the “SMART” criteria⁴ that is sufficient to effectively monitor Project progress. Specific comments regarding some of the indicators in the PRF and the ToC are as follows:
- Output 1 reads like an action instead of an output. Output 1 has been re-worded to “enhanced coastal protection at five (5) sea level rise vulnerability hotspots in the Nile Delta;;
 - Output 2 also reads like an action instead of an output. Output 2 has been also re-worded to “established process for subsequent development of an integrated coastal zone management plan for Northern Coast of Egypt”;
 - The indicator “Setup of monitoring equipment for national observation system” should be re-worded into an indicator instead of an action. As such, “Monitoring equipment setup for national observation system” should be the indicator;
 - The indicator “Government of Egypt has adopted ICZM Plan” should be re-worded “ICZM plan that is adopted by the Government of Egypt”;
 - The overall Project outcome has been re-worded to become clearer and more representative of desired outcome.
42. All these changes have been reflected on the RToC on Figure 4. Overall, the ECCADP Project design and formulation is rated as **satisfactory**

3.2 Relevance

43. Project design is rooted in Egypt’s priorities identified in the 2013-2017 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and UNDP’s Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP). It draws on the Egypt Vision 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy document, the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (2011), the Strategic Framework for Economic and Social Development until Year 2022 (2012), and the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) report. The Project strategy is **relevant** with the priorities established as part of national action plans calling for shoreline protection and integrated coastal zone

3.3 Effectiveness and Efficiency

44. The effectiveness of the ECCADP Project is **satisfactory** due to the following:
- GCF funds from ECCADP are being utilized to protect priority vulnerable hotspot areas covering 69 km of the most vulnerable coastline out of 200 km of Nile Delta coastline. These efforts are fully aligned with national priorities and build on existing government programmes (as mentioned in Para [4343](#)). As a result, there is direct co-financing from MWRI through SPA to cover 26% of the construction costs under Output 1;
 - The Project’s completed construction-related activities of 49 km of soft protection measures along many of the vulnerable coastal hotspots have started to significantly reduce vulnerability of communities in the Nile Delta to future impacts of climate change. This includes risks due to sea level rise, and more frequent and intense storms associated with heightened destructive waves that have caused significant damages to livelihoods and economic assets. The soft protection

⁴ Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound

measures are now enabling communities living in the vicinity to face substantially lower risks of economic, social, cultural and psychological upheaval. They are able to live without the threat of moving inland and leaving their properties due to climate change. An example of this lies in the coastlines from east Rosetta branch to west of Burullus power plant in the Governorate of Kafr El-Sheikh which have not been inundated by the winter storms for the first time in the past few decades. This is a remarkable achievement;

- The development of the ICZM plan has started in 2021 with the international consulting firm now working on the “diagnosis” phase of the ICZM plan. This involves risk and vulnerability analysis and assessment, a necessary step in the development of the ICZM plan in 2022. This will increase generation and use of information on coastal processes, oceans and climate in decision-making by strengthened institutional capacity. This will lead to “preparation of the ICZM plan” that is expected to produce a practical and implementable actions that takes into account the existing and anticipated physical, environmental, social, economic and institutional issues and activities and climate change impacts. This will allow most (if not all) stakeholders of the northern coastal zone to work within a strategic, coordinated and holistic plan that serves their rights and helps them in carrying out their responsibilities;
- A comprehensive awareness programme for the coastal staff at governorate level was arranged by the Project. This consisted of an introduction to the ICZM requirements, benefits, opportunities and challenges for resilient coastal management. Interviews with local governorates, GOPP, EEAA and SPA indicate the awareness raising of the local coastal management system is currently enabling their adaptive capacity, rendering them more equipped to proactively address sea level rise vulnerability and craft integrated solutions that are broadly supported by affected stakeholders.

45. The efficiency of the ECCADP Project is **satisfactory** due to the following:

- GCF funding is currently able to build on the recent baseline investments by scaling up the use of soft engineering solutions and ecosystem-based adaptation measures. This plays a key role in relation to the gaps in current baseline coastal protection investments. Together with Government co-financing being mobilized for the proposed project, GCF funds enable the GoE to address the most urgent climate adaptation needs in the Delta’s most vulnerable areas;
- Work undertaken to prepare detailed designs, and site-specific assessments for 69 km of the Nile Delta soft coastal protection structures was done within the budgeted US\$820,000;
- Contracts for the 69 km of soft protection structures has been released yielding a cost of US\$25.177 million, approximately US\$1.2 million over the budgeted amount of US\$23.938 million. Seven of the soft protection structure contracts range from US\$235,641/km to US\$355,364/km. These contracts are illustrated on Table 1. However, there is a higher unit cost of structure per kilometer in 3 contracts, one in Beheira and 2 located in Dakahlia where the unit cost ranges from US\$482,282/ km to US\$621,699/km. These contracts are associated with the more costlier model designs which involve the use of dredged material from Rosetta branch and the use quarry sand for beach nourishment respectively;
- The availability of government co-financing has allowed the Project to sustain good progress of the construction of soft coastal protection measures. There have been instances with the Project where delays in GCF disbursement have occurred, and Government co-financing has been facilitated;
- Project resources are being used judiciously to formulate the ICZM. This includes the SPA continuing its implementation of fast-track urgent projects needed for protecting some

vulnerable segments along the North Coast of Egypt with a total expenditure equivalent to USD 63.452 million by end of 2021 (these will be later integrated within the ICZM Plan). GCF funds also used to recruit of the ICZM International Consultant who is undertaking the “diagnosis” phase of ICZM formulation, carrying out a literature review to collect the relevant data and information needed for the next steps of ICZM plan development, and meeting most of the key stakeholders involved in the management of the North Coast of Egypt⁵;

- Project resources are being used for workshops to engage technical people and planners for ICZM tools for maintenance and operations of risk assessment tools. Workshops are being used to demonstrate the use of groundwater, surface water and GIS tools, to further develop the ICZM plan.

Table 1: Soft protection structures and their unit costs

Length (km)	Governorate	Cost (million EGP)	Cost (US\$)	US\$/km
7	Kafr El-Sheikh 1	29.173	1,858,153	265,450
7	Kafr El-Sheikh 2	25.897	1,649,490	235,641
7.5	Kafr El-Sheikh 3	38.489	2,451,529	326,870
7.5	Kafr El-Sheikh 4	38.403	2,446,051	326,140
7.1	Dakahlia 1	53.760	3,424,204	482,282
4.5	Dakahlia 2	43.923	2,797,643	621,699
7.7	Port Said 1	42.960	2,736,306	355,364
4	Port Said 2	21.629	1,377,643	344,411
11	Dameitta	51.489	3,279,554	298,141
6	Beheira	49.560	3,156,688	526,115
Total:	69.3		25,177,261	

3.4 Progress towards Results

3.4.1. Progress towards Outcome Analysis

46. Progress towards results is provided on Table 2 against the mid-term and EOP targets in the ECCADP PRF. Comments on some of the ratings are provided in the following paragraphs. For Table 2, the “achievement rating” is color-coded according to the following color coding scheme

Green: Completed, indicator shows successful achievements	Yellow: Indicator shows expected completion by the EOP	Red: Indicator shows poor achievement – unlikely to be completed by project closure
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Fund-level impacts:

47. With 49 km of completed soft coastal protection structures, Project progress is ahead of the mid-term level target of 25 km:
- Completion of construction works for the 29 Km in Kafr El-Sheikh with a total cost of approx. US\$ 8.4 million covered by both GCF funds and government co-finance;

⁵ This would include the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Electricity and Ministry of Agriculture.

Table 2: Progress Towards Results Matrix (Achievement of outcomes and outputs against End-of-Project Targets)

Project Strategy	Indicator	Baseline Level	Mid-Term Target	End-of-Project Target	Interim Level and Assessment	Achievement Rating	Justification for Rating
Fund level Impact: <i>A3.0 Increased resilience of infrastructure and the built environment to climate change</i>	3.2 Number of new infrastructure constructed to withstand condition from climate variability and change	No coastal protection solution exists in vulnerable hotspots	25 km	Soft coastal protection measures have been put in place in 5 vulnerable hotspots across 69 km of the Nile Delta	49 km completed		See Para Error! Reference source not found.
Project Outcomes:							
A5.0 Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive planning and development	5.1 Institutional and regulatory frameworks capable of integrating climate risks into coastal zone planning and effective action	Only ad hoc planning has been undertaken which is neither climate sensitive or effectively coordinated across institutions	Development of the Shoreline Master Plan and Coastal Management Plan	Development of the ICZM Plan	Workshops undertaken to familiarize stakeholders with ICZM tools. This working towards a strengthened institutional and regulatory system for climate-responsive planning and development		See Paras 48-49 Error! Reference source not found.
A7.0 Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks	7.2 Number of males and females benefiting from soft coastal protection measures	Currently, no local residents benefit from soft coastal protection measures	Coastal protection design and installation started to protect about 17 million people in areas prone to coastal flooding	At least 17 million people who are in flood prone areas protected by a soft coastal defence.	Currently, 150,000 residents (approx. 50% female) benefit directly from soft coastal protection measures and 7.5m benefit indirectly		See Para Error! Reference source not found.
Project Outputs:							
Output 1: Enhanced coastal protection at five (5) sea level rise vulnerability hotspots in the Nile Delta Reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding	The total length of vulnerable hotspots protected	0km	15-20km	69km	49 km		See Para Error! Reference source not found. to Error! Reference source not found.

Project Strategy	Indicator	Baseline Level	Mid-Term Target	End-of-Project Target	Interim Level and Assessment	Achievement Rating	Justification for Rating
damage in hotspot locations in Nile Delta.							
Output 2: Established process for subsequent development of an integrated coastal zone management plan for Northern Coast of Egypt Development of an integrated coastal zone management plan (ICZM) for the entire North Coast of Egypt	Assessment of the capacity needs of institutions and individuals (women and men) for ICZM planning	Preliminary estimates of MWRI	Assessment under development	At least 1 Capacity Needs Assessment Report indicating the capacity needs of women and men	1 assessment was undertaken as part of the awareness program that was carried out by the project in 2020. Also procured was a high spec server (2.2 GHz Xeon processor with 128 GB RAM and 2.5 TB storage) as part of the GEF/UNDP funded project ACCNDP to be used to collect and disseminate data of the National Observation.		See Para Error! Reference source not found.
	Number of technical officers (men and women) trained on modeling and other skills associated with integrated coastal zone planning	0 people	At least 50 technical government staff exposed to hands-on trainings on the three areas	At least 100 technical government staff exposed to hands-on trainings on the three areas	45 people (approx. 30% female) were trained on GIS and remote sensing.		See Para Error! Reference source not found.
	Setup of monitoring equipment for national observation system	Tide gauges installed under the SCCF Project	All monitoring equipment procured	System is operational	Five tide gauges were installed by the GEF/SCCF project		
	Government of Egypt has adopted ICZM Plan	No ICZM plan	Development of the ICZM Plan	Adoption of the ICZM	Development of the ICZM Plan		See Para Error! Reference source not found. to Error! Reference source not found.

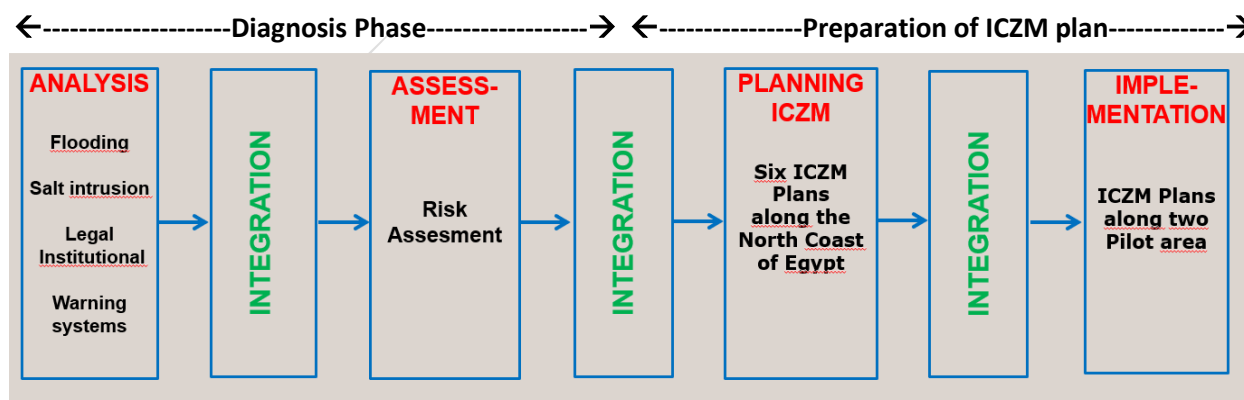
- Approximately 6 kms of soft protection with a total value of US\$3.1 million in Behira (69% completed)
- Approximately 12 kms of soft protection with a total value of US\$4.1 million in Port Said (91% completed).
- Approximately 11 kms of soft protection with a total value of US\$6.2 million in Dakahlia (40% completed).
- Approximately 11 kms of soft protection with a total value of US\$3.3 million in Damietta (47% completed).

Fund-level impacts are more coastal communities having reduced risks to coastal flooding from sea level rises resulting from climate change. According to the Project, this directly affects approximately 234,425 people and indirectly 7.5 million people (out of a target of 17 million people) in these communities from adverse impacts from flooding of infrastructure, households and businesses. Though this was estimated using census data, a map showing the benefits of the soft coastal protection structures to the populations of the Delta would be useful.

Project Outcomes:

48. In terms of “strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive planning and development”, the Project has been in the initial stages of preparing the ICZM plan including over 50 people (planners and technical people) attending workshops for ICZM tools for maintenance and operations. The roadmap to ICZM as illustrated on Figure 4, is being followed. The most important tool being developed being the risk assessment tool with sub-tools, which different ministries would have to take over. The workshops feature intense stakeholder consultations to get data for the models and feedback on the ICZM plan. This should yield results of future risk with climate change, scenarios on what will happen if nothing is done. Attendance at the workshops were a diverse group of people from various government ministries (MWRI, EEAA, GOPP), governorates and local government agencies, making the process of preparing the ICZM plan sustainable.

Figure 4: Roadmap to ICZM



49. Progress towards results is demonstrated in that the workshops are generating concrete measures to come up with risk assessments for climate change and seas level rises. In addition, the international consultancy is achieving 2 things: ICZM preparation and building capacity. In terms of building capacity, these workshops will setup future discussions in terms of what to do. In the coming

months, platforms will be used with GIS models to collect all data to be shared with all stakeholders, and hydrodynamic models to calculate the risk of flooding with SPA and CoRI. Ground and surface water tools will also be used to forecast saline intrusion with Groundwater Institute and the Drainage Institute, applying forecasting tools to come up with risk assessments. The results will be presented to the stakeholders for feedback in the spring or summer of 2022.

50. With regards to the “strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks”, there are now 150,000 people who now have reduced exposure to climate risks due to soft coastal protection measures. From the reduced exposure to rising seas and extreme weather events, local residents can adapt to living under improved conditions.

Project Outputs:

51. With respect to Output 1 (Reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding damage in hotspot locations in Nile Delta), 49 km of soft protection structures is the total length of vulnerable hotspots constructed to date. The reason for the excellent progress was due to solutions already available from research done by CoRI and MWRI engineers, baseline investments in soft protection structure by the GoE, and timely completion of 69 km of field surveys and design works of the 5 hotspots in the Delta by SPA engineering teams, starting in November 2017. This was followed by 5 Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) submitted by SPA for coastal protection works to EEAA for approval, submitted in 2019 through to 2021. SPA staff then completed the contracting process for the 69 km in Kafr El-Shiekh, Port Said, Dakhelia, Behira and Damietta governorates, starting with first two contracts for Kafr El-Sheikh in April 2019. Four coastal engineering independent consultants were recruited to support SPA construction supervision team and verify completed works and revise invoices submitted by the contractors. A detailed map of the 5 vulnerable hotspots is provided on Figure 5.
52. Initial activities focused on low-lying areas in Kafr Elsheikh by testing and evaluating the performance of various dyking options under the UNDP-GEF ACCND Project. Once a pilot was proven to be successful, the contractors were able to move to another area to test another dyking option. Option 1 in particular, had the input of local residents to identify that on-shore sands were going to be transported by wind to strengthen the dyke with dune-forming fences in place to collect the sand in the area of the dyke. With the collection of sand on the dyke, vegetation would be planted along the dyke to stabilize it and prevent any further erosion of the structure. Engineers at MWRI, NWRC and CoRI were made aware of this solution due to UNDP-GEF resources but were able to construct long lengths of these dykes using GCF resources. This is a brilliant innovation that incorporates local inputs as seen in Figures 6 and 7.
53. There were 2 other dyking options that were piloted under ACCNDP:
 - Option 2 was an impervious core from Lake Burullus that was provided at a discounted rate to form a simple dyke structure where there was a lack of sand from wind transport. The option is illustrated on Figure 8 with photos of the dyke on Figures 9 and 10;
 - Option 3 was a “geotube” made from a semi-impervious geofabric that was used to substitute impervious Lake Burullus dredge material where it was not available. A slurry was used to fill the tube. This option was not used on ECCADP as it was the costliest option.

Figure 5: Vulnerable hotspots under ECCADP

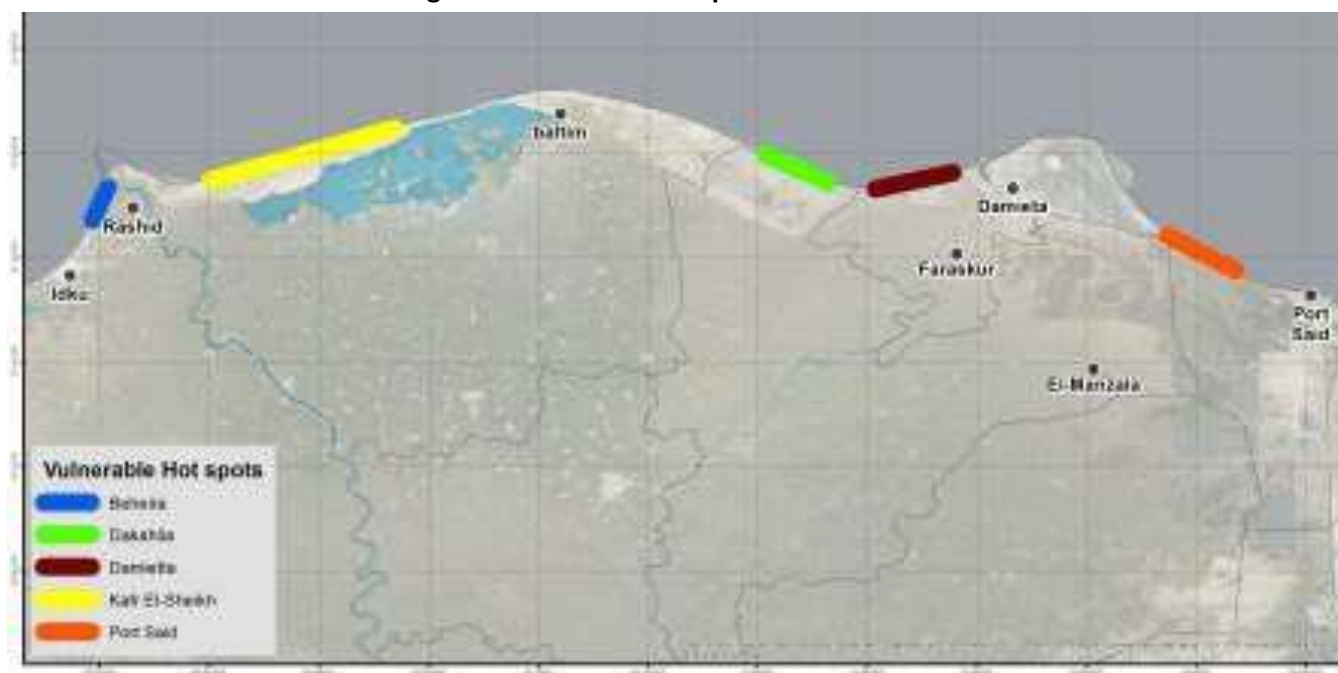


Figure 6: Pilot Cross-Section Option 1

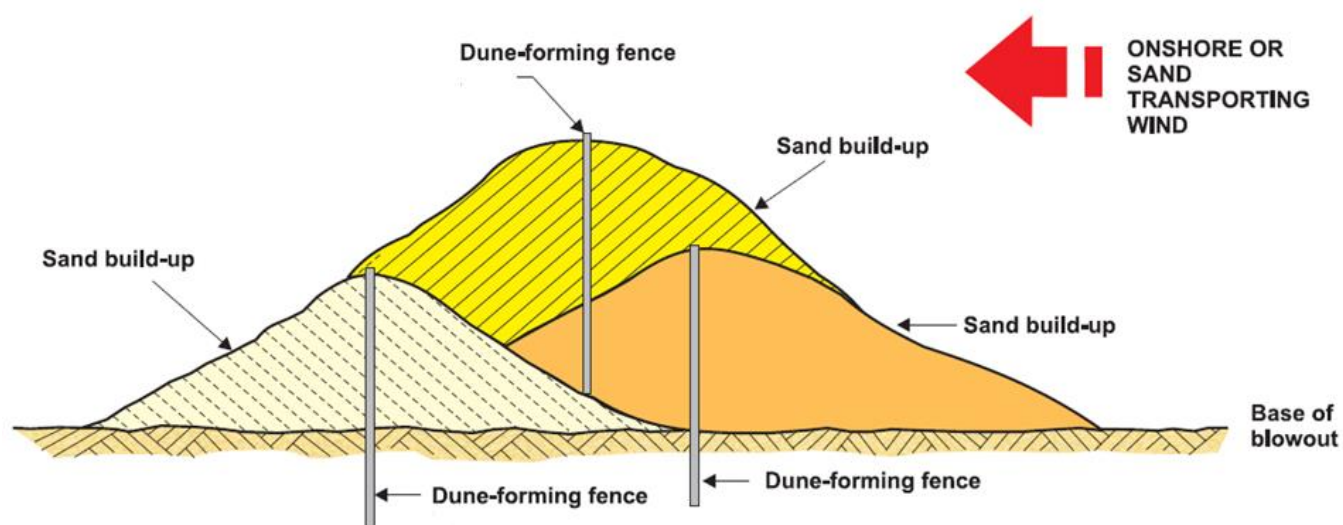


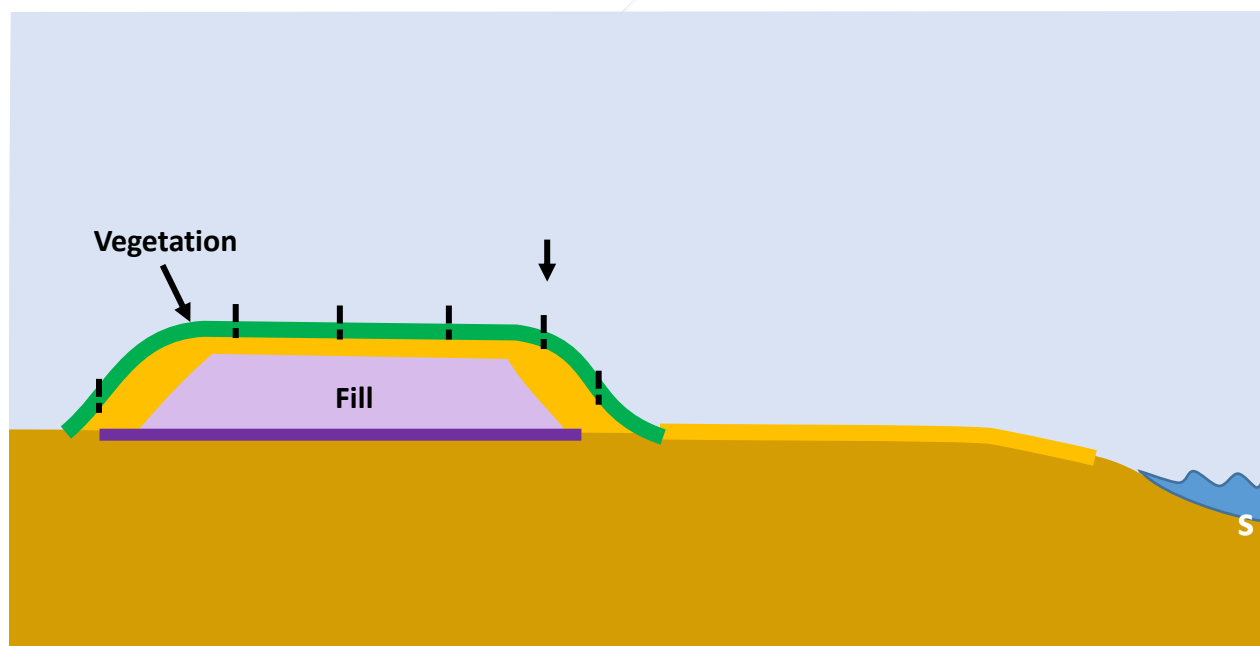
Figure 7: Actual Construction of Option 1**Figure 8: Pilot Cross-Section Option 2**

Figure 9: Option 2 just after construction**Figure 10: Option 2 illustrating condition of the dyke 4 years after construction**

54. Benefits of reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding damage have been realized for 49 km of the North Coast. Some of the benefits can be seen in Figures 11 and 12.
55. With respect to Output 2, there are several indicators and targets for analysis. For the indicator “assessment of the capacity needs of institutions and individuals (women and men) for ICZM planning”, the target has been met with one assessment undertaken as part of the awareness program in 2021. This was achieved through the international consulting team (working in the “diagnosis phase”) together with the PMU meeting with 45 key stakeholders (individually and in gatherings) in June and July 2021. The ECCADP Project was presented in its entirety and important feedback was received from the different ministries working on the shoreline management plan in the near-coastal zones and setback areas on data sharing and models. This process was a key for identifying capacity needs of key stakeholders on the Project.
56. For the indicator “number of technical officers (men and women) trained on modeling and other skills associated with integrated coastal zone planning”, 45 people (with approximately 30% female) were trained on GIS and remote sensing. With a target of 50 people to be trained, the International Consulting firm, under the “diagnosis phase”, conducted a literature review to collect the relevant data and information needed for the “preparation of ICZM plan”, and trained key stakeholders in the management of all the GIS models for the north coastal zone of Egypt, to present to all stakeholders in the spring of 2022. The result was 45 trained personnel from 5 ministries who are working together in smaller groups.
57. For the indicator “ICZM Plan adopted by the Government of Egypt”, strong stakeholder engagement was a pre-requisite to get the GoE to adopt the ICZM as mentioned in Para 5656. With stakeholder engagement having already been achieved, the International Consulting firm is undertaking the following actions:
 - conducting a deeper analysis of a comprehensive data inventory that would include baseline conditions of the coastal zone and identified data gaps;
 - setup of a temporary web-based GIS platform to receive all the existing data and information to be provided during the Project;
 - identification of the existing legal and institutional baseline;
 - attain a deeper understanding of stakeholders, their role and engagement in the ICZM process.
58. The action plan being undertaken by the International Consulting firm includes:
 - study various climate projections to define climate change for 3 planning horizons: 2050, 2075 and 2100;
 - formulation of a strategy for dividing the North Coast into Coastal Management Units, resulting in a proposal to divide the North Coast into 6 management ICZM units, which further divides into 14 Sub-units for elaborating the Shoreline Management Plans;
 - a thorough review of the action plan by identifying critical tasks influencing Project execution and the overall deadline. Any delays in receiving the input data for the modelling are critical for the entire implementation schedule of the action plan.

Figure 11: Flooding reduction benefits of soft coastal protection structures around Burullus Power Plant



Figure 12: Flood reduction benefits of soft coastal protection structures in Kafr El-Sheikh



3.4.2. Remaining Barriers to Achieving Project Objective

59. There does not appear to be any barriers towards completing Output 1. The construction of the soft coastal protection structures is progressing at a rate where completion is expected in 2023. The only possible barrier would be difficult soil conditions (especially after storms) which can be mitigated by the construction contractors.
60. There are a few minor barriers related to the full achievement of targets on Output 2 (considering the current EOP is 29 May 2025) expected to be managed by the International Consulting firm (as per the NIRAS Report of 30 January 2022). Some of these barriers are outlined from activities in the NIRAS Inception Report and include:
- absence of a study of actual flood risk scenarios resulting from the completion of the Project’s soft coastal protection structures and other infrastructure, and the analysis of the “do nothing” flood risk scenarios;
 - absence of a full analysis of options of mitigating flood risk scenarios including cost-benefit analyses that would be done at the beginning of the “preparation of the ICZM plan”;
 - lack of a National Observation System for the coastal areas to monitoring changing marine conditions and evaluate the effectiveness of coastal protection measures;
 - lack of full agreement amongst all relevant stakeholders of ICZM plan on options for mitigating flood risk scenarios⁶;
 - institutions that require strengthening to manage an ICZM plan including EEAA that needs to lead in implementing the ICZM.

The ICZM International Consulting firm is planning to overcome these barriers in mid to late 2022 and 2023.

3.4.3 Assessment of impact of COVID-19 on implementation

61. The impact of COVID-19 on implementation of Output 1 was challenging:
- there were delays from 2020 to 2022 in building the institutional and individual capacity of MWRI and SPA staff to conduct comprehensive ESIA for soft coastal protection structures;
 - lockdowns and restrictions on work from GoE offices affected the procurement processes for new construction contracts;
 - delays in construction work from worries of transmission of the COVID virus between workers on site. This was somewhat mitigated with modified working site hours to accommodate curfew hours. The PMU also enforced precautionary measures for follow-up by on-site staff to minimize risks of transmission of the virus amongst on-site staff including measuring temperature of staff before they enter the site, wearing facial masks, and social distancing;
 - government ban of in-person meetings to limit the spread of the infection;
 - disruptions along the supply chain resulting in logistical disruptions from accessing markets and delays in receiving inputs or equipment, all resulting from COVID-19 containment measures including lockdowns and travel restrictions;

⁶ The NIRAS Inception Report lists 20 government stakeholders (including the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Planning, and the Suez Canal Authority) that have responsibilities for either promoting or supporting the ICZM. Some of these institutions have a direct influence on decision-making in the coastal region, while others have an indirect influence.

- in 2021, 8 out of 10 construction contractors were able to speed up activities and overcome the delays. There are 2 construction contractors who continued to be behind schedule, but have started to pick up momentum.
62. The impact of COVID-19 on implementation on Output 2 has been:
- significant delays in the procurement process for an international consulting firm. After the contract was signed in January 2021 with the selected consulting firm from Denmark, the start of the assignment was delayed until May 2021 when the Team leader was vaccinated for travel to Egypt;
 - travel of international consultants to support the activities in Egypt has been disrupted by pandemic conditions. An adaptation plan was set to enable moving ahead without delaying work with the international consulting firm trying to accelerate activities to compensate for the disruptions;
 - ICZM work delays were mitigated by the use of on-line tools to facilitate meeting and communications, which has proven to be a suitable alternative for physical meetings. This remains an option even after the pandemic restrictions are lifted or relaxed.

3.5 Progress implementation and adaptive management

3.5.1 Management Arrangements

63. ECCADP is under national implementation (NIM) as depicted on Figure 1. The Project has been fortunate to be under the leadership of one National Project Director (NPD) position who is the Undersecretary of MWRI and Supervisor of the Minister's Office. The designation of this NPD was from 1 November 2018 to date⁷.
64. Serving as the Chair of the Project Board, the NPD has called 6 PB meetings in just over 3 years of Project operations, the latest PB meeting being February 2021. The PB meetings are well attended (from MWRI, EEAA and other ministries down to the Governorates) with detailed discussions on progress and achievements, and ongoing operations from all concerned stakeholders. Further discussions have taken place on planned activities with assigned responsibilities.
65. The implementation approach of ECCADP has been excellent. From an adaptive management perspective, the ECCADP Project under the leadership of MWRI has:
- undertaken appropriate follow-up of pilot dyking activities (under the UNDP-GEF ACCNDP) on Output 1 in low-lying areas in Kafr Elsheikh to test and evaluate the performance of various dyking options. The contractors were then able to construct the soft coastal protection structures on the basis of successful pilots. The 2 dyking options accounted for all scenarios that would be encountered during the course of construction from on-shore sands transported by wind to strengthen the dyke with dune-forming fences to needing impervious fill from the bottom of Lake Burullus for a clay core. Option 3 (the geotube) was not constructed using GCF funds;

⁷ The National Project Director is assigned by the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation as the Project Focal Point in the Ministry and he does not have a contract or a salary from the Project.

- made excellent progress on Output 1 through timely and early completion of 69 km of field surveys and design works of the 5 hotspots in the Delta by SPA engineering teams (starting in November 2018). This helped advance the tendering process for construction contractors and the actual work being done on the soft coastal protection structures;
 - undertaken awareness raising under Output 2 with key stakeholders in 2020 and 2021 to advance the ICZM plan. This included training of key stakeholders involved in the management of the North Coast in raising awareness of the ICZM approach and groundwater, hydrodynamic and GIS models. The aim of this training was to set up the GIS models to present to all stakeholders in the spring of 2022;
 - augmented the ICZM Process, as mentioned in Para **Error! Reference source not found.**, by setting up a comprehensive data inventory that would include baseline conditions, setting up temporary web-based GIS platform to receive all the existing data from the Project, and attaining a deeper understanding of stakeholders in the ICZM process; and
 - support of Egyptian institutions involved in coastal protection has been secured for a paradigm shift from historical practices, due to the lessons learned from the ACCNDP project on coastal adaptation. The support of the key stakeholders was very clear in Project Board meetings and the awareness program which reflected the endorsement of the ICZM plan as a newly introduced tool for management of coastal zones.
66. The management setup of ECCADP appears to be functioning well. The only change would be a more prominent role for EEAA in terms for implementing the ICZM plan since by law, EEAA has an obligation to lead the ICZM process.

3.5.2 Work Planning

67. The Evaluator was provided evidence of the Project's work planning. Work planning has been presented in all the Project Board meeting minutes from 19 December 2018 to 3 February 2021. All PB meetings were well attended, and inputs were solicited from all government agencies.

3.5.3 Finance and Co-Finance

68. After 41 months of Project disbursements, only US\$11,246,383 of the ECCADP grant of US\$31,384,800, has been expended in addition to committed funds to open contracts in the order of US\$ 2,500,000 as of 31 December 2021. The expenditure of ECCADP GCF budget up to 31 December 2021 can be characterized as follows:
- Most of the expenditures, are contractual expenses for the construction of the soft coastal protection measures;
 - The remaining expenditures are consultancy services for national and international consulting firms and individuals as well as sundry and office-related expenses.
69. The Project has demonstrated that appropriate financial controls are in place, notably through the detailed Project budget reports made available to the Interim Evaluator. Moreover, these reports provide evidence that expenditures of activities were made through informed decisions that closely follow the plans in the ProDoc and are cleared by the Project Board. One of the indications of Project cost control is the involvement of UNDP's Procurement Department in Malaysia for the procurement of the International Consulting Firm to develop the ICZM Plan, and ensuring all UNDP and related rules procurement complied with, most notably with the recruitment of consultants. In conclusion,

however, the cost effectiveness of the use of the ECCADP Project budget to date has been **satisfactory**. Disbursement of ECCADP resources is provided in Table 3. Disbursement of ECCADP GCF Project resources to date according to ATLAS codes is provided on Table 4.

70. Co-financing commitments for the ECCADP Project was US\$70.695 million. To date, there has been in-kind co-financing from MWRI and UNDP, in addition to grant/cash co-financing from MWRI in construction of dykes and implementation of fast-track actions in ICZM Plan. This also includes a grant/cash contribution of US\$45,000 from UNDP. Due to the delays in GCF disbursement, government grant co-financing has been a key to sustaining progress in the construction of soft coastal protection structures. The Project faced serious shortage of funds due to GCF delay in processing the 4th disbursement. The Project reached the target delivery to request the new disbursement in September 2021. However, the request for a 4th disbursement could not be submitted until the GCF cleared responses to an APR review sheet between April 2020 in November 2021, while the funds were finally received in December 2021. This period coincided with the peak of construction works while the Project was short of cash to pay contractors. If the government did not inject funds during this period (over its percentage of contribution), the construction works would have stopped. Co-financing of the Project to date has been **highly satisfactory**. Co-financing details to date are summarized on Table 5.

3.5.4 Coherence in climate finance delivery with other bilateral and multilateral entities

71. With the ECCADP Project introducing a new paradigm shift in approaches to coastal protection work in Egypt, the SPA is planning to mainstream comprehensive ESIA's for its new projects. The first experience for SPA with comprehensive ESIA's was through the ECCADP Project. Meanwhile, the Netherlands Government through the Egyptian-Dutch Water Advisory Panel has asked the Netherlands commission for environmental assessments, in consultation with ECCADP, to build the institutional and individual capacity of MWRI and SPA staff to conduct comprehensive ESIA's. This activity has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but is likely to materialize in 2022.
72. Another element of the paradigm shift is the introduction of community development activities to improve livelihoods of the local vulnerable communities in the protected areas. In 2020, the ECCADP Project completed a socio-economic assessment at Project sites in Beheira, Kafr El-Sheikh, Dakahlia, Damietta and Port Said to identify baseline conditions and undertake a needs assessment. The UNDP Country Office, in coordination with GoE and the PMU, secured US\$400,000 from the UNDP SDG Climate Facility Regional Project to fund small scale projects to create jobs and co-funding an improved rainfall drainage system to improve community development activities.
73. UNDP and PMU facilitated discussions between SPA, New Urban Communities Authority (NUCA) and General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP) to include coastal protection and integrated coastal zone management planning in the plans of the new coastal cities.

3.5.5 Project Level Monitoring and Evaluation Systems

74. The Interim Evaluator has had access to APRs from 2019, 2020 and 2021 that provides evidence of monitoring and evaluation to the activity level of the Project as well as the expenditures for each component. The information provided in these reports provides appropriate information for undertaking adaptive management and managing critical risks.

Table 3: GCF Project Budget and Expenditures for the ECCADP Project (in USD as of 31 December 2021)

Outcome	Budget (from ProDoc)	Budget (from ProDoc)	2019	2020	2021	Total Disbursed
Output 1: Reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding damage in hotspot locations in Nile Delta	1.1 Soft coastal protection detailed designs, and site-specific assessments undertaken for protecting 69 km of the Nile Delta in 5 vulnerable hotspot locations	820,000	2,939	3,199,570	7,239,472	394,076
	1.2 Construction of coastal soft protection structures at the 5 vulnerable hotspot locations	23,938,000				10,047,905
	1.3 Development/implementation of an O&M programme for the installed soft protection structures	125,000				0
Output 2: Development of an integrated coastal zone management plan (ICZM) for the entire North Coast of Egypt	2.1 Development of national capability to conduct long-term climate change risks induced hazard, vulnerability and risk high resolution assessments of erosion and flooding under climate change scenarios	500,000	8,414	62,456	319,813	0
	2.2 Development of a climate change risk informed ICZM plan to include a shoreline master plan and a regulatory/legislative framework	1,725,000				288,665
	2.3 Development of capacity building program on CC risk management for institutions involved in long-term management of north coast	743,500				102,018
	2.4 Implementation of specific components of a national observation system	1,732,500				0
Project Management		1,800,800	130,273	152,883	130,563	413,719
Total (Actual)		31,384,800	141,626	3,414,909	7,689,848	11,246,383
Total (Cumulative Actual)			141,626	3,556,535	11,246,383	
Annual Planned Disbursement (from ProDoc)**			3,499,029	5,705,153	6,049,070	
% Expended of Planned Disbursement			4%	60%	127%	

Table 4: GEF Project Expenditures for ECCADP Project against ATLAS codes (in USD as of 31 December 2021)

ATLAS Code	Expenditure Description	US\$
71300	Local Consultants	73,130
71800	Contractual Services - Individual	284,034
71600	Travel	26,054
72200	Equipment and Furniture	52,994
72300	Materials & Goods	94,076
74200	Audio Visual & Print Prod Costs	20,487
74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	17,833
76100	Realized loss	914
75700	Training, Workshops and Conference	83,662
72100a	Contractual Services - Companies / Nat	10,491,774
72100b	Contractual Services - Companies / Int	
72800	Information Technology Equipmt	10,329
64397	Services to projects -CO staff	61,020
74596	Services to projects -GOE	10,038
72500	Supplies	0
73100	Rental & Maintenance-Premises	3,438
74100b	Professional Services - Int	16,599
Total		11,246,383

Table 5: Actual Co-Financing for ECCADP Project (as of 31 January 2022)

Co-financing (type/source)	UNDP own financing (million USD)		Government (million USD)		Partner Agency (million USD)		Private Sector (million USD)		Total (million USD)	
	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
Grants ²⁰	0.100	0.045	73.707	70.650					73.807	70.695
Loans/Concessions										
• In-kind support									0	
• Other										
Totals	0.100	0.045	73.707	70.650	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	73.807	70.695

²⁰ Includes all cash contributions

75. The APRs monitor and evaluate Project activities. It does this by:

- monitoring activities that lead to delivery of outputs. Progress for each activity is detailed quantitatively (for progress on soft coastal protection structures) and qualitatively (as in Output 2). There is a field for entering what will happen in the following reporting year. This serves as a basis for the work plan;
- fund-level, outcome and output indicators on the PRF to see if targets have been met;
- involving the activities of key stakeholders (such as MWRI and EEAA) in key activities such as co-financing or approval of ESIA's;
- articulating activities being done on the Gender Action Plan;
- challenges in implementation and lessons learned;
- status of compliance with the environmental and social safeguards. This translates into status of compliance with applicable laws and regulations, management plans and programmes, and the stakeholder engagement plan (such as FAA Clause 10.02 and Law or Regulation 1: Law 4 for 1994). There is also a section on planned activities on environmental and social safeguards.

76. Overall, the monitoring and evaluation systems setup for ECCADP are rated as **satisfactory** considering the diligent reporting of the progress of activities against the ECCADP PRF. This translates into sufficient resources effectively placed into the Project monitoring and evaluation budget.

3.5.6 Stakeholder Engagement

77. The Project has made **satisfactory** efforts to facilitate partnerships that can be characterized as follows:

- 2 consultation meetings with stakeholders at Kafr Elsheikh on 29 August 2019 as part of the EIAs for Project description and purpose of undertaking an EIA;
- 2 public hearing meetings on 10 October 2019 as part of the EIAs outcomes;
- one to one meeting between SPA and EEAA in December 2019 organized and facilitated by the Project to discuss the ICZM plan and institutional setup;
- several meetings with governmental staff at 7 coastal governorates (Kafr El-Sheikh, Dakahlia, Behira, Damietta, Port Said, Alexandria and Marsa Matrouh) between July and November 2019;
- consultation meetings at Kafr El-Sheikh, Dakahlia, Damietta and Port Said during 2020 to share Project description and the ESIA process and findings;
- local communities and stakeholder meetings between January and March 2020 as part the socio-economic study;
- an information dissemination session on 20 October 2020 within the framework of Cairo Water with the participation of staff from local governments, MWRI, EEAA and UNDP Resident Representative;
- 10 interactive training seminars with 130 governmental staff from coastal governorates between March and October 2020 to prepare for their engagement in the development of ICZM Plan. This involved an introduction to ICZM planning, and examples of ICZM in other countries;
- consultation meetings as part of the ESIA for Beheira construction site in December 2020;
- International consulting firm and PMU meeting all stakeholders in June and July 2021 who were to be involved in the development of the ICZM plan; and
- meeting of key stakeholders at Project Board meetings.

78. The most important stakeholder engagement activities have been the international consulting firm and PMU meeting all the stakeholders to be involved in the development of the ICZM Plan in June and July 2021, and the Project Board meetings. The level of engagement for all these stakeholder outreach activities has been encouraging for the Project in terms of the sustainability of the ICZM process.

3.5.7 Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

79. As mentioned in Para **Error! Reference source not found.**, environmental and social safeguards are being monitored. This includes the highly unlikely probability that the Project will have any medium to long term or irreversible impacts. The potential moderate risks are associated with the construction of coastal protection structures and dredging of materials; these risks can be managed through the ESIAs that have been prepared for all construction sites. COVID-19 risks raised worries of transmission of the virus within workers on site. This has been mitigated somewhat by the PMU enforcing precautionary measures (i.e. taking temperature of on-site workers, social distancing) to minimize risks of transmission of the virus amongst staff at the construction site.
80. Compliance to local laws and plans are also being monitored such as:
- FAA Clause 10.02 in place to ensure that the management of the environmental and social risks and impacts arising from the Project complies at all times with the recommendations, requirements and procedures set forth in the ESMF and that all necessary environmental licenses or clearances shall be acquired to carry out the funded activities;
 - Regulation 1: Law 4 (1994) which states ESIA is compulsory for all coastal protection works. To that end, the Project supported preparation and submission of the ESIA for the all 5 hotspots covering 69 km of dyke system;
 - Regulation 2: Law 12 (1984) which states that SPA is responsible for coastal protection. SPA is implementing the construction of soft coastal protection structures for the North Coast;
 - Implementation of management plans and programmes such as compliance to ESIA requirements through field visits. This is being done;
 - Stakeholder engagement plans. These are being conducted through consultation meetings, for example, to discuss the ESIA at each construction site, or with the international consulting firm and PMU to meet with all stakeholders involved in the development of the ICZM Plan.
81. Compliance to social and environmental safeguards has been **satisfactory** in the context of monitoring and evaluation of compliance to local laws and plans.

3.5.8 Reporting

82. ECCADP progress reporting has been **satisfactory** in the context of providing PMU and UNDP CO personnel with sufficient information to adaptively manage the Project. The Project has well-written APRs to provide progress to the activity level against each indicator and activity to a fair level of detail. The progress reports of the indicators serve as being the initial work plans for that particular indicator.

3.5.9 Communications

83. Project communications with stakeholders can be characterized as follows:

- The Project does not have a dedicated website but currently developing one (www.eccadp.com). Currently, the Project information is spread amongst various websites including:
 - The project YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBf1dkTFOkqV3UPHmZTybvW>)
 - the UNDP-GCF portal (<https://www.gcfprojects-undp.org/tp/project/5945>);
 - UNDP adaptation (<https://www.adaptation-undp.org/projects/enhancing-climate-change-adaptation-north-coast-egypt>); and
 - NIRAS, the international consulting firm (<https://www.niras.com/projects/increasing-the-resilience-of-the-north-coast-and-nile-river-delta-in-egypt/>);
- The Project Board meetings have provided communications between government stakeholders.

84. Communications for ECCADP are **moderately satisfactory** based on basic Project information being available on various websites. Though the information is scattered and mostly in English, there are currently sufficient communication channels to promote Project awareness. This could be improved with a dedicated website in both English and Arabic that would facilitate open stakeholder feedback to the Project.

3.6 Sustainability

85. In assessing sustainability of the ECCADP Project, the Interim Evaluator asked “how likely will the Project outcomes be sustained beyond Project termination”. Sustainability of these objectives was evaluated in the dimensions of financial resources, socio-political risks, institutional framework and governance, and environmental factors, using a simple ranking scheme:

- 4 = *Likely (L)*: negligible risks to sustainability;
- 3 = *Moderately Likely (ML)*: moderate risks to sustainability;
- 2 = *Moderately Unlikely (MU)*: significant risks to sustainability;
- 1 = *Unlikely (U)*: severe risks to sustainability; and
- U/A = *unable to assess*.

Overall rating is equivalent to the lowest sustainability ranking score of the 4 dimensions. The sustainability rating of ECCADP at the Interim Evaluation is **3 (ML)** due to the uncertainty of how the Government responds to and utilizes the many tools being presented to implement and manage the ICZM plan (see Para [8888](#)).

86. Financial risks to sustainability: Current financial risks to the sustainability of the ECCADP Project are negligible. On Output 1, the GoE has been co-financing the Project, sustaining the progress of the construction of the soft coastal protection structures. On Output 2, there is a contract with the International Consulting firm committing its efforts to formulate an ICZM plan until it has been implemented for at least 2 years. For these reasons, the rating for financial risks to sustainability is 4 (L).

87. Socioeconomic risks to sustainability: The ECCADP Project is providing enormous benefits to the communities from reduced risk of flooding from extreme precipitation events to rising sea levels.

The Project is generating a range of social benefits, which positively affect the overall well-being of citizens living in coastal areas of the Delta region that include highly productive agriculture areas and its cultural heritage by preventing or significantly delaying the scenario of the Delta becoming uninhabitable. On Output 1, investments in coastal protection along the vulnerable hotspot locations in the Nile Delta are generating near-term environmental, social and economic co-benefits, particularly those that benefit local women. On Output 2, investments in integrated coastal zone management planning are expected to generate long-term co-benefits, especially related to new and strengthened capacity to identify and mitigate climate risks. The most direct economic benefit of the Project are the avoided economic losses from coastal inundation events caused by storm surges and the anticipated sea level rise. Socioeconomic risks to sustainability is rated as 4 (L).

88. Institutional framework and governance risks: The capacity of GoE is being built to implement the ICZM, to maintain the soft coastal protection structures, and to gather and analyze data and information pertaining to the performance of the soft coastal protection structures. While the response by Government personnel has been good to the Project’s training programs thus far, it remains to be seen how they respond to and utilize the many tools being presented to implement and manage the ICZM plan. As such, institutional framework and governance risks to sustainability is rated as 3 (ML).
89. Environmental risks to sustainability: Output 1 comprising the “reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding damage in hotspot locations in Nile Delta” that will only serve to improve the environmental conditions of coastal communities. Output 2 comprises the “development of an ICZM for the entire North Coast of Egypt) were designed to improve environmental conditions in coastal communities” that will only serve to ensure the integrity of the soft coastal protection systems and the resulting environment of the coastal communities is sustained for the next 40 years. With no environmental risks to sustainability, it is rated as 4 (L).

3.7 Country Ownership

90. The ECCADP Project has been designed through extensive consultations and involvement of government officials at MWRI including SPA and CoRI officials. With their staff leading on implementation of these Project interventions and effectiveness of their impact, country ownership of the Project has been ensured. Moreover, consultations with decision-makers at the highest levels of Government have mobilized the will to address sea level rise within ICZM framework, reflected in their commitment to provide substantial additional co-financing. There is also a broad-based degree of acceptance towards the Project amongst coastal communities. To that end, the GoE has committed to maintain the GCF investments in soft coastal protection to the completion of the ECCADP Project and to end of the useful life of the soft coastal protection structures.
91. Project design is also rooted in Egypt’s priorities:
 - the 2013-2017 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF);
 - UNDP’s Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP). This was further emphasized in the UN Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF) 2018-2022 which has included support to development and implementation of national and sectoral climate change adaptation plans;
 - Egypt Vision 2030 sustainable development strategy document;

- the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (2011);
 - the Strategic Framework for Economic and Social Development until Year 2022 (2012);
 - the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) report in 2015 and the First Biennial Update Report (BUR) in 2018; and
 - the National Action Plans calling for an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy that calls for shoreline protection and integrated coastal zone management.
92. More recently, the Government of Egypt released a photo album for the COP-26 in Glasgow showing the Government climate change mitigation and adaptation actions in combating climate change in Egypt. The album included one page describing the ECCADP Project as one of the national landmark climate change adaptation projects.
93. The UNDP NIM allows for government ownership during Project implementation while UNDP assumes responsibility for oversight and quality assurance. The country ownership has been demonstrated in the stakeholder’s participation in various meetings of the Project Board and management committees.
94. Lastly, country ownership is evident and demonstrated on the co-financing of construction works in the amount of US\$ 65 million spent on Output 1 since the beginning of the Project, which represents 100% of the government co-funding for this component. It also evident on Output 2 which currently amounts to US\$ 5.65 million since the beginning of the Project, representing 64% of GoE co-financing for this component.

3.8 Innovativeness in results areas

95. Option 1 had the input of local residents to identify on-shore sands were going to be transported by wind to strengthen the dyke with dune-forming fences in place to collect the sand in the area of the dyke. Engineers at MWRI, NWRC and CoRI were made aware of this solution due to UNDP-GEF Project resources, and used GCF resources to construct the dykes. This is a brilliant innovation that incorporates local inputs as seen in Figures 6 and 7.

3.9 Unexpected results, both positive and negative

96. There are no unexpected results from the ECCADP Project.

3.10 Replication and Scalability

97. This Project brings together the crucial elements needed to realize replication potential in other coastal zones of Egypt that will yield long-term benefits. The Project serves 2 purposes for replication: i) Scaling up investments in critically vulnerable hotspots through soft coastal protection measures; and ii) Integration of climate change risks into long-term coastal development planning.
98. This Project also positively contributes to the creation of an enabling environment. The approach works on critical barriers, focusing on environmentally-friendly soft protection measures, capacity building (both technical and knowledge-based), and introduction of a national observation system. An enabling environment is being created towards the achievement of the broader protection goals of the GoE for the Nile Delta under climate change conditions. This process of capacity building and

institutional strengthening should also contribute towards upscaling and replication within other jurisdictions in the broader Mediterranean Basin.

3.11 Gender Equity

99. The PMU is satisfactory attention to gender issues and the expected different impact and response of men and women to Project activities and outputs. In this respect, the Project has ensured the participation of women in public meetings for ESIA in Kafr El-Sheikh and Beheira. In addition, training programs and workshops undertaken by the Project for government officials on ICZM planning included 30-40% women to ensure gender perspective is included in future planning for coastal development while providing women the same capacity building opportunities as men. This work as well as work managed by female engineers at the construction sites in Damietta, Behira and Port Said (to ensure that ESIA and ESMF requirements are implemented) should generate near-term environmental, social and economic co-benefits for local women and youth. Figures 13, 14 and 15 illustrate women’s participation on the Project.

Figure 13: A female-led construction site at Beheira



Figure 14: Female participation on the supply of dune-forming fences in Kafr El-Sheikh



Figure 15: SPA women engineers supervising the construction work in Beheira



4. CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

4.1 Conclusions

100. The ECCADP Project is contributing to the achievement of climate-resilient sustainable development along the North Coast of Egypt. For Output 1, the construction-related activities of soft coastal protection structures have started to significantly reduce vulnerability of communities in the Nile Delta to future impacts of climate change. This includes sea level rise, more frequent and intense storms and heightened destructive wave energies that have caused unprecedented and significant damages to livelihoods and economic assets in the recent past. The solid development work by the Project on Output 1 can be attributed to GoE co-financing which was vital while there were delays in GCF disbursements in December 2021. The strong development work also reflects the high level of attention and support from the GoE to the Project, which are clearly linked with country strategies and development plans.
101. Even more remarkable is that the 29 km stretch from east Rosetta branch to west of Burullus power plant in Governorate of Kafr EL-Sheikh has not been inundated by the winter storms for the first time in several decades. The soft coastal protection measures are now enabling the communities living in the vicinity not to bear the risks and impact of unabated coastal inundation and associated damages. This ensures that coastal communities face lower risks of economic, social, cultural and psychological upheaval and can live without the threat of moving inland and leaving their properties due to climate change.
102. For Output 2, the development of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) plan has also started in 2021 with the international consulting firm now completing the “diagnosis phase” with risk and vulnerability analysis and assessment scheduled for later in 2022. This will pave the way for development of the ICZM plan in 2023. With the ongoing tool development and awareness raising and knowledge dissemination, the Government stakeholders will be enabled to increase generation and use of information on coastal processes, oceans and climate. This will ultimately strengthen decision-making and institutional capacity for resilient coastal management.
103. Participants of the Project-sponsored comprehensive awareness programme, especially those staff at governorate level who were introduced to ICZM requirements, benefits, opportunities and challenges, are confident that the ICZM plan will produce a practical and implementable plan. The participants foresee the ICZM plan accounting for existing and anticipated physical, environmental, social, economic and institutional issues as well as activities and climate change impacts. The participants also said this will allow most stakeholders of the North Coast to work within a plan framework that is strategic, coordinated and holistic.
104. Despite the good progress that was made, the COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020 still poses a risk to Project activities. In 2020 and 2021, the Project faced challenges in dealing with pandemic constraints that affected the progress of the Project activities, in particular, the field work. The UNDP and the PMU continue to use their adaptive management strategies to bring the impacts of this risk to a minimum.
105. Table 6 provides a summary of the achievements and the Interim Evaluation ratings for the ECCADP Project.

Table 6: Interim Evaluation Ratings & Achievement Summary Table for “ECCADP” in Egypt

Measure	IE Rating ²¹	Achievement Description
Project Formulation		Design well laid out in PRF complete with mostly SMART indicators. The only issue has been the need to reword some of the Output 2 indicators and the overall Project outcome (see Para 4141).
	Stakeholder Participation Rating: 5	Relevant stakeholders were consulted during the PPG phase through extensive consultations and involvement of government officials at MWRI including SPA, CoRI officials. GoE ownership of ECCADP is strong (see Para 3333).
Progress Towards Results	Fund-level impact achievement Rating: 6	With 49 km of completed soft coastal protection structures, Project progress is ahead of the mid-term level target of 25 km. This means there is increased resilience of infrastructure and the built environment to climate change (see Para 4747).
	Outcome A5.0 Achievement Rating: 5	With regards to “strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive planning and development”, the Project has been in the initial stages of preparing the ICZM plan including over 50 people attending workshops for ICZM tools, the most important tool being the risk assessment tool (see Para 4848).
	Outcome A7.0 Achievement Rating: 5	With regards to “strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks”, more than 150,000 people now have reduced exposure to climate risks due to soft coastal protection measures (see Para 5050).
	Output 1 Achievement Rating: 6	Regarding “reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding damage in hotspot locations in Nile Delta”, benefits of reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding damage have been realized for 49 km of the North Coast (see Paras 5151 to 5454).
	Outcome 2 Achievement Rating: 5	Regarding “development of an integrated coastal zone management plan (ICZM) for the entire North Coast of Egypt”, this is being achieved through the international consulting team and the PMU meeting with 45 key stakeholders, and the International Consulting firm undertaking an action plan with specific activities (see Paras 5555 to 5858).
Project Implementation & Adaptive Management	Implementation Approach Rating: 6	The implementation approach of ECCADP has been excellent (see Para 6565 Error! Reference source not found.).
	Monitoring and Evaluation Rating: 5	The monitoring and evaluation systems setup for ECCADP are rated as satisfactory considering the diligent reporting of the progress of activities against the ECCADP PRF (see Paras 7474 - 7676 Error! Reference source not found.).
	Stakeholder Participation Rating: 5	The most important stakeholder engagement activities has been the International consulting firm and PMU meeting all the stakeholders to be involved in the development of the ICZM Plan in 2021, and the Project Board meetings (see Paras 7777 to 7878).
Sustainability	Sustainability Rating: 3	Government responses remain uncertain to the utilization of the many tools being presented to implement and manage the ICZM plan (see Paras 8686 8686 and 8989 Error! Reference source not found.).
Overall Project Achievement and impact	Rating: 5	The Project is contributing to the achievement of climate-resilient sustainable development along the North Coast consisting of reduced vulnerability of coastal communities to future impacts of climate change that includes sea level rise, more frequent intense storms and heightened destructive wave energies that have caused recent significant damages to livelihoods and economic assets (see Paras 100100 - 104104).

²¹ Evaluation rating indices (except sustainability – see Para 70): 6=*Highly Satisfactory (HS)*: The project has no shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 5=*Satisfactory (S)*: The project has minor shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives;

4.2 Recommendations

4.2.1 Corrective actions for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project

106. Recommendation 1: Ensure the “diagnosis” phase is completed in 2022 to allow for the “preparation of the ICZM plan” to take place in 2023, and ICZM implementation in 2024 and 2025. This would mean adherence to the schedule depicted in Figure 20 which shows the diagnosis phase (Activity 2.1) being done by the end of 2022. Aside from the actions currently being undertaken by the International Consulting firm under Activity 2.1, they will need support for the following actions to complete the “diagnosis” phase including

- field staff from governorates to focus on collection of data that reflect baseline conditions of the coastal zone to be done by June 2022. This will involve a deeper analysis of the comprehensive data inventory to fill in the data gaps;
- all the existing field data and information from governorates, SPA and CoRI can be transmitted to the temporary web-based GIS platform for data entry. This could be done by June 2022;
- collaboration with SPA, CoRI, the local governorates and other relevant stakeholders in characterizing the existing legal and institutional baseline. This could be done by August 2022;
- attaining a deeper understanding of the stakeholders, their role and engagement in the ICZM process to be done by August 2022; and
- working with SPA, CoRI, the governorates and relevant stakeholders in studying various climate projections that will define climate change for 3 planning horizons: 2050, 2075 and 2100. This can be achieved by October 2022.

107. Recommendation 2: Ensure institutional arrangements place a prominent role for EEAA in implementing the ICZM. This recommendation refers to the Law for the Environment Law 4 of 1994 and its amendment to Law 9 of 2009 where EEAA and its regional branch offices (RBOs) are charged with overall environmental issues including ICZM as well as monitoring and regulatory processes. Institutional arrangements should be made in terms of EEAA’s responsibilities which are to:

- issue a national strategy for integrated coastal management;
- coordinate with concerned agencies the issuance of ICZM plans;
- coordinate with ministries and agencies concerned with coastal and marine areas to implement the ICZM plan and sustainable development;
- issue approvals on ESIA studies; and
- address the harmful effects of climate change in coordination with the concerned authorities

As such, this recommendation is made that EEAA should be supported to undertake the lead in all these aspects with respect to soft coastal protection measures and associated issues.

4=Moderately Satisfactory (MS): The project has moderate shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 3=Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): The project has significant shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 2=Unsatisfactory (U) The project has major shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives; 1=Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): The project has severe shortcomings in the achievement of its objectives.

Figure 20: ECCADP Activities (assuming an EOP of 31 October 2025)

Outputs+A1:BE11	Agency	2022				2023				2024				2025				Remarks
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Output 1: Enhanced coastal protection at five (5) sea level rise vulnerability hotspots in the Nile Delta	MWRI/SPA																	
Activity 1.1: Development of soft coastal protection (pre-construction) detailed designs, and site-specific assessments undertaken for protecting 69 km of the Nile Delta in 5 vulnerable hotspot locations		completed																
Activity 1.2: Constructing location-specific coastal soft protection structures at the 5 vulnerable hotspot locations																		See Recommendation 3
Activity 1.3: Developing and implementing an operations & maintenance programme for the installed soft protection structures																		
Output 2: Established process for subsequent development of an integrated coastal zone management plan for Northern Coast of Egypt	MWRI/EEAA																	
Activity 2.1: Development of national capability to conduct long-term climate change risk-induced hazard, vulnerability and risk high resolution assessments of erosion and flooding under climate change scenarios ("Diagnosis Phase")																		See Recommendations 1 and 4
Activity 2.2: Development of a climate change risk-informed ICZM plan to include a SMP, a CMP and a regulatory legislative institutional framework ("Preparation of the ICZM plan")																		See Recommendation 5
Activity 2.3: Development of a capacity building program on climate change risk management for institutions involved in the long-term management of the north coast																		See Recommendation 5
Activity 2.4: Implementation of specific components of a national observation system																		See Recommendation 5

Intense Activity

Intermittent Activity

4.2.2 Actions to follow up or reinforce initial benefits from the project

108. *Recommendation 3: Make requests for grant tranches 3 to 6 months in advance to avoid adverse impacts from delays in GCF disbursements.* This Project faced serious shortage of funds due to GCF delay in processing the 4th disbursement in September 2021. The request for disbursement could not be processed until the GCF cleared the response to the 2020 APR in November 2021. While the funds were finally received in December 2021, this period coincided with the peak of construction works while the Project was short of cash to pay contractors. Though the GoE advanced these funds, construction works could have stopped. Making requests for funds 3 to 6 months in advance hopefully will avoid the scenario of delayed payments.

109. *Recommendation 4: Ensure the “diagnosis” phase of the ICZM plan is a success by ensuring the comprehensive awareness raising programme is being implemented.* This would mean consistent and sustained outreach to local governorates, GOPP, EEAA and SPA to raise awareness of the local coastal management system and to augment their adaptive capacity. Such sustained outreach would also translate into improved generation and use of information on coastal processes, oceans and climate, and involve stakeholders more into risk and vulnerability analyses and assessments. With this being a necessary step in the development of the ICZM plan, decision-making will be improved and institutional capacity strengthened.

4.2.3 Proposals for future directions underlining main objectives

110. *Recommendation 5: Guide the formulation of the ICZM plan to practical and implementable actions that takes into account the existing and anticipated physical, environmental, social, economic and institutional issues and activities and climate change impacts.* Guidance for ICZM plan formulation will be within a framework of a strategic, coordinated and holistic plan that helps stakeholders to carrying out their responsibilities for the North Coast zone of Egypt. The actions will consist of:

- setup and implementation of the National Observation System for the North Coastal zone (Activity 2.4);
- studying actual flood risk scenarios resulting from the completion of the soft coastal protection structures and other infrastructure, and the analysis of the “do nothing” flood risk scenarios using data generated from the NOS (Activity 2.2);
- disseminating the findings of the actual “do nothing” flood risk scenarios to all stakeholders (Activity 2.3);
- conducting a full analysis of options of mitigating flood risk scenarios for the ICZM plan including cost-benefit analyses (Activity 2.2);
- securing agreement amongst all relevant stakeholders of ICZM plan on options for mitigating flood risk scenarios²² (Activity 2.3);
- implementing the ICZM plan in 2023 and 2024 that will provide valuable feedback to the ICZM plan for revision (Activities 2.2 and 2.3);
- strengthening the institutional setup where EEAA takes the lead in implementing the ICZM (see Recommendation 2 in Para **Error! Reference source not found.**).

²² Ibid 6

111. Recommendation 6: Use the ICZM and the National Observation System to guide the development and implementation of an operations & maintenance programme for the installed soft protection structures (Activity 1.3). This should come from an ICZM determination of potential hotspots after completion of the soft coastal protection measures and the financial estimates of adaption costs which would include annual operating and maintenance costs of the coastal protection including revetment, dikes and sluices.
112. Recommendation 7: Post a dedicated website for the ECCAD Project. The Project would benefit from a dedicated website in English and Arabic to promote Project awareness. This would include information and maps of areas of the Nile Delta that are directly and indirectly benefitted from the soft coastal protection measures. This could also be a platform where stakeholder feedback to the Project can be facilitated.

4.3 Lessons Learned

113. Lesson #1: When there are several small assignments in one region, the best approach to recruiting consulting services is to lump all project sites into one large assignment for one consulting firm. The PMU explored the option of a consulting firm conducting ESIA's for all project hotspot sites as one assignment. The advantages of this approach are two-fold: i) there are less administrative hurdles to one contract as opposed to several contracts; and ii) the approach to executing the ESIA's will be similar for all projects.
114. Lesson #2: On-line meetings are the best way to overcome delays due to Covid-19 restrictions. This applies to the procurement process to recruit an International Consulting firms to develop the ICZM plan. The process included individuals from several countries that are affected differently by the pandemic and working in different time zones. Zoom meeting facilities were used to quickly respond to the need for communication. Delays were also experience in holding classroom training due to government restrictions to holding meetings and gatherings. On-line workshops held in place of classroom training proved to be very useful.
115. Lesson #3: Implementation of the precautionary measures succeeded in controlling the spread of Covid-19 infections amongst workers at the construction site of the soft coastal protection structures. There were delay risks in the construction of soft coastal protection structures at the 5 hotspots. The PMU introduced precautionary measures for follow-up by on-site staff to minimize risks of transmission of the virus amongst on-site staff including measuring temperature of staff before they the site, wearing facial masks, and social distancing. This had the effect of allowing construction work to continue on site with few disruptions and working at a slower pace. Overall, however, the construction of soft coastal protection structures is ahead of schedule.
116. Lesson #4: A strong NPD translates into strong Project implementation. Government ownership of this Project has been very strong. The impact of the strong leadership coming from the NPD leads has led to excellent progress in the construction of soft coastal protection structures, and solid engagement of all stakeholders (from MWRI to EEAA to the Governorates and sectoral stakeholders) in the ICZM process with the International Consulting firm. With healthy co-financing of the soft coastal protection structures and the ICZM process, the sustainability of the Project is assured for the long-term.

APPENDIX A – MISSION TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ECCADP PROJECT INTERIM EVALUATION

Country: Egypt

Post level: International consultant

Estimated No. of Working Days:

The total estimated number of working days are **28 days** over the duration of 16 weeks (December 2021 through March 2022).

Description of the assignment:

The International Consultant (IC) shall conduct the Interim Evaluation (IE) of the UNDP-supported GCF-financed project entitled “Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt” implemented through the Ministry of Water Resources & Irrigation/ UNDP Egypt. The project was designed to reduce coastal flooding risks in Egypt’s North Coast due to the combination of projected sea level rise and more frequent and intense extreme storm events, which are expected to be caused by climate change impacts.

Project name: Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt

Period of assignment/services (if applicable): 16 weeks

Proposal should be submitted by email to, procurementnotice.egypt@undp.org no later than **December 12, 2021**

Any request for clarification must be sent in writing, or by standard electronic communication to the address or e-mail indicated above. UNDP will respond in writing or by standard electronic mail and will send written copies of the response, including an explanation of the query without identifying the source of inquiry, to all consultants.

Type of Contract: Individual Contract

Post Level: International Consultant

Duty Station: Home based

Languages Required: English

Starting Date: December 2021

Duration of Contract: 28 working days (December 2021 through March 2022)

1. INTRODUCTION

This is the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Interim Evaluation (IE) of the UNDP-supported GCF-financed project titled Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt (PIMS#:5945) implemented through the Ministry of Water Resources & Irrigation/ UNDP Egypt, which is to be undertaken in 2022. The project started on the 29/05/2018 and is in its fourth year of implementation. This ToR sets out the expectations for this Interim Evaluation.

2. PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The project was designed to: reduce coastal flooding risks in Egypt’s North Coast due to the combination of projected sea level rise and more frequent and intense extreme storm events, which are expected to be caused by climate change impacts. The Nile Delta has been identified by the IPCC in its Fourth Assessment Report as one of the world’s three “extreme” hotspots vulnerable to climate change impacts. The outputs of the project include: Output 1 focuses on constructing 69 km of sand dune dikes along five vulnerable hotspots within the Nile Delta that were identified during an engineering scoping assessment and technical feasibility study; Output 2 focuses on the development of an integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) plan for the entire North Coast, to manage long-term climate change risks and provide Egypt with adaptability to impending flood risks. The project will facilitate transformational change in the short-term by reducing coastal flooding threats along vulnerable hotspots in the Delta and in the long-term by integrating additional risks of climate change into coastal management and planning, budgeting and implementation of risk reduction measures.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERIM EVALUATION

The IE will assess implementation of the project and progress towards the achievement of the project objectives and outcomes as specified in the UNDP Project Document and GCF Funded Activity Agreement (FAA), and assess early signs of project success or failure with the goal of identifying the necessary changes to be made in order to set the project on-track to achieve its intended results. The Interim Evaluation will also review the project’s strategy and its risks to sustainability.

The IE Consultant will assess implementation of the project and its alignment with FAA obligations and progress towards the achievement of the project objectives and outcomes as specified in the Project Document. The evaluation will assess early signs of project success or failure with the goal of identifying the necessary changes to be made in order to set the project on-track to achieve its intended results.

The IE 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 draft GCF Evaluation Policy, along with guidance provided by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC). Additional evaluation criteria can be assessed, as applicable. The IE must assess the following:

- **Implementation and adaptive management** – seeks to identify challenges and propose additional measures to support more efficient and effective implementation. The following aspects of project implementation and adaptive management will be assessed: management arrangements, work planning, finance and co-finance, project-level monitoring and evaluation systems, stakeholder engagement, reporting, and communications;
- **Risks to sustainability** – seeks to assess the likelihood of continued benefits after the project ends. The assessment of sustainability at the Interim Evaluation stage considers the risks that are likely to affect the continuation of project outcomes. The IE should validate the risks identified in the Project Document, Annual Project Reports, and the ATLAS Risk Management Module and whether the risk ratings applied are appropriate and up to date;
- **Relevance, effectiveness and efficiency** - seeks to assess the appropriateness in terms of selection, implementation and achievement of FAA and project document results framework activities and expected results (outputs, outcomes and impacts);
- **Coherence in climate finance delivery with other multilateral entities** - looks at how GCF financing is additional and able to amplify other investments or de-risk and crowd-in further climate investment;

- **Gender equity** - ensures integration of understanding on how the impacts of climate change are differentiated by gender, the ways that behavioural changes and gender can play in delivering paradigm shift, and the role that women play in responding to climate change challenges both as agents but also for accountability and decision-making;
- **Country ownership of projects and programmes** - examines the extent of the emphasis on sustainability post project through country ownership; on ensuring the responsiveness of the GCF investment to country needs and priorities including through the roles that countries play in projects and programmes;
- **Innovativeness in results areas** - focuses on identification of innovations (proof of concept, multiplication effects, new models of finance, technologies, etc.) and the extent to which the project interventions may lead to a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways;
- **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);
- **Unexpected results, both positive and negative** - identifies the challenges and the learning, both positive and negative, that can be used by all parties (governments, stakeholders, civil society, AE, GCF, and others) to inform further implementation and future investment decision-making.

4. INTERIM EVALUATION APPROACH & METHODOLOGY

The IE consultant must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful.

The IE consultant will review all relevant sources of information including documents prepared during the preparation phase (i.e. baseline Funding proposal submitted to the GCF, FAA, the Project Document, project reports including Annual Performance Reports, Quarterly Progress Reports, UNDP Environmental & Social Safeguard Policy, project budget revisions, records of surveys conducted, national strategic and legal documents, stakeholder maps, and any other materials that the consultant considers useful for this evidence-based assessment).

The IE consultant is expected to follow a collaborative and participatory approach¹ ensuring close engagement with the Project Team, Implementing Partner, NDA focal point, government counterparts, the UNDP Country Office, Regional Technical Advisers, and other principal stakeholders and beneficiaries.

Engagement of stakeholders is vital to a successful IE. Stakeholder involvement should include (where possible) surveys/questionnaires, focus groups, interviews with stakeholders who have project responsibilities, including but not limited to executing agencies, senior officials and task consultant/component leaders, key experts and consultants in the subject area, Project Steering Committee, project stakeholders, local government, CSOs, project beneficiaries, etc. Additionally, the Interim Evaluation consultant is expected to conduct field missions to project sites in Rashid (Rosetta), Kafr El-Sheikh, Damietta, Dakhlia, and West Port Said, to be decided in consultation with the project team. Data collection (government data/records, field observation visits, CDM verifications, public expenditure reporting, GIS data, etc.) will be used to validate evidence of results and assessments (including but not limited to: assessment of Theory of Change, activities delivery, and results/changes occurred).

The specific design and methodology for the IE should emerge from consultations between the IE consultant and the above-mentioned parties regarding what is appropriate and feasible for meeting the

IE purpose and objectives and answering the evaluation questions, given limitations of budget, time and data. The IE consultant must, however, use gender-responsive methodologies and tools and ensure that gender equality and women’s empowerment, as well as other cross-cutting issues and SDGs are incorporated into the IE report.

The final methodological approach including interview schedule, field visits and data to be used in the IE must be clearly outlined in the Inception Report and be fully discussed and agreed between UNDP, stakeholders and the IE consultant.

The final Interim Evaluation report should describe the full evaluation approach taken and the rationale for the approach making explicit the underlying assumptions, challenges, strengths and weaknesses about the methods and approach of the assessment. The final report must also describe any limitations encountered by the Interim Evaluation consultant during the evaluation process, including limitations of the methodology, data collection methods, and any potential influence of limitation on how findings may be interpreted, and conclusions drawn. Limitations include, among others: language barriers, inaccessible project sites, issues with access to data or verification of data sources, issues with availability of interviewees, methodological limitations to collecting more extensive or more representative qualitative or quantitative evaluation data, deviations from planned data collection and analysis set out in the ToR and Inception Report, etc. Efforts made to mitigate the limitations should also be included in the Interim Evaluation report.

5. DETAILED SCOPE OF THE INTERIM EVALUATION

The Interim Evaluation consultant will assess the following categories of project progress. The following questions are intended to guide the Interim Evaluation consultant to deliver credible and trusted evaluations that provide assessment of progress and results achieved in relationship to the GCF investment, can identify learning and areas where restructuring or changes through adaptive management in project implementation are needed, and can make evidence-based clear and focused recommendations that may be required for enhancing project implementation to deliver expected results and to what extent these can be verified and attributed to GCF investment.

i. Project Strategy

Project design:

- Review the problem addressed by the project and the underlying assumptions. Review the effect of any incorrect assumptions or changes to the context to achieving the project results as outlined in the Project Document.
- Review the relevance of the project strategy and assess whether it provides the most effective route towards expected/intended results. Were lessons from other relevant projects properly incorporated into the project design?
- Review how the project addresses country priorities. Review country ownership. Was the project concept in line with the national sector development priorities and plans of the country (or of participating countries in the case of multi-country projects)?
- Review decision-making processes: were perspectives of those who would be affected by project decisions, those who could affect the outcomes, and those who could contribute information or other resources to the process, taken into account during project design processes?
- Review the extent to which relevant gender issues were raised in the project design. See Annex 9 of *Guidance For Conducting Midterm Reviews of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects* for further guidelines;

- If there are major areas of concern, recommend areas for improvement.

Results Framework/Logframe and Theory of Change:

- Undertake a critical analysis of the project’s logframe indicators and targets, assess how “SMART” the midterm and end-of-project targets are (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound), and suggest specific amendments/revisions to the targets and indicators as necessary;
- Are the project’s objectives and outcomes or components clear, practical, and feasible within its time frame?
- Examine if progress so far has led to, or could in the future catalyse beneficial development effects (i.e. income generation, gender equality and women’s empowerment, improved governance, etc.) that should be included in the project results framework and monitored on an annual basis;
- Ensure broader development and gender aspects of the project are being monitored effectively. Develop and recommend SMART ‘development’ indicators, including sex-disaggregated indicators and indicators that capture development benefits;
- Ensure that the indicators (gender-disaggregated) are SMART, aligned with GCF/Results Management Framework (RMF)/Performance Measurement Frameworks (PMFs) and the guidance in the GCF programming manual;
- Evaluate the Theory of Change (ToC) proposed by the project during the inception and design phases in comparison to the approach, relevance, actions, interventions, practicality, and current context. Foresee the way forward and propose necessary adjustments;

ii. Relevance, Effectiveness and Efficiency

- Were the context, problem, needs and priorities well analysed and reviewed during project initiation?
- Are the planned project objectives and outcomes relevant and realistic to the situation on the ground?
- Do outputs link to intended outcomes which link to broader paradigm shift objectives of the project?
- Are the outputs being achieved in a timely manner? Is this achievement supportive of the ToC and pathways identified?
- How is the project Theory of Change (ToC) used in helping the project achieve results/ How is the ToC applied through the project?
- Is the project Theory of Change (ToC) and intervention logic coherent and realistic? Does the ToC and intervention logic hold or does it need to be adjusted? Reconstruct the ToC, if appropriate, aligning it with the GCF ToC format;
- Verify the mitigation impact that the project has achieved. Analyse the GHG emissions achieved (including indirect emissions). Has an appropriate MRV system for GHG emission been established and implemented? Do outputs link to intended outcomes which link to broader paradigm shift objectives of the project?
- Are the planned inputs and strategies identified realistic, appropriate and adequate to achieve the results? Were they sequenced sufficiently to efficiently deliver the expected results?
- What and how much progress has been made towards achieving the overall outputs and outcomes of the project (including contributing factors and constraints)?
- To what extent is the project able to demonstrate changes against the baseline (assessment in approved Funding Proposal) for the GCF investment criteria (including contributing factors and constraints)?
- How realistic are the risks and assumptions of the project?

- How did the project deal with issues and risks in implementation?
- To what extent did the project’s M&E data and mechanism(s) contribute to achieving project results?
- Are the project’s governance mechanisms functioning efficiently?
- To what extent did the design of the project help or hinder achieving its own goals?
- Were there clear baselines indicators and/or benchmark for performance measurements? How were these used in project management? To what extent and how the project apply adaptive management?
- What, if any, alternative strategies would have been more effective in achieving the project objectives?

iii. Progress Towards Results

Progress Towards Outcomes and Outputs Analysis:

- By assessing the aspects of the project that have already been successful, identify ways in which the project can further expand these benefits;
- Assess the logframe indicators against progress made towards the end-of-project targets using the Progress Towards Results Matrix and colour code progress in a “traffic light system” based on the level of progress achieved; assign a rating on progress for each indicator; make recommendations from the areas marked as “Not on target to be achieved” (red).

Table. Progress Towards Results Matrix (Achievement of outcomes against End-of-project Targets)

Project Strategy	Indicator ²³	Baseline Level ²⁴	Level in 1 st ARP (self-reported)	Midterm Target ²⁵	End-of-project Target	Midterm Level & Assessment ²⁶	Achievement Rating ²⁷	Analysis: status of indicator; justification for rating
Fund Level Impact:	Indicator (if applicable):							
Outcome 1:	Indicator 1:							
	Indicator 2:							
Output 2:	Indicator 3:							
	Indicator 4:							
	Etc.							
Etc.								

Indicator Assessment Key

• Green = Achieved	• Yellow = On target to be achieved	• Red = Not on target to be achieved
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²³ Populate with data from the Logframe and scorecards

²⁴ Populate with data from the Project Document

²⁵ If available

²⁶ Colour code this column only

²⁷ Use the 6 point Progress Towards Results Rating Scale: HS, S, MS, MU, U, HU

In addition to the progress towards outcomes analysis:

- Compare and analyse the GEF Tracking Tool/Core Indicators at the Baseline with the one completed right before the Midterm Review.
- Identify remaining barriers to achieving the project objective in the remainder of the project.
- By reviewing the aspects of the project that have already been successful, identify ways in which the project can further expand these benefits.

iv. Project Implementation and Adaptive Management

Management Arrangements:

- Review overall effectiveness of project management as outlined in the Project Document. Have changes been made and are they effective? Are responsibilities and reporting lines clear? Is decision-making transparent and undertaken in a timely manner? Recommend areas for improvement.
- Review the quality of execution of the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner(s) and recommend areas for improvement.
- Review the quality of support provided by the GEF Partner Agency (UNDP) and recommend areas for improvement.
- Do the Executing Agency/Implementing Partner and/or UNDP and other partners have the capacity to deliver benefits to or involve women? If yes, how?
- What is the gender balance of project staff? What steps have been taken to ensure gender balance in project staff?
- What is the gender balance of the Project Board? What steps have been taken to ensure gender balance in the Project Board?

Work Planning:

- Review any delays in project start-up and implementation, identify the causes and examine if they have been resolved.
- Are work-planning processes results-based? If not, suggest ways to re-orientate work planning to focus on results?
- Examine the use of the project’s results framework/logframe as a management tool and review any changes made to it since project start.

Finance and co-finance:

- Consider the financial management of the project, with specific reference to the cost-effectiveness of interventions;
- Review the changes to fund allocations as a result of budget revisions and assess the appropriateness and relevance of such revisions.
- Have project resources been utilized in the most economical, effective and equitable ways possible (considering value for money; absorption rate; commitments versus disbursements and projected commitments; co-financing; etc.)?
- Does 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?
- Assess factors that contributed to low/high expenditure rate and impact on the project.

- Informed by the co-financing monitoring table to be filled out, provide commentary on co-financing: Is co-financing being used strategically to help the objectives of the project? Comment on the use of different financial streams (parallel, leveraged, mobilized finance), as applicable in the context of the project – see GCF policy on co-finance⁷. Discuss whether co-finance related conditions and covenants, as listed in the FAA, have been fulfilled, as applicable.
- Conduct an analysis of materialized co-financing and implications for project scope and results. If co-finance is not materialising as planned (timing and/or amount), assess mitigation measures, and discuss the impact of that on the project and results on the ground.

Coherence in climate finance delivery with other multilateral entities

- Who are the partners of the project and how strategic are they in terms of capacities and commitment?
- Is there coherence and complementarity by the project with other actors for local other climate change interventions?
- To what extent has the project complimented other on-going local level initiatives (by stakeholders, donors, governments) on climate change adaptation or mitigation efforts?
- How has the project 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)? Please provide concrete examples and make specific suggestions on how to enhance these roles going forward.

Project-level Monitoring and Evaluation Systems:

- Review the monitoring tools currently being used: Do they provide the necessary information? Do they involve key partners? Do they use existing information? Are they efficient? Are they cost-effective? Are additional tools required? How could they be made more participatory and inclusive?
- Discuss any quality assuring mechanisms being used (e.g. ISO standard, government accreditations, international certificates, etc.)
- Is project reporting and information generated by the project linked to national SDGs, NDC and other national reporting systems?
- Examine the financial management of the project monitoring and evaluation budget. Are sufficient resources being allocated to monitoring and evaluation? Are these resources being allocated effectively?

Stakeholder Engagement:

- Project management: Has the project developed and leveraged the necessary and appropriate partnerships with direct and tangential stakeholders?
- Participation and country-driven processes: Do local and national government stakeholders support the objectives of the project? Do they continue to have an active role in project decision-making that supports efficient and effective project implementation?
- Participation and public awareness: To what extent has stakeholder involvement and public awareness contributed to the progress towards achievement of project objectives?
- Is a grievance mechanism in place? If so, assess its effectiveness

Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

- Validate the risks identified in the project’s most current SESP/ESIA, and those risks’ ratings; are any revisions needed?
- Summarize and assess the revisions made since Board Approval (if any) to:

- The project’s overall safeguards risk categorization.
- The identified types of risks⁸ (in the SESP).
- The individual risk ratings (in the SESP);
- Describe and assess progress made in the implementation of the project’s social and environmental management measures as outlined in the SESP submitted at the Funding Proposal stage (and prepared during implementation, if any), including any revisions to those measures. Such management measures might include Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) or other management plans, though can also include aspects of a project’s design; refer to Question 6 in the SESP template for a summary of the identified management measures.

A given project should be assessed against the version of UNDP’s safeguards policy that was in effect at the time of the project’s approval.

Reporting:

- Assess how adaptive management changes have been reported by the project management and shared with the Project Board.
- Assess how well the Project Team and partners undertake and fulfil GCF reporting requirements (i.e. how have they addressed poorly-rated APRs, if applicable?)
- Assess how lessons derived from the adaptive management process have been documented, shared with key partners and internalized by partners.
- Assess the efficiency, timeliness, and adequacy of reporting requirements.

Communications:

- Review internal project communication with stakeholders: Is communication regular and effective? Are there key stakeholders left out of communication? Are there feedback mechanisms when communication is received? Does this communication with stakeholders contribute to their awareness of project outcomes and activities and investment in the sustainability of project results?
- Review external project communication: Are proper means of communication established or being established to express the project progress and intended impact to the public (is there a web presence, for example? Or did the project implement appropriate outreach and public awareness campaigns?)
- For reporting purposes, write one half-page paragraph that summarizes the project’s progress towards results in terms of contribution to sustainable development benefits, as well as global environmental benefits.

v. Sustainability

- Validate whether the risks identified in the FAA and Funding proposal, APRs and the ATLAS Risk Management Module are the most important and whether the risk ratings applied are appropriate and up to date. If not, explain why.
- In addition, assess the following risks to sustainability:

Financial risks to sustainability:

- What is the likelihood of financial and economic resources not being available once the GCF assistance ends (consider potential resources can be from multiple sources, such as the public and private sectors, income generating activities, and other funding that will be adequate financial resources for sustaining project’s outcomes)?

Socio-economic risks to sustainability:

- Are there any social or political risks that may jeopardize sustainability of project outcomes? What is the risk that the level of stakeholder ownership (including ownership by governments and other key stakeholders) will be insufficient to allow for the project outcomes/benefits to be sustained? Do the various key stakeholders see that it is in their interest that the project benefits continue to flow? Is there sufficient public / stakeholder awareness in support of the long term objectives of the project? Are lessons learned being documented by the Project Team on a continual basis and shared/ transferred to appropriate parties who could learn from the project and potentially replicate and/or scale it in the future?

Institutional Framework and Governance risks to sustainability:

- Do the legal frameworks, policies, governance structures and processes pose risks that may jeopardize sustenance of project benefits? While assessing this parameter, also consider if the required systems/ mechanisms for accountability, transparency, and technical knowledge transfer are in place.

Environmental risks to sustainability:

- Are there any environmental risks that may jeopardize sustenance of project outcomes?

vi. Country Ownership

- To what extent is the project aligned with national development plans, national plans of action on climate change, or sub-national policy as well as projects and priorities of the national partners?
- How well is country ownership reflected in the project governance, coordination and consultation mechanisms or other consultations?
- To what extent are country level systems for project management or M&E utilized in the project?
- Is the project, as implemented, responsive to local challenges and relevant/appropriate/strategic in relation to SDG indicators, National indicators, GCF RMF/PMF indicators, AE indicators, or other goals?
- Were the modes of deliveries of the outputs appropriate to build essential/necessary capacities, promote national ownership and ensure sustainability of the result achieved?

vii. Gender equity

- Does the project only rely on sex-disaggregated data per population statistics?
- Are financial resources/project activities explicitly allocated to enable women to benefit from project interventions?
- Does the project account in activities and planning for local gender dynamics and how project interventions affect women as beneficiaries?
- Do women as beneficiaries know their rights and/or benefits from project activities/interventions?
- How do the results for women compare to those for men?
- Is the decision-making process transparent and inclusive of both women and men?
- To what extent are female stakeholders or beneficiaries satisfied with the project gender equality results?
- Did the project sufficiently address cross cutting issues including gender?
- How does the project incorporate gender in its governance or staffing?

viii. Innovativeness in results areas

- What are the lessons learned to enrich learning and knowledge generation in terms of how 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? Please provide concrete examples and make specific suggestions on how to enhance these roles going forward.

ix. Unexpected results, both positive and negative

- What has been the project’s ability to adapt and evolve based on continuous lessons learned and the changing development landscape? Please account for factors both within the AE/EE and external.
- Can any unintended or unexpected positive or negative effects be observed as a consequence of the project’s interventions?
- What factors have contributed to the unintended outcomes, outputs, activities, results?
- Do any of the unintended results constitute a major change?

x. Replication and Scalability

- Assess the effectiveness of exit strategies and approaches to phase out assistance provided by the project including contributing factors and constraints? Is there a need for recalibration?
- What factors of the project achievements are contingent on specific local context or enabling environment factors?
- Are the actions and results from project interventions likely to be sustained, ideally through ownership by the local partners and stakeholders?
- What are the key factors that will require attention in order to improve prospects of sustainability, scalability or replication of project outcomes/outputs/results?

Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons Learned

The Interim Evaluation consultant will include a section of the report setting out the evaluation’s evidence-based conclusions, in light of the findings. Explain whether the project will be able to achieve planned development objective and outcomes by the end of implementation.

Recommendations should be succinct suggestions for critical intervention that are specific, measurable, achievable, and relevant. A recommendation table should be put in the report’s executive summary.

The Interim Evaluation consultant should make no more than 10 recommendations total.

The Interim Evaluation will also include a separate section with a concise and logically articulated set of lessons learned (new knowledge gained from the project, context, outcomes, even evaluation methods; failures/lost opportunities to date, what might have been done better or differently, etc.). Lessons should be based on specific evidence presented in the report and can be used to inform design, adapt and change plans and actions, as appropriate, and plan for scaling up.

The Interim Evaluation report’s findings, conclusions, recommendations and lessons learned need to consider gender equality and women’s empowerment and other cross-cutting issues.

Ratings

The Interim Evaluation consultant will include its ratings of the project’s results and brief descriptions of the associated achievements in an Interim Evaluation Ratings & Achievement Summary Table in the Executive Summary of the Interim Evaluation report. See Annex E for ratings scales. No rating on Project Strategy and no overall project rating is required.

Table. Interim Evaluation Ratings & Achievement Summary Table for (Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt)

Measure	Interim Evaluation Rating	Achievement Description
Project Strategy	N/A	
Progress Towards Results	Objective Achievement Rating: (rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Outcome 1 Achievement Rating: (rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Outcome 2 Achievement Rating: (rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Outcome 3 Achievement Rating: (rate 6 pt. scale)	
	Etc.	
Project Implementation & Adaptive Management	(rate 6 pt. scale)	
Sustainability	(rate 4 pt. scale)	

6. TIMEFRAME

The total duration of the Interim Evaluation will be approximately 27 working days over a time period of 14 of weeks. The tentative Interim Evaluation timeframe is as follows:

ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS	COMPLETION DATE
Document review and preparation of Interim Evaluation (IE) Inception Report; Submission of IE Inception Report (Inception Report due no later than 2 weeks before the evaluation mission)	3 days	15 December 2021
IE mission: stakeholder meetings, interviews, field visits	7 days	30 December 2021
Presentation of initial findings- last day of the Interim Evaluation mission	1 day	07 January 2022
Preparation and submission of Draft IE Report #1	7 days	14 January 2022
Incorporation of comments on Draft IE Report #1; Preparation and submission of Draft IE Report #2	7 days	21 January 2022
Incorporation of comments from Draft IE Report #2 and Finalization of IE report + completed audit trail from feedback on draft report	5 days	25 February 2022

The deliverables are:

#	Deliverable	Description	Timing	Responsibilities
1	Interim Evaluation (IE) Inception Report	Proposed evaluation methodology, work plan and structure of the Interim Evaluation report, and options for site visits	No later than 2 weeks before the evaluation mission (15 December 2021)	Interim Evaluation consultant submits to the Commissioning Unit and project management
2	Presentation	Initial Findings	End of evaluation mission (07 January 2022)	Interim Evaluation Consultant presents to project management and the Commissioning
3	Draft IE Report #1	Full draft report (using guidelines on content outlined in Annex B) with annexes	Within 1 week of the evaluation mission (14 January 2022)	Interim Evaluation Consultant sends draft to the Commissioning Unit, reviewed by RTA, Project Coordinating Unit, NDA focal point
4	Draft IE Report #2	Full report (using guidelines on content outlined in Annex B) with annexes	21 January 2022	Interim Evaluation Consultant sends draft to the Commissioning Unit, reviewed by RTA, Project Coordinating Unit, NDA focal point
5	Final Interim Evaluation Report* + Audit Trail	Revised report with audit trail detailing how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final report	Within 1 week of receiving UNDP comments on draft (25 February 2022)	Interim Evaluation Consultant sends final report Commissioning Unit

*The final Interim Evaluation report must be in English. If applicable, the Commissioning Unit may choose to arrange for a translation of the report into a language more widely shared by national stakeholders.

7. INTERIM EVALUATION ARRANGEMENTS

The principal responsibility for managing this IE resides with the Monitoring & Evaluation Focal Point of the Commissioning Unit. The Commissioning Unit for this project’s IE is the UNDP Egypt Country Office. During this assignment, the Interim Evaluation consultant will report to the Senior Supplier (the UNDP Country Office) in the Commissioning Unit who will provide guidance and ensure satisfactory completion of deliverables.

The Commissioning Unit will contract the IE consultant and ensure the timely provision of per diems and travel arrangements within the country. The Project Team will be responsible for liaising with the Interim Evaluation consultant to provide all relevant documents, set up stakeholder interviews, and arrange field visits.

8. CONSULTANT COMPOSITION

One consultant will conduct the IE. The consultant cannot have participated in the project preparation, formulation, and/or implementation (including the writing of the Project Document) and should not have a conflict of interest with project’s related activities.

The selection of consultant will be conducted through assessing applications against the required qualities in the following areas:

Education

- A Master’s degree in Environmental Science, Sustainable Development, Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction, Coastal Management or other closely related field.

Work Experience

- Work experience in relevant technical areas for at least 10 years;
- Work experience in adaptive management, as applied to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, sustainable development, or related issue;
- Recent experience with result-based management evaluation for environmental vertical funds;
- Experience applying SMART indicators and reconstructing or validating baseline scenarios;
- Experience working in Egypt or the region is an asset;
- Experience in gender sensitive evaluation and analysis;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Demonstrable analytical skills;
- Project evaluation/review experiences within United Nations system will be considered an asset;

Language

- Fluency in written and spoken English

9. EVALUATOR ETHICS

The evaluation consultant will be held to the highest ethical standards and is required to sign a code of conduct (see ToR Annex D) upon acceptance of the assignment. This evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation. The evaluation consultant must safeguard the rights and confidentiality of information providers, interviewees and stakeholders through measures to ensure compliance with legal and other relevant codes governing collection of data and reporting on data. The evaluation consultant must also ensure security of collected information before and after the evaluation and protocols to ensure anonymity and confidentiality of sources of information where that is expected. The information knowledge and data gathered in the evaluation process must also be solely used for the evaluation and not for other uses without the express authorization of UNDP and partners.

10. PAYMENT MODALITIES AND SPECIFICATIONS

20% upon satisfactory delivery and approval of the final Interim Evaluation Inception Report

50% upon satisfactory delivery of the of the first draft Interim Evaluation report

30% upon satisfactory delivery and approval of the final Interim Evaluation report by the Commissioning Unit, UNDP Nature, Climate and Energy (NCE) Regional Technical Advisor and UNDP NCE Principal Technical Advisor +submission of completed Audit Trail

Criteria for issuing the final payment of 30%¹¹:

- The final IE report includes all requirements outlined in the IE TOR and is in accordance with the IE guidance.
- The final IE report is clearly written, logically organized, and is specific for this project (i.e. text has not been cut & pasted from other IE reports).
- The Audit Trail includes responses to and justification for each comment listed.
- RTA approvals are via signatures on the TE Report Clearance Form).

APPENDIX B – MISSION ITINERARY (FOR MARCH 2022)

#	Activity	Stakeholder involved	Place
26 January 2022 (Wednesday)			
1	Meeting with Mr. Mohamed Bayoumi and Mr. Tom Twining-Ward	UNDP CO and UNDP RTA	Virtual via Zoom meeting
7 February 2022 (Monday)			
2	Meeting with Dr. Mohamed Ahmed	Project Manager	Virtual via Zoom meeting
3	Meeting with Mr. Sylvain Merlen	UNDP CO	Virtual via Zoom meeting
8 February 2022 (Tuesday)			
4	Meeting with Dr. Eman ElSayed	Head of Planning Sector, MWRI	Virtual via Zoom meeting
5	Meeting with Eng. Fayed Elshamaly	Kafr El-Sheikh Governorate	Virtual via Zoom meeting
9 February 2022 (Wednesday)			
6	Meeting with Eng. Ashamed Ahd Elkader, Eng. Md. Ghattas, Eng. Mona Khairy	SPA	Virtual via Zoom meeting
7	Meeting with Dr. Yasser Mostafa	Independent Expert	Virtual via Zoom meeting
8	Meeting with Mr. Jan Dietrich	NIRAS, International Consulting Firm for ICZM	Virtual via Zoom meeting
9	Meeting with Dr. Mona Shehab and Mr. Hassan	Beheira Governorate	Virtual via Zoom meeting
10 February 2022 (Thursday)			
10	Meeting with Dr. Ragab Abdel Azim	First Undersecretary MWRI	Virtual via Zoom meeting
12 February 2022 (Saturday)			
11	Meeting with Dr. Khalid Abdel Hay	Chairman NWRC	Virtual via Zoom meeting
15 February 2022 (Tuesday)			
12	Meeting with Ms. Omnia Hegazy	GCF DNA, EEAA	Virtual via Zoom meeting
19 February 2022 (Saturday)			
13	Meeting with Dr. Asmaa Khalil	ICZM Focal Point, EEAA	Virtual via Zoom meeting
23 February 2022 (Wednesday)			
14	Meeting with Dr. Abdallah Eliwa	Coastal Management Dept., EEAA	Virtual via Zoom meeting
6 March 2022 (Sunday)			
15	Debriefing meeting with UNDP	UNDP CO	Virtual via Zoom meeting

Total number of meetings conducted: 16

APPENDIX C – LIST OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED

This is a listing of persons contacted in Egypt (unless otherwise noted) during the Interim Evaluation Period only. The Evaluation Team regrets any omissions to this list.

Name	Designation	Agency/Organization
Sylvain Merlen	Deputy Resident Representative	UNDP
Mohamed Bayoumi	Project Manager/Programme Analyst	UNDP
Tom Twining-Ward	Environment and Health Advisor and RTA	UNDP
Dr Mohamed Ahmed	Project Manager.	ECCADP
Dr. Ragab Abdel Azim	NPD and First Undersecretary MWRI	MWRI
Dr. Khalid Abdel Hay	Chairman NWRC	NWRC
Dr. Enam Sayed	Head of Planning Sector	MWRI
Eng. Ashamed Ahd Elkder	Project Engineer	SPA
Eng. Md. Ghattas,	Project Engineer	SPA
Eng. Mona Khairy	Project Engineer	SPA
Ms. Omniah Hehazy	GCF DNA	EEAA
Dr. Asmaa Khalil	ICZM Focal Point	EEAA
Dr. Abdallah Eliwa	Coastal Management Dept.	EEAA
Meeting with Eng. Frayed Elsmaty		Kafr El-Sheikh Governorate
Dr. Mona Shehab		Beheira Governorate
Mr. Hassan		Beheira Governorate
Mr. Jan Dietrich	International Consulting Firm for ICZM	NIRAS
Dr. Yasser Mostafa	Independent Expert	

APPENDIX D – LIST OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

1. UNDP Project Document (ECCADP ProDoc);
2. GCF Funding Proposal for ECCADP;
3. UNDP Egypt Country Program Document;
4. Funded Activity Agreement between UNDP and GCF for ECCADP, March 28, 2018;
5. ECCADP Annual Performance Reviews for 2019, 2020 and 2021;
6. ECCADP ESMF Document;
7. Annex XII: Gender Assessment and Action Plan for ECCADP;
8. UNEP Adaptation Gap Report 2020;
9. UNDP Evaluation Guidance During COVID 2019;
10. Development of Climate Resilient Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Plan for the North Coast of Egypt, Inception Report, 30 January 2022;
11. ECCADP Project Board Minutes of Meetings for 4 February 2019;
12. ECCADP Project Board Minutes of Meetings for 23 August 2019;
13. ECCADP Project Board Minutes of Meetings for 28 November 2019;
14. ECCADP Project Board Minutes of Meetings for 5 February 2020;
15. ECCADP Project Board Minutes of Meetings for 26 August 2020;
16. ECCADP Project Board Minutes of Meetings for 3 February 2021;
17. Implementation Plans for ECCADP Project;
18. “Design of Soft Coastal Protection Structures Using Dredged Material”, Job Dronkers, Netherlands Centre for Coastal Research, May 2018.

APPENDIX E – PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK FOR ECCADP PROJECT FROM NOVEMBER 2018

Changes were made in this PRF **in red font**.

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change)
This project will contribute to the following country outcome included in the UNDAF/Country Programme Document: Outcome 5.1: The Government of Egypt has adopted and effectively implemented sound climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes focused on vulnerable sectors, groups and high-risk geographic locations.
This project will be linked to the following output of the UNDP Strategic Plan: Output 1.4: Scaled up action on climate change adaptation and mitigation cross sectors which is funded and implemented.
GCF Paradigm shift objectives: <i>Increased climate-resilient sustainable development</i>

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Assumptions
SDG indicators	13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population 13.3.1 Number of countries that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into primary, secondary and tertiary curricula	See http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/	Expected status a mid-point of project implementation	Expected status a project closure	Note how project data will link with national statistics offices or other bodies monitoring SDG indicators
UNDP Strategic Plan Indicators	1.4.1a) Extent to which climate finance is being accessed 1.4.1b) Extent to which there is a system in place to access, deliver, monitor, report on and verify climate finance. 1.4.2 Extent to which implementation of comprehensive measures – plans, strategies, policies, programmes and budgets – to achieve low-emission and climate-resilient development objectives has improved. 2. Number of direct project beneficiaries.	See IRRF indicators listed in opening section of this annotated project document			

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Assumptions
FUND LEVEL IMPACT:					
Fund level Impact: <i>A3.0 Increased resilience of infrastructure and the built environment to climate change</i>	3.2 Number of new infrastructure constructed to withstand condition from climate variability and change	No coastal protection solution exists in vulnerable hotspots	25 km	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soft coastal protection measures have been put in place in 5 vulnerable hotspots across 69 km of the Nile Delta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental and social impact assessment is completed and approved without delay; There is a land-use agreement with the GoE
PROJECT OUTCOMES:					
A5.0 Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive planning and development	5.1 Institutional and regulatory frameworks capable of integrating climate risks into coastal zone planning and effective action	Only ad hoc planning has been undertaken which is neither climate sensitive or effectively coordinated across institutions	Development of the Shoreline Master Plan and Coastal Management Plan	Development of the ICZM Plan	There is not disruptive government led restructuring of the various ministries involved in coastal management
A7.0 Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks	7.2 Number of males and females benefiting from soft coastal protection measures	Currently, no local residents benefit from soft coastal protection measures	Coastal protection design and installation started to protect about 17 million people in areas prone to coastal flooding	At least 17 million people who are in flood prone areas protected by a soft coastal defense	There is not a sudden and unexpected migration of people from other parts of Egypt.
PROJECT OUTPUTS:					
Output 1 Reduced vulnerability of coastal infrastructure and agricultural assets to coastal flooding damage in hotspot locations in Nile Delta. Enhanced coastal protection at five (5) sea level rise vulnerability hotspots in the Nile Delta	The total length of vulnerable hotspots protected	0km	15-20km	69km	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political and economic stability is maintained in Egypt There is no conflicts that will disrupt construction or supply chains required for materials both within Egypt and outside Egypt
Output 2 Development of an integrated coastal zone management plan (ICZM) for the entire North Coast of Egypt. Established process for subsequent	Assessment of the capacity needs of institutions and individuals (women and men) for ICZM planning	Preliminary estimates of MWRI	Assessment under development	At least 1 Capacity Needs Assessment Report indicating the capacity needs of women and men	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is not a government restructuring, There is appropriate environment that allows for the review and adoption of the ICZM plan

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Assumptions
development of an integrated coastal zone management plan for Northern Coast of Egypt	Number of technical officers (men and women) trained on modeling and other skills associated with integrated coastal zone planning	0 people	At least 50 technical government staff exposed to hands-on trainings on the three areas	At least 100 technical government staff exposed to hands-on trainings on the three areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no turnover of staff beyond what is expected for natural reasons
	Setup of monitoring equipment for national observation system	Tide gauges installed under the SCCF Project	All monitoring equipment procured	System is operational	
	Government of Egypt has adopted ICZM Plan	No ICZM plan	Development of the ICZM Plan	Adoption of the ICZM	

APPENDIX F - RESPONSES TO COMMENTS RECEIVED ON DRAFT IE REPORT

To the comments received on 16 March 2022 from the Interim Evaluation of “Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast and Nile Delta Regions in Egypt” (GCF ID Number FP053), responses are provided in the following table by institution (“Author” column) and track change comment number (“#” column):

Author	#	Para #/ Comment location	Comment/Feedback on draft MTR report	MTR response and actions taken
GCF Egypt	1	Table of Contents	Section 4 is accidentally titled “Project Description and Development Context”. This should probably be titled “Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons Learned”	Correction made.
GCF Egypt	2	Synopsis	Replace “GEF” with “GCF” in “Title of UNDP supported GEF financed project”	Correction made.
GCF Egypt	3	Synopsis	Change “Mid-Term Review team members” to “Interim Evaluation team members”. (Mid-Term Review is a ‘GEF’ term)	Correction made.
GCF Egypt	4	Synopsis	Include “FAA Effectiveness” date which was 29 May 2018 Also include prodoc signature date, which was 2 October 2018	Correction made.
GCF Egypt	5	Synopsis	Remove “GEF Focal Area Objective” since this is a GCF proejct	Correction made.
GCF Egypt	6	Para E-3	The prodoc signature date is “2 October 2018” (not 1 November 2018)	Correction made.
GCF Egypt	7	Para 4	Reference to the sentence “This IE assesses 42 months of Project progress, achievements and implementation taking into account the status of Project activities, outputs and the resource disbursements made up to 1 November 2018” Was “1 November 2018” meant to be “1 November 2022”?	Correction made but up to 31 January 2022
GCF Egypt	8	Para 4.	Suggest referring to the GCF Evaluation Policy at the end of this paragraph: https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/document/evaluation-policy-gcf <i>They have not yet released detailed evaluation guidance, only a draft TOR template.</i>	Additional information added.
GCF Egypt	9	Para 9	Although this IE’s TOR merged the GEF MTR TOR template and the GCF evaluation template (Annex V in the GCF Programming Manual) plus additional comments from the GCF Secretariat on the TOR, perhaps this IE report should not state that the IE report is designed to meet the UNDP-GEF MTR guidance document.	Para replaced by text with the GCF Programming Manual and the GCF Evaluation Policy.

Author	#	Para #/ Comment location	Comment/Feedback on draft MTR report	MTR response and actions taken
			Suggest referring to the GCF Programming Manual, the GCF Evaluation Policy and maybe something about mid-term evaluation structures that UNDP applies for other Vertical Fund projects.	
GCF Egypt	10	Figure 4: Theory of Change	The GCF Secretariat likes to see evaluations discuss the Theory of Change, so it is very good that the ToC was reconstructed here. The GCF Secretariat recently sent the attached ToC template. It looks like Figure 4 is aligned with their ToC template, but please double check.	No changes made to the ToC since the RToC seems to align with the template.
GCF Egypt	11	3.4 Progress towards Results	In this section (or another section, if appropriate) please assess whether the total number of beneficiaries and indirect beneficiaries of the project has been properly calculated.	No, it has not been properly calculated. Edits have been made to reflect this in the text.
GCF Egypt	12	3.5.1 Management Arrangements	Please also include a review of the quality of execution of the Executing Entity (UNDP calls this the Implementing Partner). Also review the quality of support provided by UNDP and recommend areas for improvement. Para 66 outlines positive points about the project's implementation. Is this due to excellent support by the Executing Entity and/or UNDP?	Edits have been made to the text to reflect this information.
GCF Egypt	13	3.5.5 Project Level Monitoring and Evaluation Systems	Consider providing additional details in this section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the monitoring tools currently being used: Do they provide the necessary information? Do they involve key partners? Do they use existing information? Are they efficient? Are they cost-effective? Are additional tools required? How could they be made more participatory and inclusive? Discuss any quality assuring mechanisms being used (e.g. ISO standard, government accreditations, international certificates, etc.) Is project reporting and information generated by the project linked to national SDGs, NDC and other national reporting systems? Examine the financial management of the project monitoring and evaluation budget. Are sufficient resources 	Edits made in Paras 75-76 to reflect the additional details requested.

Author	#	Para #/ Comment location	Comment/Feedback on draft MTR report	MTR response and actions taken
			being allocated to monitoring and evaluation? Are these resources being allocated effectively?	
GCF Egypt	14	3.5.9 Communications	<p>This section states that communications are Moderately Satisfactory. Provide a few details behind that rating – are the current comms channels not sufficient to promote project awareness? Are the current comms channels reaching all stakeholders? Are there feedback mechanisms when communication is received?</p> <p>(It is noted that Recommendation 4 addresses outreach and awareness)</p>	Edits made to more comprehensively analyze Project communications.
GCF Egypt	15	Section 4	<p>In addition to the Conclusions and Recommendations sub-sections please include a separate section on lessons learned (as per the TOR). That section should contain a concise and logically articulated set of lessons learned based on specific evidence presented in the report, to be used to inform design, adapt and change plans and actions, as appropriate, and plan for scaling up.</p> <p>The GCF Secretariat has commented on a stand alone Lessons Learned section in previously submitted IE reports. Although this report does integrate lessons in the recommendations sub-section, the GCF Secretariat has specifically commented on having a stand alone Lessons Learned section.</p>	A “Lessons Learned” section has been added.
GCF Egypt	16	General comment	For a few previously submitted IE reports, the GCF Secretariat has commented that some reports read like a progress report and not an evaluation. Therefore, while reporting on progress is important and necessary, please also ensure that the IE report assesses the project.	Edits made to that effect.
GCF Egypt	17	Para 43	Do we need to add a rating here too?	Rating added.
Mohamed Bayoumi	18	Para 45	<p>26% of the total value of the contracts covered by Government cost sharing. The share of the GCF budget in the issued contracts so far is USD 18.6 m</p> <p>It is true that the design varies from one location to the other but it did not include geotube</p>	Key information added to text.
Mohamed Bayoumi	19	Paras 53-54	These two options were tested under the GEF-SCCF project not the GCF	Text changed to reflect this new information
GCF Egypt	20	Figure 6	This figure is as Figure 2	Figure 2 was removed

Author	#	Para #/ Comment location	Comment/Feedback on draft MTR report	MTR response and actions taken
GCF Egypt	21	Figure 7	This was part of the GEF project not the GCF project.	New information incorporated into text.
Mohamed Bayoumi	22	Para 59	This was faced at the beginning of construction in connection to difficulty facing machinery movement in soft clay soil in particular after the storms but not anymore	This still leaves a possible barrier to implementation. Edits have been made to reflect this.
GCF Egypt	23	Para 60	These do not seem like barriers but more like activities	Edits have been made to reflect possible barriers.
Mohamed Bayoumi	24	Para 63	The National Project Director is assigned by the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation as the Project Focal Point in the Ministry and he does not have a contract or a salary from the project	This information has been added as a footnote
Mohamed Bayoumi	25	Para 65	The testing was under the GEF SCCF Project only. The design that is implemented in most locations under the GCF project is a mix of Options 1 and 2 while Option 3 was not used in GCF project. Option 3 was not used in GCF project due to its high costs	This information has been added to the text.
Mohamed Bayoumi	26	Para 82	Is this reference to expenditure reports?	No this refers to budget allocations which I have not received.
Mohamed Bayoumi	27	Para 95	Experience has showed that accumulation of sand is faster than vegetation growth, hence vegetation is not a critical factor in the stabilization of the established dune system	Information is noted as well as the pilot being conducted under the UNDP-GEF project.
Mohamed Bayoumi	28	Table 6, Implementation Approach	Rating 3 is moderately unsatisfactory while the text mentions that the approach is excellent	Rating has been changed.
Mohamed Bayoumi	29	Para 109	Would be good to state what is actually needed over the support that is given now.	Edits done accordingly.
GCF Egypt	30	Para 110	Again this is being done at the moment. It is not clear what is needed above what is done now.	Edits are made to the recommendation in the report to ensure the <u>important</u> “diagnosis” phase is a success to the ICZM plan.
GCF Egypt	31	Para 112	This needs to be discussed to clarify what is needed.	Agree but left the recommendation there to discuss.

APPENDIX G - EVALUATION CONSULTANT AGREEMENT FORM

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people’s right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people’s right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders’ dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study imitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.

Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form²⁸

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System

Name of Consultant: Roland Wong

Name of Consultancy Organization (where relevant): _____

I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.

Signed at Surrey, BC, Canada on 21 March 2021



²⁸ www.unevaluation.org/unegcodeofconduct