

Project Document Addendum¹

Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project- phase II (scale-up) - Contribution to restoration of Lake Urmia via local community participation in sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation

Country: Iran (Islamic Republic of)

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| UNDAF 2012-2016: Outcome4 | National, sub-national and local capacities enhanced to ensure 1) integrated management, conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, natural resources and biodiversity; 2. mainstreaming environmental economics into national planning and audits; 3) effective use of knowledge and tools in prevention, control and response to current and emerging environmental pollution; 4) formulation and implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation plans and projects |
| CPAP 2012-2016: Output 4.1: | Institutional capacities for integration of sustainable development in national policies supported |
| Expected country program outcome | Policy and community based interventions in key threatened ecosystems, watersheds and trans-boundary water bodies designed to protect the human environment, biodiversity and natural resources |

Implementing Agency: Department of Environment

Brief Description: This is an addendum to the Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project (CIWP) Phase II –and a complementary step to the first two years of the “Contribution to restoration of Lake Urmia by modelling local community engagement in sustainable agriculture practices and biodiversity conservation” project implemented in 2014- March 2016. This addendum is made possible by the third tranche of grant provided by the Government of Japan in order to continue restoration of Lake Urmia mainly through promotion of sustainable agriculture and effective reduction of water consumption at the field level by engaging local community and farmers as the main elements of Lake Urmia Integrated Management Plan based on Ecosystem Approach. It is expected that this approach would lead to increase of inflow to the lake as well protect the biodiversity focusing on LU satellite wetlands. At the same time there would also be social mobilization and application of new tools supporting Lake Urmia restoration process.

The attached document would be the framework of the cooperation and activities to be implemented.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Budget (USD): US\$ 1,000,000 | Management Arrangement: National Implementation |
| Government of Japan: US\$ 1,000,000 | Implementation Period: 18 March 2016–17 March 2017 |
| Total: US\$ 1,000,000 | Project Name: Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project (Scale-up) |

For Government of Islamic Republic of Iran:

Massoumeh Ebtekar

Vice President and Head of Department of Environment

Signature:

Date:

For UNDP:

Gary Lewis

UNDP Resident Representative

Signature:

Date:

¹ This document is considered equivalent to an addendum to the concluded Project Document of Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project signed between the Department of Environment and UNDP in 2005. Legal and administrative terms and conditions as stipulated under the aforesaid agreement shall apply to this addendum.

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Project Proposal

For submission to Government of Japan

Project Title: Contribution to Lake Urmia Restoration via local community participation in sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation
(Special component of UNDP's Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project)

Start Date: 18 March 2016

End Date: 17 March 2017

Planned budget: US \$925,926

UNDP GMS: US \$ 74,074

Total Budget: US \$ 1,000,000

Brief Description

Iran's diversity in climatic conditions and its rich aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems are rooted in its unique geography. Pressure has been put on environmental resources and biodiversity.

Water shortages normally leads to water allocation rivalry and natural ecosystems - initially wetlands - usually suffer when in competition with development. As a result of this situation a number of Iranian wetlands across the 83 protected areas and 24 Ramsar sites are currently under pressure. These combined impacts have led to considerable shrinkage of wetlands, and in some parts of the country, major wetlands are entirely dried out, with serious impacts on biodiversity and local communities' livelihoods.

Lake Urmia (LU) is a vast hyper-saline wetland NW of Iran. The Lake is a National Park, Ramsar Site, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, and is the largest inland lake in Iran. There are about 100 islands in the lake; the three bigger ones are supporting populations of IUCN red listed endangered species of Persian Fallow Deer and Mouflon - which is a vulnerable species. The wetland also supports a number of other biodiversity species including 115 birds as well as 120 plant species.

The lake has several other functions supporting local communities' livelihoods to settle in the surrounding areas. There are more than 5 million inhabitants living in the basin and the impact of drying lake will have tremendous repercussion on their daily livelihoods.

The lake is shrinking at an alarming rate which has led to drying of more than 75% of its total 5000 Km² surface area. The underlying problem is that a range of users regularly extract water from the basin that feeds the lake. Add to this a recent drought, and, as a result, the water levels keep declining. Thus Lake Urmia is in a sudden threat of turning into irreversible situation where the dimension of its impacts would gradually spread from biodiversity dimension into socioeconomics where by livelihood and health of the surrounding communities would be affected. As a result of the lake drying out, salt particles are being blown around to adjacent agricultural crop lands. This will gradually increase soil salinity and contribute to making the agriculture of the entire basin unsustainable.

Currently Integrated Management plan of LU basin developed under Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project (CIWP) – a joint Government of Iran – UNDP project, which has been adopted by the cabinet, contains a set of priority activities. Further, the current cabinet has also adopted a list of urgent actions which would contribute into restoration of the lake. Figuring in priority lists are urgent biodiversity conservation, awareness raising and the sustainable and wise use of land and water resources including agriculture water saving. Currently agriculture sector consumes more than 87% of the entire basin's water use with a rather low efficiency rate. Hence there is a good scope for water saving in the area releasing more water discharge to the lake. This is also considered as the most critical step and can lead to revival of LU itself. Hence this formed the core activity of the special project under CIWP supported by a grant from Japan in 2014 and continued in 2015 of US \$ 1 million each year. Under these grants 75 villages were targeted to implement Sustainable Agriculture techniques which has been welcomed by about 22,000 local farmers who are part of the programme successfully covering approximately 53,800 hectares of agriculture land saving up to 35% water as well as 40% chemical agricultural inputs (Fertilizers and Pesticides). During the period 1,100 Government staff were trained and engaged in the process, 220 local experts mainly in the form of local cooperatives were trained on socio-economic as well as technical aspects of Sustainable Agriculture and 100,000 local communities were targeted in the awareness raising campaign.

This proposed third year component of the project will build on the capacity built and lessons learnt of 1st and 2nd phases of the project and would effectively contribute in restoration of LU through local community and farmers engagement to bring together the pieces of this sustainable development (promotion of sustainable agriculture and effective reduction of water consumption at farm level which would lead to increase of inflow to the lake, social mobilization and public awareness campaign, local water network initiatives, alternative livelihood practices aimed at water saving, bio-diversity conservation of the main LU satellite wetlands as back-up ecosystems for addressing the LU's critical situation).

The proposal is targeting to upscale project sites into 15 new villages while continuing to support SA practices in the first 75 villages initiated during 2014 & 2015 through introduction of supplementary elements of SA practices including new tools as complementary elements of sustainable agriculture. Thus in the third year total farm land supported by the project will reach to 67,800 ha (14,000 ha new farmlands; continuing support to the original 53,800 ha) in 90 villages. This phase will also involve sharing with a wide audience at basin level, the lessons learnt from Sustainable Agriculture as well as public participation in conservation of bio-diversity under Output 3. The basin comprises of more than 3,000 villages while the project is directly targeting only 90. The social mobilization output is expected to carry the Lake Urmia Restoration message using the sustainable agriculture / water saving model to the entire basin.

I. PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND OUTPUTS

Technical Background

Challenges in the management of Iran's wetlands have been exacerbated by unsustainable use of water resources, persistent droughts and climate change. These combined impacts have led to considerable shrinkage of wetlands, and in some parts of the country major wetlands are entirely dry, with serious impacts on biodiversity and livelihoods. To address a part of the above threats, the project continues using CIWP best experiences and lessons learned (establishing ecosystem based management approach and developing a detailed drought risk management model) as well as, demonstrating sustainable agriculture practices.

Results of initial sustainable agriculture piloted in the area back in 2011 as well as current project supported by the Government of Japan implemented as a component of the CIWP in close cooperation with the government and good public participation revealed that applying participatory sustainable agriculture will not only decrease water use by average 35%, but also would reduce chemical uses tremendously. At the same time farmers net income has increased by more than 10%. Considering the promising results of this practice demonstrated in a few locations in Iran as well as 75 villages in 11 focal areas at Lake Urmia basin, there is a great opportunity for contribution in restoration of Lake Urmia by saving up to 35% of water consumption in the sector which has a share of more than 87% in the whole basin water demand.

Moreover, a social mobilization campaign and an ICT based information dissemination, which has been initiated in the 2nd phase of the project will have great positive impact on the whole residents in LUB and will be continued to advocate the achievements of the project through participation of local communities, authorities and the media.

At the same time reviewing Water harvesting options and applying them in LU Islands to bring more security for unique biodiversity of these valuable ecosystems is an added value to the above achievements and shows specific concentration of the project to biodiversity conservation beside restoration activities.

The previous phase of the project (Phase II; Mar 2015-Mar 2016) included one outcome and 3 main outputs. Below are the main activities and achievements under each project output as well as lessons learned and remaining needs:

Main outcome: Contribution to Lake Urmia Restoration via local community participation in sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation

Output 1: Sustainable Agriculture expansion in 12 satellite villages (an average of 700 ha each) while also embedding SA in the pioneer 41 villages initiated during 2014 through further promoting SA practices and applying new tools

Targets:

- I. Expanding sustainable agriculture techniques to 12 satellite villages (700 ha each) adjacent to existed 41 sites covering at least 8400 Hectares of farms and orchards.

- II. All farmers in 41 villages are fully introduced to SA techniques and at least 75% implementing one sustainable agriculture technique in their farms and orchards.
- III. At least 20% of farmers and orchards implement SA techniques for Spring Cultivation Season in each village as Farmer Reference Clusters (FRCs)
- IV. At least 1 water friendly alternative livelihood is introduced and applied in 2 focal areas.
- V. At least 1 local water management initiatives is formed in 2 focal area

Activities and Achievements:

- I. Expanding sustainable agriculture techniques to 12 satellite villages are completed for autumn crops and the PDMs are developed for spring crops.
- II. All farmers in 41 villages have been introduced to SA techniques through facilitation workshops and participatory SA exhibits held in all focal areas.
- III. More than 20% of farmers implemented SA techniques for spring crops in all 41 villages
- IV. 2 water friendly alternative livelihoods are initiated in both East and West Azerbaijan provinces.
- V. 2 local water management initiatives are in progress in both East and West Azerbaijan provinces.

Output 2: Up-scaling sustainable agriculture in 22 new villages (in average 700 ha each) in Lake Urmia basin resulting in at least 35% water saving

Targets:

- I. Sustainable Agriculture methodology is reviewed and updated.
- II. 22 Reference Farmers Cluster is formed with minimum 10 farmers in each village
- III. All farmers in villages are introduced to SA techniques and at least 40% are implementing one SA technique in their farm
- IV. Participatory Action Plans for main crops are developed
- V. Sustainable agriculture techniques are implemented in the farms owned by volunteer farmers applying Participatory Action Plan.
- VI. At least 1 capacity building program implemented for MoJA extension offices/executive companies.

Activities and Achievements:

- I. Sustainable Agriculture methodology was reviewed, updated and SA techniques were implemented in 22 new villages for autumn crops. Besides, Participatory Action Plans for spring crops are developed.
- II. All farmers in 22 villages have been introduced to SA techniques through facilitation workshops and participatory SA exhibits held in all focal areas.
- III. Three technical workshops, a 7-days facilitation workshop and 3-days documentation workshops were held to build the capacity for MoJA staff/executive companies.

Output 3: Social Mobilization for Lake Urmia restoration and biodiversity conservation

Targets:

- I. At least one capacity building workshop on awareness raising for active NGOs in LUB.
- II. One public awareness campaign is developed in which communities, authorities and the media are involved
- III. An ITC based participatory monitoring and information dissemination system is established.
- IV. Participatory Management Plan for 2 LU satellite wetlands is developed and at least 1 win win activity for each site.

Activities and Achievements:

- I. Three contracts are made to implement ITC based information dissemination system, media campaign as well as capacity building for NGOs.
- II. Participatory Management Plan for 2 LU satellite wetlands initiated.

Lessons Learnt:

- ✓ Establishing a smooth atmosphere of partnership was an added value which led to mobilization of considerable national infrastructures in implementation of sustainable agriculture project.
- ✓ Inter-sectoral cooperation among governmental organizations supported by the project was not only well practiced but proved highly effective throughout the implementation of sustainable agriculture project. This approach led to utilization of even more national resources in implementation of the project. Therefore, involvement of related national organizations in the next phase of the project will mobilize considerable amount of national resources and utilize nationally existed infrastructures.
- ✓ Implementation of projects, utilizing national and international resources attracts more attention both at national and international levels which leads to mainstreaming the objectives of this project.

The way forward:

- ✓ Third phase of the project for a further 1 year to ensure a very moderate increase in the pilot villages (15) and more importantly the sustainability of the results in all the pilot villages.
- ✓ Extending sustainable agriculture activities to entire LU Basin (using both national and international funding)
- ✓ Feasibility study (including review of international best practices) and initiation of Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) mechanisms to incentivize farmers to adopt sustainable agriculture water-saving techniques

It is very relevant to point out that many of these critical needs were pointed out by the beneficiaries of the first two years of the project during the recent monitoring field visit

undertaken jointly by UNDP and the Embassy of Japan in which the Ambassador Japan participated.

Objective

Contribution to Lake Urmia restoration via local community participation in sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation

Outputs

Output 1: Continuing to strengthen in the pioneer 75 villages initiated during 2014-2015 through further promoting SA practices

To continue the support for volunteer farmers in 75 villages initiated in phase I&II until the application of Sustainable Agriculture techniques is fully established and sustainable enough to be continued by the framers. Besides, all the other farmers (non-volunteers) will be approached and encouraged to adopt and apply SA techniques via further introductory and trust building workshops as well as demonstration visits to successful farms of volunteer farmers.

Targets:

- I. All farmers in 63 directly approached villages (Year I &II) are fully introduced to SA techniques and at least 65% implementing one sustainable agriculture technique in their farms and orchards.
- II. At least 15% of farmers implement SA techniques in each of 12 satellite village (phase II)
- III. At least 4 capacity building program implemented for MoJA staff, executive companies and NGOs.
- IV. Sustainable Agriculture methodology is reviewed and updated.

Output 2: Up-scaling sustainable agriculture in 15 new villages in Lake Urmia basin resulting in 35% water saving

At least 15 new villages will be selected based on the established indicators for further up-scaling and promotion of Sustainable Agriculture techniques in Lake Urmia basin aiming at 35% water saving and dissemination of SA message and its importance in restoration of Lake Urmia to more agricultural zones.

Targets:

- I. All farmers in 15 villages are introduced to LU restoration via establishment of SA and at least 20% are implementing SA techniques in their farm
- II. Sustainable agriculture techniques are implemented in all farms owned by volunteer farmers
- III. Monitoring system including monitoring equipments are established in at least 8% of project sites

- IV. A Sustainable Agriculture booklet is developed in which SA process, technical results, good practices and lessons learnt are documented
- V. Four quarterly report and one annual report are produced

Output 3: Social Mobilization and application of new tools and mechanisms as complementary elements of sustainable agriculture

Social mobilization will be continued and new tools and mechanisms such as payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), Community-led Micro-credit Fund, Drought Risk Management Model, ICT and Local Water Management Cooperatives will be utilized as complementary elements of SA for LU restoration.

Targets:

- I. PES is initiated in at least 1 LU satellite wetlands
- II. At least 2 community-led micro-credit fund is established to empower women in SA pilot sites (phase II)
- III. Drought Risk Management model is adopted by water authorities and its utilization is initiated to enhance water allocation to different water users in LUB
- IV. Public engagement and transferring key messages as a means of public awareness mechanism via established ICT system is continued in all pilot sites Phase (I, II and III)
- V. Local water management cooperative is formed in 2 SA pilot sites of phase (II)

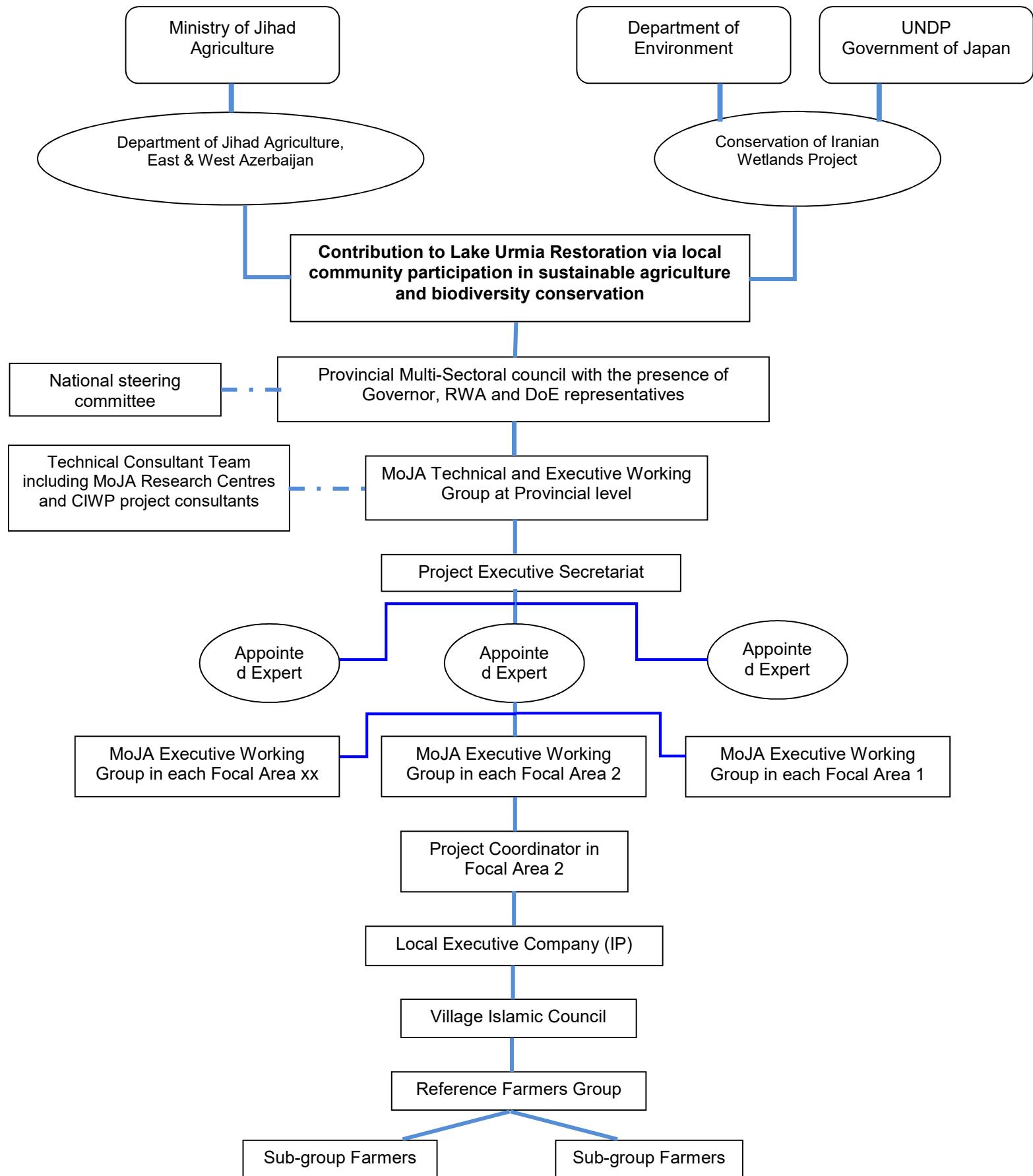
II. Management Arrangements

The proposed project will be implemented as a special stand-alone component of the UNDP/ Government of Iran Conservation of Iranian Wetlands project Phase II (Up-scaling) already operational with the Department of Environment (DOE) as the implementing Partner under NIM modality. All UNDP NIM modality requirements would be applicable to this project ensuring efficient implementation of it.

CIWP project team would be responsible for facilitation of the process however new staffs hired to coordinate and follow up project activities including 2 technical expert at national and two other at field level supported by Monitoring and Evaluation expert and Public Awareness and Communications expert. If required by the Implementing Partner (i.e. DOE, National Project Director of the wetlands project) in consultation with UNDP more staff will be added to the team in the new phase.

At the same time, existing local/regional/national stakeholder partnerships including Ministry of Jihad and Agriculture (main partner in implementation of the project), Department of Environment (project coordination and facilitation),, institutional arrangements and capacities built for inter-sectoral management of the Wetlands project would also be available fully for implementation of

this proposal. The Project governance will be undertaken through continuation of the inter-sectoral CIWP Project Steering Committee, which is chaired by DOE with UNDP as a full member and will meet twice each year and at the regional level Lake Urmia Regional Council, would also be engaged. It will be implemented by UNDP under the ongoing CIWP – Phase II project.



Key national and international agencies

The major national and international agencies having roles in project implementation and oversight are identified below:

- I. Government of Japan (Donor country)
- II. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP executing agency)
- III. Department of Environment (implementing partner, coordinator of the process)
- IV. Ministry of Agriculture Jihad (Implementing Ministry in charge of Agriculture)
- V. Ministry of Energy (Managing water resources allocation)
- VI. Other participating national agencies
- VII. Local authorities
- VIII. Respective Local communities, NGOs, CBOs

Budget and Funding

The budget for this project (special component of CIWP – Scale Up project) will be provided by the Government of Japan.

The handling procedures of interest income and unspent balance are in line with the policies and procedures of Japan-UNDP partnership fund.

UNDP Country Office will submit a written request to the Government of Japan for the prior approval in case the re-deployment of funds between approved project budget components is required; if more than 20% increase or decrease is expected.

Visibility

A 7-minutes documentary film which shows the bilateral attempt of Governments of Iran/Japan to restore Lake Urmia was produced and broadcast in Iran National TV channels. The aforementioned documentary film can be found and seen in the link below:

<http://bit.ly/1IESvr>

Special steps will continue to be taken to appropriately and adequately reflect the support from Japan to this project. These will include - but not limited to - web-stories on the UNDP website about the project at various stages, a launch event at the commencement of the project clearly highlighting Japan's support with participation of senior Government officials from the respective provinces, acknowledgement of Japan's support in the pilot villages where the activity is being implemented with banners / signage that will contain the flag of Japan apart from the UNDP logo and national (Iran) symbol. All these logos (including the Japanese flag) could also be located on all respective reports (this is the same as we are practicing for GEF funded projects with GEF, UNDP logos on the reports and signboards). It is pertinent to point out that in a recent television programme by the national broadcaster – IRIB – the programme carried prominently the flag of Japan as well as UNDP's logo which is a first of its kind as the national broadcaster does not do this. At the conclusion of the project sharing of the results with media and senior Government functionaries in Tehran and the provinces acknowledging Japan's support to the pilot effort and seeking scaling up by the Government.

III. Monitoring and reporting

The project's M&E component will be guided by a set of tools. Throughout the project a detailed activity planning and monitoring system will be developed and implemented. Based on existing M&E system within Wetlands Project Up-scaling, an intricate system of quarterly activity planning and monitoring, supported by a monitoring calendar (with as highlights a quarterly review of activities related to planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluation) will generate the information necessary for progress monitoring and made it possible through the feedback loop to correct for past quarter's weaknesses and delays in next quarter's activity plan.

The indicators will be defined in the project and are adaptable in the sense that they may be subject to revision during the course of project implementation, as project goals are adapted to changing circumstances

The progress against planned targets and measurable indicators equally included the monitoring of risk assumptions (external to the management decision but nevertheless a necessary condition for achievement of project objective and outputs). This provides the project with the opportunity to make stakeholders aware of their critical role in achieving the objective of the project. Moreover it provides project management with good quality updated information in order to make well-informed decisions.

In addition to the aforementioned monitoring and reporting requirements, an interim report (with a financial statement indicating utilization of resources) will be submitted at the mid-way point i.e. September 2016 and a final report with a financial report will be prepared and submitted upon completion of the project activities by March 2017. Both reports will contain photographs that will record progress achieved. The project will be included in the annual external audit exercise (March-April) of the UNDP Tehran office and an audit report will be prepared.

Project Road Map

2014

Agricultural land of 41 villages in Lake Urmia basin introduced to sustainable agriculture practices resulting up to 35% water saving

Local community awareness and capacities for their role in LU restoration and sustainable agriculture raised

Water harvesting options reviewed and at least one piloted in the three key islands of Lake Urmia ensuring sustainable wildlife water supply

2015

Embedding SA in the pioneer 41 villages initiated during 2014-2015 through further promoting SA practices and applying new tools

Up-scaling sustainable agriculture in at least 34 new villages in Lake Urmia basin

Social Mobilization for Lake Urmia restoration and biodiversity conservation

2016

Continuing to strengthen in the pioneer 75 villages initiated during 2014-2015 through further promoting SA practices

Up-scaling sustainable agriculture in 15 new villages in Lake Urmia basin resulting in 35% water saving

Social Mobilization and application of new tools and mechanisms as complementary elements of sustainable agriculture

IV. Work Plan & Budget

| EXPECTED OUTPUTS | Main Targets | PLANNED ACTIVITIES | Quantity | Unit Cost US\$ | PLANNED BUDGET US\$ |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| <i>Output 1</i> Continuing to strengthen in the pioneer 75 villages initiated during 2014-2015 through further promoting SA practices | <p>1. All farmers in 63 directly approached villages (Year I&II) are fully introduced to SA techniques and at least 65% implementing one sustainable agriculture technique in their farms and orchards.</p> <p>2. At least %15 of farmers implement SA techniques in each 12 satellite village (phase II)</p> <p>3. At least 4 capacity building program implemented for MoJA staff, executive companies and NGOs.</p> <p>4. Sustainable Agriculture methodology is reviewed and updated.</p> | <p>Field level activities along with planning and budgeting within national system to Ensure and sustain implementation of sustainable agriculture techniques in 63 villages</p> <p>Extending sustainable agriculture techniques to farms of less exposed farmers in 12 satellite villages including demonstration visits</p> <p>Capacity building for MoJA/executive Companies/NGOs on establishment of sustainable agriculture in LUB</p> <p>Reviewing sustainable agriculture methodology based on lessons learnt and establishing organizational frame work at local and provincial level</p> | <p>63 Villages</p> <p>12 Villages</p> <p>4 Program</p> <p>1</p> | <p>2,700</p> <p>4,160</p> <p>7,130</p> <p>7,136</p> | <p>170,100</p> <p>49,920</p> <p>28,520</p> <p>7,136</p> |
| Subtotal Output1 | | | | | 255,676 |

| EXPECTED OUTPUTS | Main Targets | PLANNED ACTIVITIES | Quantity | Unit Cost US\$ | PLANNED BUDGET US\$ |
|--|--|--|-------------|----------------|---------------------|
| <i>Output 2</i> Up-scaling sustainable agriculture in 15 new villages in Lake Urmia basin resulting in 35% water saving | 1. All farmers in 15 villages are introduced to LU restoration via establishment of SA and at least 20% are implementing SA techniques in their farm | Introduction of sustainable agriculture related approaches to local community, Participatory Rural Assessment (PRA), trust building, formation of farmer volunteer groups and demonstration visits | 15 villages | 5,350 | 80,250 |
| | 2. Sustainable agriculture techniques are implemented in all farms owned by volunteer farmers | Implementation of sustainable agriculture techniques at farm level based on participatory farm action plans | 15 villages | 13,650 | 204,750 |
| | 3. Monitoring system including monitoring equipments are established in at least 8% of project sites | Monitoring and evaluation of indicative farm results (particularly water saving) through expanding and using established monitoring system including monitoring equipment ² at farm level | 10 Farms | 4,000 | 40,000 |
| | 4. A Sustainable Agriculture booklet is developed in which SA process, technical results, good practices and lessons learnt are documented | Documentation and analysis of sustainable agriculture process, technical results, good practices and lessons learnt to develop a model for further advocating and up-scaling sustainable agriculture at basin level as well as incentivizing it in the long term | 1 Booklet | 25,000 | 25,000 |

² This would mainly include field required equipment for implementing sustainable agriculture practices at farmlands level enabling calculation and monitoring of water consumption (e.g. by using water meters, and parshall flume etc), monitoring soil humidity (e.g. using tensiometer) and other practices. At the same time as required (depending on available water resources monitoring networks) ground and/or surface water monitoring equipment would also be included under this activity.

| EXPECTED OUTPUTS | Main Targets | PLANNED ACTIVITIES | Quantity | Unit Cost US\$ | PLANNED BUDGET US\$ |
|------------------|--|---|-----------|----------------|---------------------|
| | 5. Four quarterly reports and one annual report are produced | Project coordination, monitoring, reporting and regular follow ups (includes office equipment, expenses and possible staff requirement) | 5 Reports | 21050 | 105,250 |
| Subtotal Output2 | | | | | 455,250 |

| EXPECTED OUTPUTS | Main Targets | PLANNED ACTIVITIES | Quantity | Unit Cost US\$ | PLANNED BUDGET US\$ |
|---|--|--|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Output 3</i> Social Mobilization and application of new tools and mechanisms as complementary elements of sustainable agriculture | <p>1. PES is initiated in at least 1 LU satellite wetlands</p> <p>2. At least 2 community-led micro-credit fund is established to empower women in SA pilot sites (phase II)</p> <p>3. Drought Risk Management model is adopted by water authorities and its utilization is initiated to enhance water allocation to</p> | <p>To apply payment for ecosystem services (PES) approach as a market-based mechanism, to encourage the conservation and restoration of LU via participation of local communities, NGOs, private sector, Industrial bodies and the government.</p> <p>Help start a community-led micro-credit fund that enables women to take out affordable loans and start water-friendly micro-enterprises as a long-term sustainable</p> | <p>1 Wetland</p> <p>2 villages</p> | <p>44,800</p> <p>25,000</p> | <p>44,800</p> <p>50,000</p> |

| EXPECTED OUTPUTS | Main Targets | PLANNED ACTIVITIES | Quantity | Unit Cost US\$ | PLANNED BUDGET US\$ |
|------------------|--|--|-------------|----------------|---------------------|
| | different water users in LUB | approach to LU restoration. | | | |
| | 4. Public engagement and transferring key messages as a means of public awareness mechanism via established ICT system is continued in all pilot sites Phase (I, II and III) | Support establishment of LUB drought risk management model to enhance water allocation to different water users in LUB | 1 | 60,000 | 60,000 |
| | 5. Local water management cooperative is formed in 2 SA pilot sites of phase (II) | Embedding and promoting ICT based system established in phase II and using the tool for public engagement and transferring key messages as a means of public awareness mechanism, local community mobilization for LU restoration, sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation | 90 Villages | 280 | 25,200 |
| | | Up-Scaling local farmer initiatives (networks, cooperatives, etc.) on better water resources management based on best practices and lessons learnt of phase (II) | 2 Villages | 17,500 | 35,000 |
| Subtotal Output3 | | | | | 215,000 |
| UNDP GMS | | | | | 74,074 |
| Total Budget | | | | | 1,000,000 |

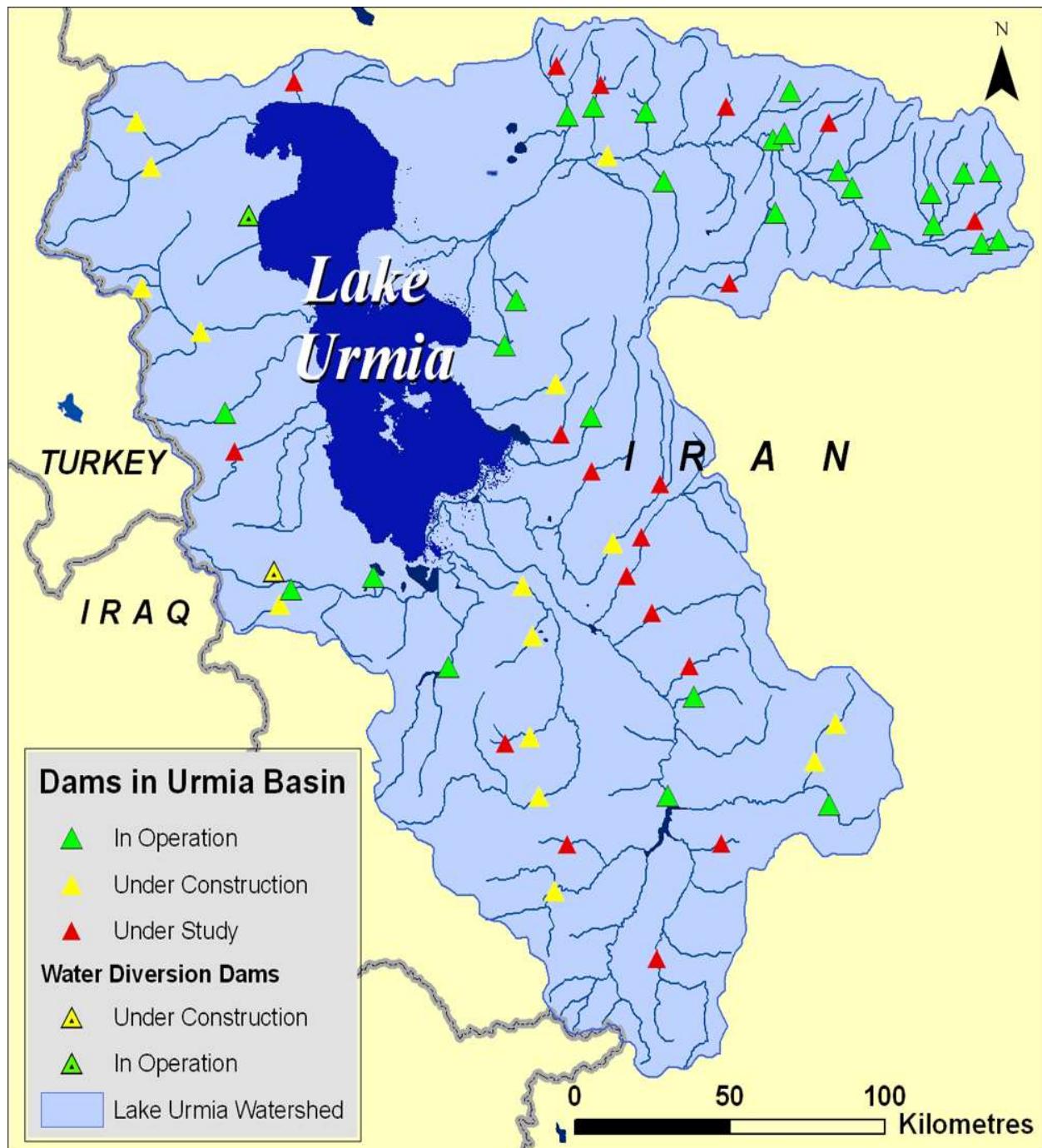


Figure 1: The number of dams (existing, under construction and under study) within the lake's basin suggest an increase in diversion of surface water beyond current levels which already appear to be unsustainable. Source: Hassanzadeh and others (2011), redrawn by UNEP GRID Sioux Falls

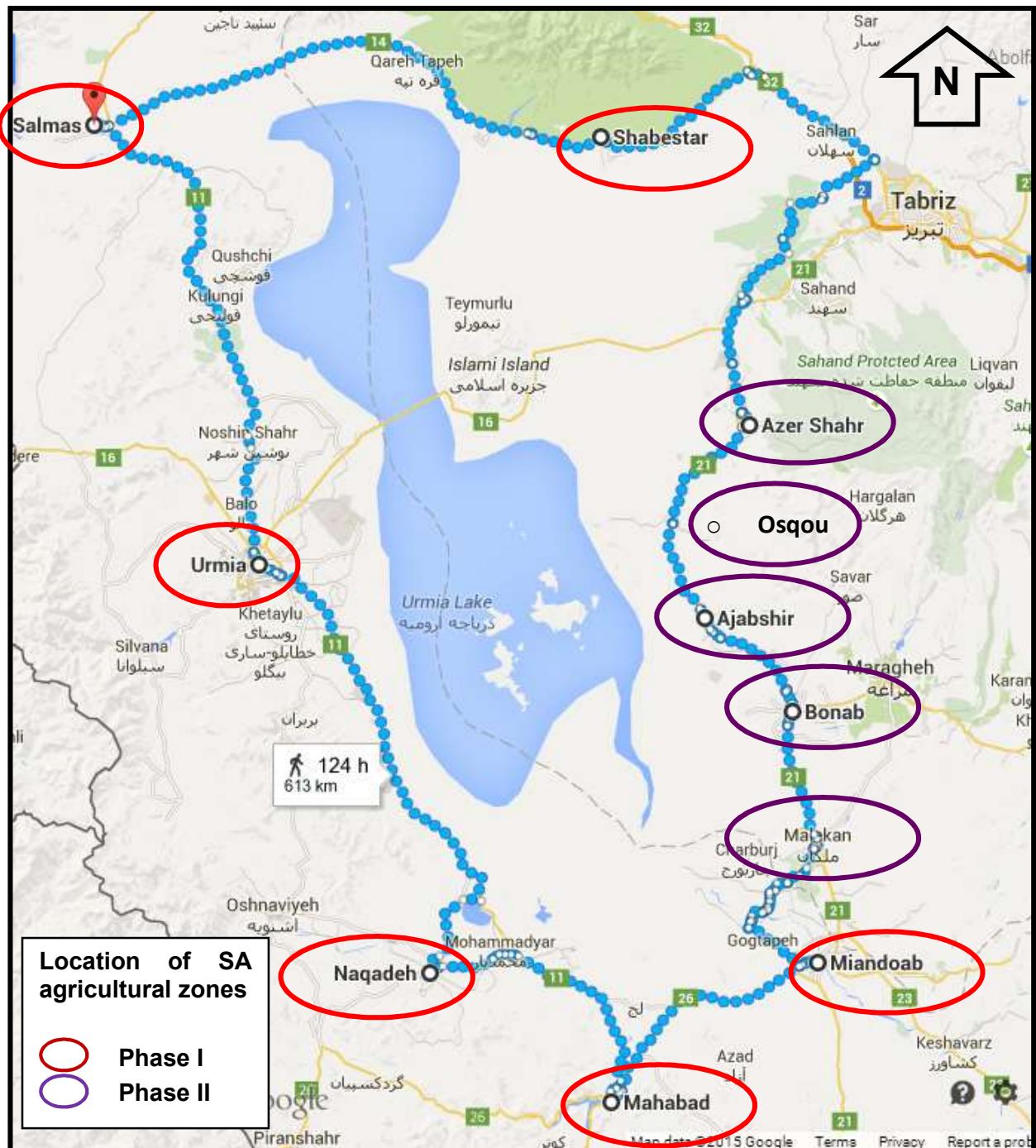


Figure 2: Location of 12 main agricultural zones including 75 villages in East and West Azerbaijan have been selected as pilot sites of the 1st and 2nd phases of the project which are shown in the map above.