



ADAPTATION FUND

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PROPOSAL FOR KYRGYZ REPUBLIC



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT
TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR
"ADAPTIVE LANDSCAPES & AGROPASTORAL TRANSFORMATION FOR OPPORTUNITIES & OUTCOMES" (ALATOO) PROJECT"

Project Title	Adaptive Landscapes & Agropastoral Transformation for Opportunities & Outcomes" (ALATOO) Project
Project ID	AF00000546
Category	Regular size project (over \$1 million)
Type	Single country project
Stage	Concept
Country	Kyrgyz Republic
Implementing Entity	IFAD
Financing Requested	USD 20,000,000.00
Reviewer	Alexandra Munoz

Co-reviewer(s)

IE Contact Person

Clarissa Conte,Fanny Minjauw,Khafiz Atymtay,Pierre Yves
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Secretariat's Overall Comment

The project Adaptive Landscapes & Agropastoral Transformation for Opportunities & Outcomes” (ALATOO) Project aims to enhance the resilience of forests and agropastoral systems and communities in the Kyrgyz Republic. The proposal includes a request for a project formulation grant and/or project formulation assistance grant of USD 150,000. The initial technical review raises some issues, such as coherency of the theory of change, synergies and lessons learned from other projects, documentation of stakeholder consultation and risk identification against ES principles, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review. The second technical review raises some issues, such as cost-efficiency rationale, USPs, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review.

Country Eligibility

Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol, or the Paris Agreement?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. Kyrgyz Republic joined the Kyoto Protocol in 2003 and signed the Paris Agreement in 2016.

Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. Climate change is accelerating the degradation of the Kyrgyz Republic’s pasture and forest systems: rising temperatures, altered precipitation and water regimes, as well as more frequent disasters are eroding the natural resource base that rural communities depend on.

Project Eligibility

Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project/programme?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. As per Endorsement letter signed by the Designated Authority Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision, dated 1st June 2026.

Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than Fifty pages for the project/programme concept, including its annexes?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. The CN is accompanied by the summaries of the Gender Assessment and the Consultations. The CN itself is 49 pages long, and its content is the basis for the CAR and CR throughout this review.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR17(NEW): The revised CN is 54 pages long. Please note that the maximum length is 50 pages. Kindly revise. Please note that attendance sheets are not needed at this stage.

Does the project / programme support concrete adaptation actions to assist the country in addressing adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes, but further information is required. As per Part II, Section A, the proposal supports concrete adaptation actions. A ToC is included from paragraph 52-53 but lacks a theory of change diagram. Output 1.1. requires revision as it has too many distinct functions between pre-full proposal and project implementation. The section should focus on what will be completed during project implementation, with a paragraph focusing on what needs to be completed during the PFG. The concept note should be strengthened by presenting a clearer theory of change, a more realistic and phased implementation approach CR1: Please include a ToC narrative and its diagram. ToC diagram should covers the following elements: (i) the main problem. (ii) the overall objective. (iii) outcomes, outputs, and activities. (iv) Components as the solutions to contribute to the main problem. (v) assumptions and risks, as cross-cutting elements across all the above. These should be specific rather than generic. This should clearly describe the vertical logic of the proposed programme toward adaptation. CR2: Please clearly distinguish the preparatory work to be undertaken before submission of the full proposal, the activities to be completed during project inception and activities that will be implemented following final selection of intervention sites. Please also ensure that the preparatory work to be undertaken is clearly documented in the PFG to ensure alignment. CAR1: Terminal Evaluation should be completed 9 months after project closure, please amend the project calendar to reflect this. CAR2: Please explicitly state at part II Section B, how the project components link to the AF's Strategic Objectives. Please ensure the Objective number and description are included. CR3: Please clarify the intermediate changes required as the concept moves from diagnostics and revised plans to grants and then assumes resilience. CR4: Please consider whether the proposed coverage of 70 Aiyi Aymaks, 36 leskhozoes, six protected areas, 25 value-chain clusters, 850 grants, and national monitoring systems is ambitious, given implementation capacity of EEs. The concept note should explain how activities will be phased and how implementation quality will be maintained. CR5: Please clarify how do you intend to address the unintended impacts from the various intervention. CR6: the concept note should provide further assurance that adequate institutional capacity, standardized procedures, technical assistance and monitoring arrangements will be available to administer the grant scheme efficiently.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, but further information is required. Pages 12-14 and Part II.A. The proposal supports concrete adaptation actions such as resilient pastoral management, and restoration of degraded hotspots. These activities are aligned with the overall goal and objectives of the proposed program. In addition, a Theory of Change (ToC) narrative is included. The CN describes three components, three outcomes, and seven outputs. It also includes an Initial Gender Assessment that covers the different needs of women and men in different dimensions (i.e. labour, education). However, no ToC diagram is presented, and amendments to outcomes, outputs and activities are required in order to include a more realistic and phased implementation approach. See CR 1 above. CR7: Please clarify the overall goal of the proposed programme by indicating what type of resilience will be enhanced (e.g., climate resilience), the challenges or threats it is intended to address (e.g., high temperatures or climate change), and how resilience will be strengthened. CR8: Please include specific objectives for the three proposed outcomes. Please note that the overall goal is linked to the project's impact, while the specific objectives should be linked to the expected results and, therefore, to the outcomes. The specific objectives should be clearly defined, concise, and positioned as a second level under the overall objective. They should explain how the overall objective will be achieved, through which channels, and be results-oriented. CAR3: Please include a dedicated specific objective and component on Learning and Knowledge Management. CR9: Please avoid including contextual information under Part II.A, as this section should describe what the requested funding is intended to finance. For example, paragraph 60 contains contextual information and should therefore be included under Part I. Please review Part II.B accordingly and make any necessary revisions. CR10: Please clearly distinguish the preparatory work to be undertaken before submission of the full proposal, the activities to be completed during project inception and activities that will be implemented following final selection of intervention sites. Please also ensure that the preparatory work to be undertaken is clearly documented in the PFG to ensure alignment. CR11: Please consider whether the proposed coverage of 70 Aiyl Aymaks, 36 leskhozoes, 6 protected areas, 25 value-chain clusters, 850 grants, and national monitoring systems is ambitious, given implementation capacity of EEs. The concept note should explain how activities will be phased and how implementation quality will be maintained. CR12: Please provide further assurance that adequate institutional capacity, standardized procedures, technical assistance and monitoring arrangements will be available to administer the grant scheme efficiently. CR13: Please revise the relevant sections of the project's vertical logic to more explicitly address adaptation-specific goals, outcomes, and objectives, and to clarify how these differ from conventional development activities. CR14: Please include targets for all outcomes and outputs. CR15: Please strengthen the description of the components to clearly explain what the requested funding will finance. For example, under Component 1, what specific activities will be financed to update key local planning tools? Please also clarify how this outcome is linked to Outputs 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3. In addition, include the entities involved in the intervention, the target groups, and other relevant details. Please do this exercise for each component. CR16: Please identify and number the key activities under each output for every component. Activities are the specific tasks required to achieve an output. CR17: Please clarify whether the proposed project includes activities that could be categorized as Unspecified Subprojects (USPs). For example, output 1.2, implementation of priority measures for pasture resilience seems to be the case. As the use of USPs is intended for exceptional cases, it requires compliance with the AF requirements. Please refer <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/guidance-document-for-project-programme-with-unidentified-sub-projects/> for guidance and provide a clear justification for their use, ensuring full adherence to AF requirements.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CR1: The Theory of Change section under Part 1. A. has been complemented with a diagram showing the vertical logic from climate problem to objective, outcomes, outputs, key activities, assumptions and risks. Response to CR2: The PFG request has been revised to explicitly clarify that all PFG-financed activities are formulation activities to be completed before full proposal submission and will not finance project implementation, inception activities, or activities following final site selection. The PFG now distinguishes

formulation activities from inception-stage activities to be financed after project approval, such as operational manuals, work planning and procurement planning, and implementation activities to be undertaken under the approved project grant after final site selection. Response to CAR1: Thank you. The project calendar has been revised to schedule the Terminal Evaluation nine months after project completion, in line with Adaptation Fund requirements. Since project completion is currently planned for 31 December 2032, the Terminal Evaluation date has been amended to 30 September 2033. Response to CAR2: The AF does not have numbered Strategic Objectives. A short paragraph on contribution to AF's outcomes has been added. Response to CR3: The pathway from diagnostics and planning to investments and resilience is already reflected in the narrative introductory parts of each outcome and output, as well as in the project's overall theory of change. The project assumes that improved climate-risk information, participatory diagnostics and the integration of adaptation priorities into local planning instruments will lead to better-informed decision-making and prioritization of adaptation measures. These planning processes provide the basis for targeted investments and grant-supported adaptation actions, which in turn strengthen the resilience of pasture systems, forest ecosystems and agropastoral livelihoods to climate change impacts. Given the concept note stage and the strategic nature of the proposed intervention, we consider the intermediate changes and causal links to be sufficiently described in the existing narrative. Response to CR4: The CN has clarified that implementation will be phased and prioritized (Part IIA, para 105). The full proposal will confirm final targets based on PFG analysis, implementation capacity and detailed costing. Quality will be maintained through standardized procedures, technical service providers, APIU systems, phased rollout and monitoring. Response to CR5: As per standard practice, potential unintended impacts will be identified, avoided, minimized and managed through the application of the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy, as well as IFAD's Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP). The project will apply environmental and social screening, exclusion criteria where appropriate, participatory planning and stakeholder consultation processes, site-specific mitigation measures, and regular monitoring throughout implementation. A grievance redress mechanism will be established to allow stakeholders to raise concerns and ensure that any unforeseen impacts are identified and addressed in a timely manner. Particular attention will be given to preventing maladaptation, elite capture, exclusion of vulnerable groups, and adverse impacts on ecosystems and natural resources. These elements will be further elaborated on in the dedicated Annex at Full Project Proposal stage, when a complementary risk analysis will also be conducted as per the AF template (corresponding section). Response to CR6: The grant scheme will be administered through IFAD/APIU systems and will include standardized eligibility criteria, PIM with grant manual, appraisal procedures, safeguards screening, co-financing rules, technical assistance, field verification, monitoring and grievance mechanisms. This has been clarified at paragraph 96. Response to CR7: Part I.B. has been revised to also include an overall goal statement as follows: "To enhance the climate resilience of forests, pasture ecosystems and agropastoral communities that depend on them in the Kyrgyz Republic by reducing their vulnerability to rising temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, droughts, floods, landslides and other climate-related hazards and resulting land degradation, through climate-adaptive natural resource management, resilient livelihood diversification, and strengthened climate-responsive governance and decision-making systems". Response to CR8: In IFAD's project architecture, and as done for all IFAD/AF projects, the outcomes descriptions define the project's main result pathways under the overall objective. Introducing an additional formal layer of specific objectives between the overall objective and outcomes could duplicate the outcomes and create unnecessary complexity for implementation, monitoring and reporting. Part I.B has been slightly edited to further clarify that the stated objective and overall goal will be achieved through three specific result pathways corresponding to the three outcomes: (i) strengthening climate-resilient pasture and forest systems; (ii) enhancing climate-resilient agropastoral livelihoods and value chains; and (iii) mainstreaming climate-adaptive monitoring, learning and decision-support systems at local and national levels. Response to CAR3: Effective Knowledge Management (including the collection, generation and dissemination of information of knowledge) is an essential dimension of climate change adaptation, and KM is more effective when integrated with monitoring and adaptive decision-making rather than separated into a standalone component. As such, learning and knowledge management is fully mainstreamed into project activities and cannot be separated into a unique

output or component, which could fragment the project architecture and weaken the operational link between evidence generation, learning and decision-making. The section on Learning and Knowledge Management clarifies how KM is embedded throughout project activities (and particularly under Component 3, which is specifically designed to mainstream climate-adaptive approaches through monitoring, applied research, harmonized frameworks, decision-support systems, learning and dissemination). Response to CR9: A limited amount of contextual information has been intentionally retained under each outcome and component to explain the specific climate vulnerabilities, adaptation challenges and causal pathways that justify the proposed investments (this narrative also responds directly to CR3 and CR13 request to ensure the pathway to resilience/project's adaptation logic). This information is directly linked to the adaptation rationale and financing requested and supports understanding of how project activities address the identified climate risks. This approach is consistent with Adaptation Fund concept notes and full proposals previously prepared and implemented through IFAD (including Montenegro, Somalia, Algeria and Malawi), where concise outcome-level contextual information is included to provide the rationale for the proposed interventions. We therefore consider the current structure to be aligned with the purpose and guidance of Part II.A. Response to CR10: Response has been provided under CR2 (identical comment) Response to CR11: Response has been provided under CR4 (identical comment) Response to CR12: Response has been provided under CR6 (identical comment) Response CR13: As also clarified in response to CR3, the project's vertical logic is already adaptation-focused and distinguishes adaptation outcomes from conventional development interventions through the climate rationale provided under each outcome and output. The proposed objective, outcomes and outputs are explicitly designed to address identified climate risks, including rising temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, ecosystem degradation and increasing climate-related hazards, and focus on strengthening adaptive capacity, resilience and climate-responsive management systems. The project does not support development activities in isolation, but rather proposes investments, planning processes, restoration measures and livelihood interventions that are specifically targeted to reduce climate vulnerability and enhance resilience to current and projected climate change impacts. As such, the adaptation rationale and distinction from conventional development activities are considered to be adequately reflected in the existing vertical logic at concept note stage. Response to CR14: Quantitative targets are included under the description of the project's outcomes and outputs. They will be further developed and consolidated in the project's results framework to be developed at full project proposal stage as the AF template does not require a full results matrix with targets for every outcome and output at CN. Response to CR15: The Concept Note already describes, for each component and output, the activities to be financed, the expected results, the targeted beneficiaries, and the institutions involved at a level of detail consistent with Adaptation Fund concept note requirements. For example, Component 1 specifies the financing of climate-risk diagnostics, participatory planning processes, capacity-building activities, updating of SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs, and implementation of priority adaptation measures identified through those processes. The linkage between Outcome 1 and Outputs 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 is reflected in the project's results chain, whereby participatory planning and capacity strengthening (Output 1.1) provide the basis for resilient pasture management interventions (Output 1.2) and climate-adaptive forest management interventions (Output 1.3), collectively contributing to enhanced resilience of pasture and forest systems. Further details regarding implementation arrangements, final institutional responsibilities, detailed activity budgets, and operational modalities will be developed during Full Proposal preparation, in accordance with standard Adaptation Fund project development practice. Response to CR16: The Concept Note already identifies and describes the key activities contributing to each output, generally presenting each activity or group of related activities in dedicated narrative paragraphs under the relevant output. At concept note stage, activities are intentionally presented at a strategic level to demonstrate the adaptation logic, scope and expected results of the proposed intervention. The detailed decomposition of activities into numbered sub-activities, together with their sequencing, costing, implementation arrangements, responsible entities and timelines, will be developed during full proposal preparation. Given the level of detail already provided on the interventions proposed under each output, further activity unpacking at concept note stage would provide limited additional value and is more appropriately addressed in the full proposal. (Also see response to CR15) Response to CR17:

The question of unidentified sub-projects is already addressed in the dedicated ESP section II.K, as also clarified under the response to CAR16, recognizing partial USPs due to undetermined location at this stage. As indicated clearly in section II.K, the formulation team considers that the nature of project activities has been formulated to the extent that pre-identification of environmental and social risks is possible (specific activity identified). As such, USPs stem from location and not from activities. Please refer to response to CAR16 for more detail, including compliance with AF requirements.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR1: Not cleared. While a diagram has been included in Figure 9, the accompanying narrative is missing and some amendments are needed in the diagram. Please include the Theory of change narrative, and also amend the following in the diagram: (i) the main problem is single, no multiple challenges and barriers. It refers to one development problem related to climate change. (ii) followed by the overall objective. (iii) followed by outcomes, outputs, and activities. (iv) followed by Components as the solutions to contribute to the main problem. (v) remove the AF impact level results. The Theory of Change should clearly present the project's vertical logic, explaining how the proposed intervention contributes to addressing the identified development problem. CR2 and CR10: Cleared. A paragraph has been included on page 2 in the PFG form to clarify that all preparatory work will be undertaken before submission of the Full Proposal. CAR1: Not Cleared. Terminal Evaluation has been amended to September 2033 (9 months after project closure). However, please amend this accordingly, as the PFG will be completed in November 2027, and project implementation is expected to start in January 2028. The project calendar should also reflect the time required for the Full Proposal process. CAR2: Cleared. As para 107. The proposed project is aligned to AF's outcomes 5, 6 and 8. CR3: Not cleared. Please see CR1. CR4 and CR11: Not cleared. At the CN stage, it is possible to provide preliminary targets for each component, as well as a general indication of how activities will be phased. While paragraph 105 indicates that "implementation will be phased and prioritized to ensure that the proposed scale remains manageable and quality-assured. Final targets, sequencing, and geographic coverage will be confirmed during full proposal preparation," it would be helpful to include a brief summary of the proposed implementation phases and to review the proposed targets accordingly. CR5: Cleared. As per answer that indicates: "potential unintended impacts will be identified, avoided, minimized and managed through the application of the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy". CR6 and CR12: Cleared. As per para 96. It is stated that "The grant scheme will be administered through IFAD and Agricultural Projects Implementation Unit (APIU) systems and will follow standardized eligibility, appraisal, approval and monitoring procedures to be detailed in the Project Implementation Manual and dedicated grant manual". However, the information related to adequate institutional capacity, standardized procedures, technical assistance and monitoring arrangements to administer the grant scheme efficiently should be included in the Full Proposal. CR7: Not cleared. An Overall Goal has been included. However, please remove the "objective". The overall goal will serve as the general objective. CR8: Not cleared. The specific objectives do not create an additional layer; rather, they help strengthen the vertical logic of the proposed project. Consider including an overall (general) objective alongside the specific objectives, with each specific objective linked to a corresponding outcome. Please avoid using the terms objectives and results interchangeably, as they refer to different elements of the project design. CAR3: Not cleared. The response clarifies that LKM activities will be integrated as a cross-cutting element across the project components. However, please ensure alignment between the LKM activities described under Part II.A and those presented in Part II.G. For example, why pilot activities are considered part of the LKM activities? In addition, it is not clear which dissemination activities are included, nor where these activities (proposed under Part II.G) are reflected under Part II.A. Please ensure consistency between both sections. The same LKM activities should be reflected in both Part II.A and Part II.G. Please also keep in mind that LKM activities are intended to facilitate learning, knowledge sharing, and replication. CR9: Cleared. The response clarifies that the inclusion of contextual information was intentional. CR13: Not cleared. See CR1. CR14: Cleared. The response indicates that targets will be included in the Full Proposal. Some figures for outputs are included in the activities descriptions under Part II.A. CR15: Cleared. At this stage, no further revision is required. However, please retain this comment for

consideration during Full Proposal preparation. As an example, each activity should clearly identify the entities responsible for its implementation. For instance, will the selection of the 70 Aiyl Aymaks be the responsibility of the IE, the EE, or both? The same level of clarity should be provided for all activities. CR16: Cleared. Activities are identified under each output while not numbered. Please remember to provide this structure for the Full Proposal, including an improvement of the recognized activities. CR17: Not cleared. The USPs statement should also be included under Part II.A. Part II.A should include a statement on the use of USPs, together with the corresponding justification, given that USPs constitute an exception under the AF and therefore must be duly justified. The justification should explain why the benefits of using USPs outweigh those of identifying specific subprojects at this stage. Under Part II.K, the USPs statement should focus on how the proposed project will ensure that these types of subprojects comply with the ESMP requirements.

Does the project / programme provide economic, social and environmental benefits, particularly to vulnerable communities, including gender considerations, while avoiding or mitigating negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes, As per Part II, Section B, the concept note provides environmental, social, and economic benefits to communities, with explicit reference to gender and youth. The total number of targeted individuals is estimated at 200,000, of which 40% women and 30% youth. The concept is in compliance with the Gender Policy providing an initial gender assessment as per Part I, Section A (paragraphs 7-14). Explicit reference to no maladaptation should be provided. Mechanisms for equitable distribution have been shared as per paragraph 56. CAR4: The target reach of 200,000 individuals should be disaggregated into direct and indirect beneficiaries. Please also explain the methodology that will be used to determine the estimated beneficiaries and prevent double counting. CAR5: Please provide one succinct sentence confirming that the vulnerability of beneficiaries will not increase as a result of any of the proposed actions of this proposal and what will be done to ensure this.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, but further information is required. Part II.B. The proposal provides a broad explanation of the environmental, social, and economic benefits of the proposed programme, with reference to gender and youth. The total number of beneficiaries is 200,000, of which 40% women and 30% youth. However, it offers no quantitative estimates of these benefits and does not explain how specific vulnerable groups (women, youth, others) will be targeted equitably, and an explicit reference to no maladaptation should be provided. CAR6: Please strengthen the rationale by clearly describing the expected benefits of the proposed project, including quantitative estimates of its economic, social, and environmental benefits based on the planned interventions. If exact figures are not available, please provide reasonable estimates or proxy indicators. CAR7: Please outline the specific mechanisms that will ensure the equitable distribution of benefits, considering the vulnerable groups included in the proposed interventions (women and youth). In addition, please specify what benefits are specifically for these groups.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CAR4: Part II.B: Project Benefits (para 115) has been revised to clarify the methodology used for the indicative target reach of approximately 200,000 vulnerable people. The revised text explains that this figure represents the project's concept-stage total beneficiary reach and is based on the expected coverage of around 70 rural Aiyl Aymaks in livestock-dependent pasture landscapes. Using an estimated rural population of about 4.5 million people and approximately 235 post-reform Aiyl Aymaks, the wider rural population in the 70 target Aiyl Aymaks is estimated at around 1.3 million people. The 200,000 figure therefore represents an estimated subset of livestock-owning, livestock-dependent and pasture-reliant rural residents, equivalent to approximately 15

percent of the rural population in the target Aiyl Aymaks. The text also clarifies that a robust disaggregation into direct and indirect beneficiaries, as well as household-to-person conversion factors and aggregation rules to avoid double counting, will be developed during full proposal preparation once final target areas, benefit streams, grant windows and logframe indicators are confirmed. Response to CAR 5: A sentence has been added under Part II.B confirming that the project will not increase beneficiary vulnerability and that all investments will be screened for maladaptation and environmental and social risks. Response to CAR6: Part II.B: Project Benefits has been strengthened to present the expected social, environmental and economic benefits more clearly, using concept-stage quantitative targets and proxy indicators. The revised text clarifies that social benefits will be reflected in the indicative reach of approximately 200,000 vulnerable people, including at least 40 percent women and 30 percent youth. Environmental benefits will be reflected in improved climate-resilient management of up to 650,000 ha of pasture and forest ecosystems and an additional 1,400 ha of agricultural land under climate-resilient practices. Economic benefits will be reflected in improved livelihood resilience through 25 value-chain clusters, 850 adaptive grant packages, strengthened local enterprises, reduced dependence on degraded pasture resources, and improved stability of climate-sensitive rural income sources. The revised paragraph also clarifies the methodology for the 200,000-person target reach, in response to CAR4. More detailed estimates of income, productivity, avoided losses, ecosystem-service benefits and beneficiary disaggregation will be developed during full proposal preparation through the economic and financial analysis. Response to CAR7: A paragraph has been introduced in Part II.B describing the role of the 'Village Common Vision' "and other measures to ensure equitable distribution of the project benefits. Benefits are detailed in the same section, are they are developed to benefit these vulnerable target groups.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR4: Not cleared. Para 115 has been included; however, it contains more information than requested. Please refer only to the direct and indirect beneficiaries of the proposed project, rather than presenting beneficiaries by component or activity. The project as a whole should have a single estimate of beneficiaries. Please keep the figures for direct beneficiaries, together with the methodology used to calculate them, and add the figures for indirect beneficiaries. All figures related to other dimensions, such as economic and environmental benefits, should be presented under the corresponding headings within Part II.B. CAR5: Cleared. As per para 106. The proposal states that "As a result, it is not foreseen to have any negative impact: the vulnerability of beneficiaries will not increase as a result of any of the proposed actions of this proposal and all investments will be screened for maladaptation and environmental and social risks". CAR6: Not cleared. See CAR4. CAR7: Not cleared. While paragraph 111 indicates the application of quotas for women and youth, please briefly describe the mechanism that will be used to ensure compliance with these quotas. In addition, please outline the specific benefits that the project will provide to these groups.

Is the project / programme cost effective?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Unsure. The concept provides qualitative rationale and identifies some alternative but it does not clearly demonstrate that the selected scope and approach are the most cost-effective options. However the proposal notes the project proposal preparation will include a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of all components and activities, as well as an alternatives analysis to ensure cost efficiency. CAR8: Please provide clearer qualitative justification for the selected geographic scope, scale, target group etc.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Unsure, further information is required. Part II.C. The proposal provides a broad rationale for cost-effectiveness under each component and identifies some alternative scenarios. However, it does not clearly demonstrate that the selected scope and approach are the most cost-effective options. CAR9: Please strengthen the cost-effectiveness arguments to show a clear logic explanation, per component, to clearly justify how they are more cost-effective than alternative options. Please avoid confusion between benefits (positive changes because of the programme) and cost-effectiveness (related to the use of resources). CR18: Part II.C should focus exclusively on cost-effectiveness. Please revise this section accordingly, including Table 4. CR19: Please include quantitative estimates of cost-effectiveness. Otherwise, please include proxy estimates. This may be, for example, the cost per beneficiary, or the value of avoided losses. CR20: Please provide information on the cost-effectiveness from the sustainability point of view.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CAR8: The CN already includes a dedicated Project area and targeting strategy section explaining the rationale for the proposed geographic scope, scale and target groups. To further address the comment, Part II.C: Cost Effectiveness has been revised to clarify that the proposed targeting approach (geographic area and target groups) is also cost-effective because it concentrates investment in climate-vulnerable Aiyl Aymaks where pasture degradation, forest vulnerability, livelihood dependence and institutional capacity gaps overlap. This approach is expected to generate stronger adaptation benefits per unit of investment than dispersed, single-sector or isolated site-based interventions. The PFG-financed vulnerability, GIS and remote-sensing assessment will further refine final targeting during full proposal preparation. Response to CAR9: Part II.C and Table 4 have been revised to distinguish more clearly between project benefits and cost-effectiveness. The revised table now compares, for each component, the selected project approach with credible alternatives and explains why the selected approach is expected to make more efficient use of AF resources. The cost-effectiveness rationale is based on integrated territorial planning, use of existing institutions, ecosystem-based adaptation measures, clustered value-chain support, matching grant delivery, and harmonized monitoring systems. These approaches are expected to reduce fragmentation, improve targeting, strengthen operation and maintenance, and increase the likelihood that adaptation benefits are sustained beyond project closure. Response to CR18: Part II.C. has been revised to focus on cost-effectiveness as per CAR9. Response to CR19: The CN has been revised to include concept-stage cost-effectiveness proxy indicators using figures already available in the proposal. The project requests US\$20 million in AF financing and is expected to reach approximately 200,000 vulnerable people, corresponding to an indicative overall AF financing cost of about US\$100 per person reached. When only direct project activity costs are considered, excluding execution and implementing entity fees, the indicative cost is about US\$83 per person reached. For the grant window, the indicative AF financing envelope of US\$3.725 million is expected to support 850 grant packages. Based on conservative planning assumptions of one household reached per Window 1 grant, ten households reached per Window 2 group grant, and twenty linked smallholder households reached per Window 3 MSME/off-taker grant, the grant window would reach an estimated 2,450 household-equivalent beneficiaries, or 12,985 people using an average rural household size of 5.3 persons. This corresponds to an indicative AF contribution of about US\$1,520 per household-equivalent beneficiary, or about US\$287 per person. These figures are preliminary proxies and will be refined during full proposal preparation once final grant windows, group sizes, MSME outreach requirements, beneficiary-counting methodology, unit costs and benefit streams are confirmed. Response to CR20: Sustainability is discussed in the dedicated Part II.J: Sustainability section, including institutional, social, environmental and financial sustainability, operation and maintenance, and scaling-up/replication. Given the space limitations of the concept note template, repeating the same discussion under Part II.C: Cost-effectiveness would not add value and could create duplication. To address the comment, Part II.C now includes a concise cross-reference to Part II.J, clarifying that the sustainability measures described there also support cost-effectiveness over time.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR8: Cleared. As response that indicates "To further address the comment, Part II.C: Cost Effectiveness has been revised to clarify that the proposed targeting approach (geographic area and target groups) is also cost-effective because it concentrates investment in climate-vulnerable Aiyl Aymaks where pasture degradation, forest vulnerability, livelihood dependence and institutional capacity gaps overlap". CAR9: Not cleared. See CR19. CR18: Not cleared. See CR19. CR19: Not cleared. The cost-effectiveness rationale remains quite generic and would benefit from further elaboration. The figures presented mainly reflect budget allocations and the scale of activities rather than evidence of cost-effectiveness. Please strengthen the analysis by explaining more clearly why the selected approaches provide better value for money than the identified alternatives. Please use the following question as guidance: What results are achieved per dollar invested compared to alternative approaches? CR20: Not cleared. While Part II.J addresses the sustainability of the project, please also include a brief statement under Part II.C on cost-effectiveness from a sustainability perspective. Although related, these are distinct concepts. Under Part II.C, the focus should be on how the proposed approach provides better value for money over the long term by ensuring that benefits persist beyond the financing period. In particular, please explain how the project is designed to achieve sustainable results at a reasonable cost, while avoiding future costs or reducing the need for repeated investments.

Is the project / programme consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. However, further information is needed. As per Part II, Section D, the concept includes a comprehensive list of relevant strategies and plans, including NDC, NDS and a draft NAP (under public discussion) as well as other relevant sector plans/programme documents. CR21: Please clarify when the NAP was submitted for public discussion to gauge how long it has been in draft. CR22: Please clarify if there are no poverty reduction strategies. CR23: Apart from the objective of the strategy/plan, please explain its relevance to the proposed project, including its alignment with the existing plan or strategy. A suggested structure could be: 'The proposed project is aligned with [Plan XX], under [Specific Action XX], contributing to [Outcome XX].'"

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CR21: The CN has been revised to clarify that the draft National Adaptation Plan was publicly discussed on 19 March 2025, during a roundtable organized under the UNDP-GCF project on advancing the NAP process in the Kyrgyz Republic. Response to CR22: While Kyrgyzstan has historically adopted dedicated poverty reduction strategies, such as the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS), poverty reduction is now primarily pursued through broader development frameworks. The National Development Strategy 2018-2040 and the National Development Program 2030 (both referred to in Part II.D) identify poverty and inequality reduction as key objectives and promote inclusive growth, job creation, improved access to education, healthcare, and social protection. These strategies are complemented by targeted social assistance and livelihood programs, including the Social Passport Programme (described in the paragraph on poverty). As a result, poverty reduction remains an explicit policy objective in Kyrgyzstan, although it is embedded within wider national development strategies rather than addressed through a standalone poverty reduction strategy. This has been further clarified in the paragraph on poverty. Response to CR23: Thank you. The strategic alignment table in Part II.D has been revised to clarify the relevance of each strategy or plan to the proposed project, rather than listing only its objective. The revised table now identifies, where applicable, the relevant priority, action, outcome or sectoral direction, and explains how ALATOO contributes through climate-resilient pasture and forest management, climate-informed local planning, adaptive livelihoods, value-chain support, and monitoring and decision-support systems.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR21: Cleared. As per para 127, the proposal states that the NAP was "publicly discussed on 19 March 2025, during a roundtable organized under the UNDP-GCF project on advancing the NAP process in the Kyrgyz Republic". CR22: Cleared. As indicated in the answer, poverty reduction is primarily pursued through development plans. CR23: Not cleared. Apart from the objective of the strategy/plan, please explain its relevance to the proposed project, including its alignment with the existing plan or strategy. A suggested structure could be: 'The proposed project is aligned with [Plan XX], under [Specific Action XX], contributing to [Outcome XX].'"

Does the project / programme meet the relevant national technical standards, where applicable, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. However, further information is required. CR24: Please include the competent authority/authorities that will ensure procedures are followed.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, but further information is required. Part II.E. The proposal identifies 15 standards applicable to the proposed project, including the Law on Environmental Protection, Law on Ecological Expertise, Law on Pastures, Forest Code, among others. However, the information provided should be further elaborated. CR25: Please include in Table 5 the following: - Objective of the standard - In the case that compliance is required, include the main steps needed to comply with it.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CR24: Thank you. Table 5 has been revised to include the competent authority or responsible institution for each applicable national standard. The revised table clarifies which authorities will ensure that relevant procedures are followed, including environmental compliance, pasture and forest management, protected area procedures, labour standards, gender and social protection, and grievance or safeguard-related processes, as applicable. Response to CR25: The CN already identifies the relevant national laws, standards and requirements applicable to the project. At concept note stage, this is sufficient to demonstrate awareness of national compliance requirements. Detailed compliance steps will be elaborated during full proposal preparation through the ESMP and other safeguards instruments, as relevant.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR24: Cleared. A new column has been included in Table 5 to identify the competent authority or authorities for each identified national standard. CR25: Not cleared. Please include in Table 5 the following: - Objective of the standard - In the case that compliance is required, include the main steps needed to comply with it.

Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Unsure. Further information is required. Table 6 (pages 32-33) provides a comprehensive list of projects undertaken through consultations and assessment. CR26: Please elaborate on the lessons learned from these other projects, particularly those completed or soon to be completed. CR27: Please clarify if "UNDP/GCF

Advancing medium- and long-term adaptation planning (NAP) in Kyrgyz Republic” is completed or almost completed given the project end year.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Unsure, further information is required. Part II.F. The proposal provides a list of ongoing and completed projects related to the proposed programme. However, the justification for no duplication should be strengthened. CR28: Please revise Table 6 and, for each identified project, please ensure to include: (i) Project title, Timeline and specific Location within the country, (ii) Main project interventions, and Target population, (iii) Implementing entity, (iv) Lessons learned, how they are considered/ reflected in the proposed project design, (v) Overlaps and synergies with the proposed project (specific rather than generic). CR29: Please amend the justification for no duplication as this should be specific and clear (e.g. by indicating the distinct geographic locations and/or type of interventions) for each related project identified. For example, how is this proposed programme different from the other AF projects?

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CR26: Thank you. Table 6 has been revised to include lessons learned from relevant ongoing, completed and soon-to-be completed projects, and to explain how these lessons have informed ALATOO's design. The revised table reflects lessons on participatory pasture and forest planning, GALS/BALI-informed gender-responsive engagement, phased grant implementation, safeguards screening, APIU oversight, value-chain clustering, protected area engagement, and integration of climate-risk information into local planning, monitoring and decision-support systems. Response to CR27: The UNDP/GCF project “Advancing medium- and long-term adaptation planning (NAP) in Kyrgyz Republic” has completed its implementation. Publicly available information indicates that the project was planned to conclude in late 2024, with key outputs, including the National Adaptation Plan process, sectoral adaptation plans and adaptation investment priorities, already developed and finalized. The project is therefore considered completed (or under administrative closure), and its outputs have informed the design of ALATOO. Response to CR28: Thank you. Table 6 has been revised in line with the structure requested by the reviewer. For each relevant project, the table now presents: project title, timeline and specific location; main interventions and target population; implementing entity; lessons learned and how they are reflected in ALATOO design; and specific overlaps and synergies with ALATOO. The revised table also clarifies how geographic and operational duplication will be avoided, including through exclusion of Aiyl Aymaks already supported by RRPCP-Adapt and coordination with other relevant IFAD, GCF, GEF and partner-financed initiatives. Response to CR29: The team acknowledges that ALATOO has thematic continuity with the ongoing IFAD/AF RRPCP-Adapt project, particularly on pasture and forest resilience, gender-responsive community engagement, and climate-resilient livelihood support. This continuity is intentional and reflects a programmatic approach to adaptation in Kyrgyzstan. However, ALATOO will not duplicate RRPCP-Adapt. The CN has been amended to clarify that RRPCP-Adapt targets 23 Aiyl Aymaks bordering leskhozoes, while ALATOO will support a broader set of approximately 70 Aiyl Aymaks to be selected during full proposal preparation, excluding Aiyl Aymaks already supported by RRPCP-Adapt. The revised text also clarifies that ALATOO will build on RRPCP-Adapt lessons while expanding the approach to the evolving governance context, with stronger emphasis on integrated pasture-forest planning, value-chain clusters, protected areas, and climate-responsive monitoring and decision-support systems at Aiyl Aymak, district and national levels.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR26: Cleared. At this stage, the level of detail provided is adequate. However, please further elaborate on the lessons learned during the preparation of the Full Proposal. CR27: Cleared. Answer indicates that “UNDP/GCF Advancing medium- and long-term adaptation planning (NAP) in Kyrgyz Republic” is completed. CR28: Cleared. Table 6 has been amended accordingly. CR29: Not cleared. Please revise the justification for no duplication. Please note that the fact that an identified project has ended does not, by itself, demonstrate the

absence of duplication, as projects may address the same activities, objectives, or target areas regardless of their implementation status. In addition, please remove the use of the term "risk".

Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. As per Part II, Section G, the concept embeds activities of knowledge management (KM) and dissemination of lessons learned in Component 3. A M&E Officer within the APIU will be designated to support knowledge generation and dissemination and will coordinate with other stakeholders. CAR10: Please make the KM activities more explicit by either creating a sub-component under Component 3 which focuses on KM or creating a dedicated component for KM. This allows the budget for knowledge management to be clearly identified. CR30: Please specify how frequently the experiences and lessons gained will be documented and tracked. CR31: Are there any regional platforms that will be targeted to disseminate lessons learned and facilitate knowledge exchange? If so, please indicate so

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Unsure, further information is required. Part II.G. While some Knowledge Management (KM) activities, such as monitoring, are included under Component 3, the proposed project does not include a dedicated component for Learning and Knowledge Management. Dissemination activities are not clearly described, and the information provided is too broad. In addition, the arrangements required to ensure the sustainability of these activities after project completion are not clear. The proposal states that an M&E Officer within the APIU will be designated to support knowledge generation and dissemination and will coordinate with relevant stakeholders. CR32: Please specify how frequently the experiences and lessons gained will be documented and tracked. CR33: Kindly include the following: 1. What LKM activities/products will be financed and included in the proposed project. This information should be specific. 2. Which entities will be responsible for tracking the experiences gained, how this will be done, and when the tracking will take place. 3. Explain how the knowledge generated will be maintained once the project concludes and describe the institutional or operational arrangements required to ensure its long term sustainability. 4. Specify what feedback mechanisms are in place to assess and refine the training materials and capacity building activities to ensure effectiveness and impact over time.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CAR10: As already clarified in response to CAR3, effective Knowledge Management (including the collection, generation and dissemination of information of knowledge) is an essential dimension of climate change adaptation, and KM is more effective when integrated with monitoring and adaptive decision-making rather than separated into a standalone component. As such, learning and knowledge management is fully mainstreamed into project activities and cannot be separated into a unique output or component, which could fragment the project architecture and weaken the operational link between evidence generation, learning and decision-making. The section on Learning and Knowledge Management clarifies how KM is embedded throughout project activities (and particularly under Component 3, which is specifically designed to mainstream climate-adaptive approaches through monitoring, applied research, harmonized frameworks, decision-support systems, learning and dissemination). Costs associated with KM are also mainstreamed under the components. The detailed budget elaborated at full proposal stage will highlight more precisely envelopes dedicated to learning, knowledge management and sharing. Response to CR30: A short paragraph has been added to Part II.G. to clarify that the project will document experiences and lessons learned on a continuous basis through monitoring activities, research pilots and implementation support missions Response to CR31: The CN has been

revised (Section G, para 137) to clarify that project-generated lessons on climate-resilient pasture and forest management, climate-informed local planning, ecosystem-based adaptation, adaptive livelihood diversification, value-chain-based grant support, women and youth inclusion, and climate-responsive monitoring and decision-support systems will be disseminated through relevant national, regional and international knowledge-sharing channels. The project will not establish a new regional platform, but will use existing mechanisms where appropriate, including IFAD regional learning channels, Adaptation Fund learning and dissemination opportunities, and cross-country exchanges with relevant IFAD-supported AF, GEF and GCF projects on pasture, forestry, landscape restoration and climate adaptation in Central Asia and Eastern Europe region, including Tajikistan, Georgia and Türkiye. Response to CR32: Response has been provided under CR30 (identical comment) Response to CR33: 1. As described in Part II. G, types of LKM activities/products include “workshops and seminars, exchange visits, electronic/digital media (radio, television, and internet – emails and websites); social media (YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, etc.), and print media (flyers, brochures, reports, working papers, monographs, manuals). The project will also document lessons learned and disseminate knowledge products through, briefing notes, infographics & flyers, knowledge platforms, annual project performance reports (PPRs), the mid-term evaluation report (MTR) and terminal evaluation report, project stories and project videos”; 2. As indicated in Part II. G “The overall responsibility for Knowledge Management (KM) and communication will rest with the project M&E Officer, who will coordinate with other members of the APIU, local institutions (LSGBs, leskhozoes, protected areas administration, etc.) and other project stakeholders to identify case studies that illustrate the impact that the project has had on improving rural livelihoods and centralize key information generated. More generally the M&E Officer together with the rest of the APIU will process the knowledge generated into an appropriate format for the general public and disseminate it”. More detail on implementation arrangements will be prepared at Full Project Proposal stage as per standard practice. 3. Drivers of knowledge sustainability have been specified in Part II.G, and further detail on implementation arrangements will be prepared at Full Project Proposal stage as per standard practice 4. At concept note stage, the project describes the overall approach to capacity development rather than detailed training delivery modalities. The detailed design of training programmes, including feedback and quality-assurance mechanisms, will be developed during full project proposal preparation and in the Project Implementation Manual. Nevertheless, it has been clarified that the project will apply adaptive learning principles, whereby lessons from implementation, participant feedback and periodic reviews will be used to refine capacity-building approaches and knowledge products over the course of implementation.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR10: Not cleared. See CAR3. CR30 and CR31: Cleared. As per para 139, the proposal states: "The project will not establish a new regional platform, but will use existing knowledge-sharing mechanisms, including IFAD regional learning channels, Adaptation Fund learning and dissemination opportunities, and cross-country exchanges with relevant IFAD-supported AF, GEF and GCF projects on pasture, forestry, landscape restoration and climate adaptation in Central Asia and neighbouring regions, including Tajikistan, Georgia and Türkiye". CR32: Cleared. As per para 139, the proposal states: "The project will document experiences and lessons learned on a continuous basis through monitoring activities, research pilots and implementation support missions. These will be synthesised during annual learning reviews and knowledge stocktakes, providing a structured mechanism to track progress, validate emerging practices, and feed lessons back into project implementation and dissemination activities". CR33: 1. Not cleared. See CAR3. 2. Cleared. As per para 140, the overall responsibility for Knowledge Management (KM) and communication will rest with the project M&E Office. 3. Not cleared. Explain how the knowledge generated will be maintained once the project concludes and describe the institutional or operational arrangements required to ensure its long term sustainability. Para 142 is too generic. 4. Cleared. As per para 138, "Training and capacity-development activities will incorporate continuous learning and adaptive management principles, drawing on participant feedback, implementation experience and periodic learning reviews to strengthen their effectiveness, relevance and long-term impact".

Has a consultative process taken place, and has it involved all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, including gender considerations in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. However further information is required. As per Part II, Section H, consultations were convened in February 2026 and these reflect method for equitable distribution but does not explicitly speak to the intervention preferred by vulnerable persons. CR34: Please prepare a table that provides a comprehensive list of stakeholder consultations convened in the country. This list may be placed in the Annex and referenced in Section H and includes: i. The total number of attendees, disaggregated by sex, with background information to verify whether marginalized and vulnerable groups have been consulted. Please ensure the names of the stakeholders are also highlighted. ii. A summary of the subjects/issues discussed and any agreements reached. iii. Indicate how their interests have been incorporated in the project, including how gender and other vulnerable group considerations were addressed. CAR11: Clearly indicate the names of the groups/association of stakeholders with gender that were consulted and provide details of their engagement in the table. Please confirm if the Ministry responsible for gender was consulted and please ensure they are engaged during the PFG process.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes, but further information is required. Part II.H and Annex I. The proposal states that consultations were held and the national and local levels, including the participation of ministries, local self-government bodies, and institutions related to gender and youth, among others. Consultations were convened in February 2026 and these reflect method for equitable distribution but does not explicitly speak to the intervention preferred by vulnerable persons. A gender assessment is included in pages 2-3. Further information is required. CR35: Please indicate if further future consultations will be conducted.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CR34: Thank you. Part II.H and Annex 1 have been revised to provide a comprehensive consultation matrix. Annex 1 now includes, for each consultation, the date and location, stakeholder groups and institutions consulted, background information on consulted groups, issues discussed, agreements reached, and how stakeholder inputs were incorporated into the project design. Names of stakeholders or organizations represented, total number of participants disaggregated by sex are provided in the attendance sheet. The revised annex also clarifies how gender and vulnerable group considerations were addressed, including through participatory targeting, women and youth quotas, GALS/BALI-informed facilitation, adaptive grant design, the grievance mechanism, and further consultations during PFG and full proposal preparation. Part II.H has been updated to reference this annexed consultation matrix. Response to CAR11: The names of all groups/organisations of stakeholders consulted are included in the table summarizing all consultations conducted in Annex 1. Individual stakeholder names are included in the attendance sheets that have been introduced in Annex 1 as part of the response to CR34. The Ministry responsible for gender was consulted on February 4th (Ministry of Labor, Social Security, and Migration) and will be further engaged during the PFG process as per standard practice. This has also been clarified under Part II. H. Response to CR35: As per standard practice, further consultations will be undertaken during PFG/full proposal preparation. This has been clarified under Part II. H.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR34: i. Not cleared. Please include in Annex 1, the total number of attendees, disaggregated by sex, with background information to verify whether marginalized and vulnerable groups have been consulted.

Please ensure the names of the stakeholders are also highlighted. Remove attendance sheets, and provide the figures in Annex 1. ii. Cleared. A summary of the subjects/issues discussed have been included in Annex 1. iii. Cleared. A summary of their interests, including how gender and other vulnerable group considerations, have been included in Annex 1. CAR11: Not cleared. Remove attendance sheets, and provide the names in Annex 1. CR35: Cleared. As per para 144, the proposal indicates that further consultations will continue at the Full proposal and project implementation stages.

Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: No. The full cost of adaptation reasoning should be strengthened. Table 7 mainly highlights the baseline with project outputs (related to hectares, plans and grants) instead of explaining why Adaptation Fund is needed to finance activities and how the project can deliver all outputs independently of other financing. CAR12: Confirm explicitly that all stated outcomes and outputs can be delivered with the requested Adaptation Fund financing and identified beneficiary contributions, without depending on the approval or implementation of other donor projects. CR36: Describe why national and local budgets, pasture fees, commercial finance, or existing programmes cannot finance the proposed adaptation measures at the required scale. CR37: Briefly explain why grant support is required instead of normal commercial finance, particularly for MSMEs, and how it addresses climate-related risks, market failures, affordability constraints, or demonstration costs.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR38: Please explain how these activities contribute to the achievement of the project's adaptation goals and justify their inclusion in the proposed programme. Rather than describing the AF additionality, Table 7 should present the adaptation rationale by comparing the Business-as-Usual (BAU) scenario with the Adaptation Fund (AF) scenario.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CAR12: The CN now explicitly confirms that all project outcomes and outputs can be delivered with the requested AF financing and identified beneficiary contributions, without dependency on approval or implementation of other donor projects. Response to CR36: A paragraph has been added to Part II.I to describe why national and local budgets, pasture fees, commercial finance, or existing programmes cannot finance the proposed adaptation measures at the required scale. Response to CR37: Further clarifications have been provided under Part II.I to explain why grant support is required instead of normal commercial finance, particularly for MSMEs, and how it addresses climate-related risks, market failures, affordability constraints, or demonstration costs. Response to CR38: Part II.I: Justification for funding has been revised to strengthen the full-cost adaptation rationale and to clearly compare the business-as-usual scenario with the Adaptation Fund scenario, as requested. The paragraph preceding Table 7 has been revised to explain that, without AF financing, climate-vulnerable pasture and forest systems, agropastoral livelihoods and decision-support systems would remain exposed to accelerating climate risks, fragmented planning, limited investment and weak institutional capacity. Table 7 has also been revised and retitled as "Full-cost adaptation rationale: business-as-usual and Adaptation Fund scenario." The table now explains how AF financing shifts the baseline pathway toward climate-resilient ecosystem management, diversified adaptive livelihoods and climate-informed decision-making. It clarifies that the proposed activities are not stand-alone development interventions, but mutually reinforcing adaptation measures required to address the climate-related drivers of ecosystem degradation, livelihood vulnerability and weak adaptive decision-making.

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR12: Cleared. As per para 147, the proposal states "All stated outcomes and outputs can be delivered with the requested Adaptation Fund financing and identified beneficiary contributions, without depending on the approval or implementation of other donor projects". CR36: Cleared. As per para 148, the proposal indicates that existing public resources are used to routine operations and basic service delivery, while commercial finance is largely inaccessible. CR37: Cleared. As per para 149, the proposal indicates that the proposed investments generate adaptation benefits that are not fully captured through private financial schemes. In addition, the project will address market failures by sharing initial investment risks and incentivising the uptake of climate-resilient practices. CR38: Cleared. As per revised Table 7.

Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. However, minor adjustments are needed As per Part III, Section A (Table 9) CAR13: 1. Please use the table following new guidance: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Alignment-with-Adaptation-Fund-Results-Framework-Template-and-guidance-Nov-2025.docx>. 2. Please include "Total objective level grant amount" and "Total outcome level grant amount". This should not include IE fees and EE cost, and should be aligned with the Project Components and Financing Table in Part I. CR39: Please rename column 2, header Project Objective Indicators CR40: for Outcome 2, clarify whether it is number of households or percentage of households

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR41: Please ensure that all project's outputs and outcomes indicators are SMART.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CAR13: Part III.A / Table 9 has been revised to follow the Adaptation Fund results framework alignment guidance. The table now includes the total objective-level grant amount and total outcome-level grant amounts, calculated on the basis of project activity costs only and excluding project execution costs and the Implementing Entity fee. The amounts have been aligned with the Project Components and Financing Table: US \$16,682,028 at objective level, comprising US\$11,400,000 for Outcome 1, US\$4,200,000 for Outcome 2, and US \$1,082,028 for Outcome 3. Response to CR39: Column 2, header has been renamed "Project Objective Indicators" Response to CR40: For Outcome 2, the indicator has been rephrased to clarify it is a number of households Response to CR41: All project's outputs and outcomes indicators are indeed SMART.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR41: Not cleared. Some project's indicators remain general to be fully SMART. Please ensure that all indicators are specific, measurable, and objectively verifiable. For example, Outcome 3, may be phrased as "Number of climate-adaptive management tools operational and formally adopted by local authorities" instead of "Number of climate adaptive management tools rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated". CAR18(NEW): Please update this section and ensure full alignment and consistency with the format template provided in: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/strategic-results-framework-guidance-2026/>

Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. As per Part II, Section J, the proposal presents a sustainability narrative covering environmental and social sustainability, as well as operations and maintenance (O&M) but there are gaps. CR42: Please strengthen the discussion of institutional, social and financial sustainability by clarifying: i. [Institutional and social sustainability], which organisation(s) will be responsible for the continuation of the project's activities? Will these responsibilities be formalised through a commitment or MOU signed? ii. [Social sustainability], how will communities and vulnerable groups participate not only in consultations, but also in decision-making roles? iii. The O&M arrangements for project-supported assets, including assigned responsibilities, estimated recurrent costs and sources of financing; iv. [Economic sustainability], livelihood diversification would be more appropriately addressed under economic sustainability rather than environmental sustainability; v. [Financial sustainability], the government's commitment to financing maintenance and other recurrent costs, as well as any commitments expected from municipalities, beneficiaries, sponsors, or other partners. CR42: If certain sustainability details are to be fully addressed during the full proposal stage, please indicate this in the narrative.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR43: Please provide further clarification and information on how the adaptation benefits will enable replication and scaling up after the project has ended.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CR42: While detailed implementation modalities will be finalized during full proposal development, further detail and intended arrangements have been clarified in Part II.J. It should be noted that, regarding: i. Institutional and social sustainability: specific post-project roles, responsibilities and institutional commitments, including any formal agreements or memoranda of understanding required, will be further defined during full proposal preparation. ii. Social sustainability: Detailed participation mechanisms and representation arrangements will be further elaborated during full proposal preparation. iii. O&M arrangements for project-supported assets: Detailed operation and maintenance arrangements, including recurrent cost estimates and financing sources, will be developed during full proposal preparation once the final portfolio of investments has been confirmed. iv. Economic sustainability: The project seeks to create a virtuous cycle that enables communities to transition away from maladaptive practices and towards more climate-resilient development pathways. Livelihood diversification is a key mechanism in this process, strengthening economic sustainability through more stable and diversified income sources while simultaneously generating environmental and social co-benefits (and contributing to the project's environmental and social sustainability). v. Financial sustainability: Specific commitments related to financing recurrent costs and maintenance, including contributions from government entities, municipalities, beneficiaries and other partners, will be further assessed and confirmed during full proposal preparation. Response to CR42: [NB: another comment is already numbered as CR42] As per standard practice, additional details on institutional, financial, social and operational sustainability arrangements will be further assessed and refined during full proposal preparation, including the formalization of roles and responsibilities, operation and maintenance arrangements, and measures supporting long-term replication and scaling-up. This has been clarified in Part II.J., which already outlines the main sustainability pathways and provides the basis for these detailed assessments. Response to CR43: Further clarification and information on how the adaptation benefits will enable replication and scaling up after the project has ended has been introduced in Part II. J.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR42: Not cleared. While some amendments have been included, please address the following: - [Institutional and social sustainability], please specify which organisation(s) will be responsible for the continuation of the project's activities? Will these responsibilities be formalised through a commitment or MOU

signed? Para 155 is too generic. - [Financial sustainability], the government's commitment to financing maintenance and other recurrent costs, as well as any commitments expected from municipalities, beneficiaries, sponsors, or other partners. Para 159 is too generic. CR42: Cleared. As per para 162. Sustainability details are to be fully addressed during the Full proposal stage. CR43: Not cleared. Please clarify how replication and scaling up are expected to occur after the project has ended. While the proposal indicates that capacity strengthening and the demonstration of effective and economically viable adaptation measures will create enabling conditions for wider adoption, please explain more clearly how these actions will lead to replication and scaling up beyond the project lifetime.

Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. However, further information is required. As per Part II, Section K, the concept identified potential environmental and social impacts and risks against the 15 ES principles. The concept note classifies the project as a Category B project due to moderate risk. The screening was used against IFAD's and not In line with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy. However, it was deemed similar. The project is identified as having USP as stated in para. 143 and stated an ESMS will be developed if still considered a USP after project formulation stage. Para 7-14 provides an initial gender assessment with qualitative and qualitative data for gender roles, activities, needs, and available opportunities and challenges or risks for men and women. CAR14: Please include a statement that the project will be in line with AF's E&S and Gender Policy. CAR15: Please note that ESP 1, 4 and 6, always apply and assessments may be required. Therefore, the column "No further assessment required" should be unchecked. CR: Please amend the following: i. Please ensure ESP#1,4, and 6 are not listed as 'no risks'. Please change ESP#4 from 'no risk' to 'low risk' ii. Note that ESP#6 is considered a 'medium risk' yet the proposal indicates no further assessment is needed CR44: Please confirm the screening process covered all potential direct, indirect, transboundary, and cumulative impacts and risks that could result from the proposed project/programme. CR45: Please clarify whether there is a risk of: use of native and climate-suitable species

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR16: At Table 8 : 1. If no risk is identified for a given principle, a sound justification must be provided. 2. Please strengthen the USPs justification under Part II.K as well as on how will be ensure the compliance according to the AG guidance for USPs (<https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Updated-guidance-on-USPs-.pdf>). CR46: Please clarify whether there is a risk of: use of native and climate-suitable species.

Response: Not Cleared

IE: Response to CAR14: A statement has been included under Part II.K. to confirm the project's alignment with AF's ESP and Gender Policy. Response to CAR15: The column "No further assessment required" has been unchecked for ESP 4 and 6. It was already unchecked for ESP 1. Response to CR [No number]: ESP 4 has been revised from No risk to Low Risk (while neither ESP 1 nor ESP 6 were categorized as No risk). No assessment needed has been unticked for ESP 6 based on CAR 15. Response to CR44: A sentence has been added to Part II.K to confirm the screening process covered all potential direct, indirect, transboundary, and cumulative impacts and risks that could result from the project. Response to CR45: The wording of the comment is unclear. The team understands this comment as referring to species selection under pasture, forest restoration and related ecosystem-based adaptation activities. The CN states that the project will prioritize native, locally adapted and climate-resilient species and will avoid the introduction of invasive, alien or ecologically unsuitable species. The

use of native and climate-suitable species is therefore not considered a risk in itself, but a mitigation measure to reduce biodiversity, ecosystem and maladaptation risks. Detailed species selection criteria and safeguards screening procedures will be further developed during full proposal preparation and reflected in the ESMP and technical guidance, as relevant. Response to CAR16: Further to CR [No number], the only ESP that had been categorized as No risk (ESP 4), has been revised to Low risk. ESP 7 is not applicable and a clear justification is provided. USP justification under Part II.K. is fully aligned with the AF's guidance for USPs: (i) the nature of project activities has been formulated to the extent that pre-identification of environmental and social risks is possible (specific activity identified); however (ii) at the concept note stage, while the 36 leskhozoes and 6 State Nature Parks targeted by the project have been identified, the specific area of intervention (70 Aiyl Aymaks) for PMP and SEDP interventions is not identified yet, pending confirmation of geographic area of other relevant projects, and the realisation of an in-depth vulnerability assessment (location to be determined at the Full Proposal stage). Based on this, it has been clarified that the project is currently considered to include partial USPs (location related). Regarding insurance of compliance with the AF guidance, the section already clarifies that "In the unlikely case that USPs are still recognized at project proposal stage, an Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) with measures to comply with the Environment and Social Policy of the Fund for concerned activities will be included in the project ESMP (to be prepared at the full project proposal stage). During implementation, each USP would then be screened prior to its implementation to identify potential site-specific risks and adopt appropriate mitigation measures to be captured by relevant ESMPs for implementation, monitoring and reporting". Response to CR46: Response has been provided under CR45 (identical comment)

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR14: Cleared. As per para 164, the proposal indicates that the project is aligned with AF's E&S and Gender Policy. CAR15: Cleared. As per revised Table 8. CR: i. Cleared. As per Table 8. ii. Cleared. As per Table 8. CR44: Not cleared. Please strengthen the identification and description of the risks associated with each principle, and accompany them with corresponding mitigation measures. Risks and mitigation measures should be clearly presented and distinguished from one another. In addition, please amend risk level under principle 7. It states "N/A" while it should indicate "no risk". CR45 and CR46: Cleared. As per answer that states "The use of native and climate-suitable species is therefore not considered a risk in itself, but a mitigation measure to reduce biodiversity, ecosystem and maladaptation risks". CAR16: 1. Cleared. There is only one no risk identified under principle 7 and includes a proper justification. 2. Not cleared. Please see CR17 to avoid including the same justification under each Part.

Resource Availability

Is the requested project / programme funding within the cap of the country?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: YES

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A

Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. The Implementing Entity Management Fee is at 8.5%. All figures add up and match across components table and budget, rounded off to a whole number. The request PFG of USD 150,000 is of the correct size for a single country project. CR46: Given the PFG completion date is December 2027, the start date for the project should be later than 1 January 2028. CR47: The IE fee should be 8.5% of the total costs which is USD 137,250.

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A

Response: Cleared

IE: Response to CR46. The PFG request has been revised to avoid any inconsistency between PFG completion and the planned project start date. The PFG completion date has been adjusted from December 2027 to November 2027, allowing sufficient time for finalization of the full proposal package before the indicative project implementation start date of 1 January 2028. The project calendar will be further confirmed during full proposal preparation, based on the final submission, approval and grant-signing timeline. Response to CR47: The PFG budget has been revised to apply the IE fee to the total project preparation activity costs of USD 137,250, as requested. The IE fee has therefore been recalculated at 8.5 percent, resulting in an IE fee of USD 11,666. The total PFG request has been adjusted accordingly to USD 148,916, comprising USD 137,250 in project preparation activity costs and USD 11,666 in IE fee.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR46: Not cleared. Given the PFG completion date is December 2027, the start date for the project should be later than 1 January 2028. CR47: Cleared. As per revised PFG form.

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CR48: PFG form should be signed by the IE coordinator in our records: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/implementing-entities/>

Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: Yes. The Project Execution Costs are at 9.5%

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. As per information provided in Table of Project/Programme Components and Financing. All figures are rounded to whole numbers, and the Implementing Entity Management Fee is 9.5%.

Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) is an accredited Multilateral Implementing Entity (MIE). Accreditation Expiration Date: 04 February 2031.

Implementation Arrangements

Is there adequate arrangement for project / programme management, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Are there measures for financial and project/programme risk management?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Are there measures in place for the management of for environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Is a budget on the Implementing Entity Management Fee use included?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Is an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs included?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Is a detailed budget including budget notes included?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Are arrangements for monitoring and evaluation clearly defined, including budgeted M&E plans and sex-disaggregated data, targets and indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Does the M&E Framework include a break-down of how implementing entity IE fees will be utilized in the supervision of the M&E function?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Does the project/programme's results framework align with the AF's results framework? Does it include at least one core outcome indicator from the Fund's results framework?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Is a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones included?

Response: Pending

Secretariat: N/A for concept note

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A for concept note



CONCEPT NOTE PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Title of project: Adaptive Landscapes & Agropastoral Transformation for Opportunities & Outcomes" (ALATOO) Project

Country: Kyrgyz Republic

Thematic focal area: Multiple focal areas

Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity

Implementing entity: International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Executing entity/ies: Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry (MWRAPI)

Amount of financing requested: 20,000,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project Formulation Grant Request (available to NIEs only): Yes ☒ No ☐

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: 150,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Letter of Endorsement (LOE) signed: yes ☒ no ☐

Stage of Submission:

- ☐ This concept has been submitted before
☒ This is the first submission ever of the concept proposal

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: [Click or tap to enter a date.](#)

Please note that concept note documents should not exceed 50 pages, including annexes.

Contents

Abbreviations and acronyms	iii
Part I: PROJECT INFORMATION	1
A. Project Background and Context	1
Introduction.....	1
Socio-economic context and social inclusion.....	1
Initial Gender Assessment	2
Geography and natural resources	3
Agriculture, pasture and forest systems management	4
Governance, Institutional and Policy Framework for Adaptation	5
Climate change	5
Vulnerability to climate change and expected impacts	8
Project's Theory of Change.....	11
Project area and targeting strategy	12
B. Project Objectives	13
C. Project Components and Financing	13
D. Projected Calendar	14
Part II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION	14
A. Project components	14
Component 1. Climate-resilient pasture and forest systems	14
Component 2. Climate-resilient rural livelihoods.....	19
Component 3. Climate-responsive monitoring and decision support systems	21
B. Project benefits	23
C. Cost Effectiveness	23
D. Strategic alignment	25
E. National Standards and Environmental and Social Policy	27
F. Duplication	29
G. Learning and Knowledge Management	31
H. Consultative Process	32
I. Justification for funding	33
J. Sustainability	34
K. Environmental and Social Impacts and Risks	36
Part III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS	38
A.Alignment with Adaptation Fund Strategic Results Framework	39
Part IV: ENDORSEMENT	39
A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the Government	39
B. Implementing Entity Certification	40

Annexes

Annex 1: Stakeholder consultation process	41
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List of Figures

Figure 1 – Principal terrestrial ecosystem classifications, the Kyrgyz Republic (2019)	3
Figure 2 – (Left) Mean Annual Temperature (°C), and (Right) Annual Mean Rainfall (mm) in the Kyrgyz republic over the period 1991-2020	6
Figure 3 – Average monthly temperature and rainfall in the Kyrgyz Republic, 1991-2020	6
Figure 4 – Average annual precipitation rates, the Kyrgyz Republic, 2009-2019 (2019)	6
Figure 5 – Aridity index, the Kyrgyz Republic (2019)	6
Figure 6 – Observed (W5E5) annual trends in precipitation for the whole year, during 1990-2019 time period. Black dots (right figure) indicate significant ($p < 0.05$) trends	7
Figure 7 – Projected mean Temperature in different climate futures (°C) – World Bank CCKP	8
Figure 8 – Projected Climatology of Precipitation by 2040-2059; Multi-Model Ensemble; Reference Period: 1995-2014 (WB CCKP)	8

List of Tables

Table 1 – Project components and financing	13
Table 2 – Projected calendar	14
Table 3 – Financing windows for adaptive activities	20
Table 4 – Cost-effectiveness and alternatives to project	25
Table 5 – Compliance with national standards	27
Table 7 – Baseline and alternative adaptation scenario the Adaptation Fund will help materialize ³⁴	
Table 8 – Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Checklist	36

Abbreviations and acronyms

AA	Aiyl Aymak
AF	Adaptation Fund
ALATOO	Adaptive Landscapes & Agropastoral Transformation for Opportunities & Outcomes
AO	Aiyl Okmotu
APIU	Agricultural Projects Implementation Unit
ATMP	Access to Markets Project
BALI	Business and Leadership Innovation
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CCKP	Climate Change Knowledge Portal (World Bank)
CHIRPS	Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station
CS-FOR	Carbon Sequestration through Climate Investment in Forests and Rangelands
ENSO	El Niño Southern Oscillation
ESCAP	UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GALS	Gender Action Learning System
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFEMP	Integrated Forest Ecosystem Management Project
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LMDP I/II/III	Livestock and Market Development Programme (I, II, III)
LSGB	Local Self-Government Body
ME	Municipal Enterprise
MNRETS	Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology, and Technical Supervision
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
MWRAP	Minister of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NB-SAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NFI	National Forest Inventory
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRMP	Natural Resource Management Plan
PAMP	Protected Area Management Plan
PC	Pasture Committee
PLMP	Pasture and Livestock Management Plan
PUU	Pasture User Union
RRPCP-ADAPT	Regional Resilient Pastoral Communities Project – ADAPT
SEDP	Socio-Economic Development Plan
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WB	World Bank

Part I: PROJECT INFORMATION

A. Project Background and Context

Introduction

1. Climate change is accelerating the degradation of the Kyrgyz Republic's pasture and forest systems: rising temperatures, altered precipitation and water regimes, as well as more frequent disasters are eroding the natural resource base that rural communities depend on. These climate-driven pressures undermine already fragile agropastoral livelihoods, reducing productivity, increasing costs, and heightening exposure to hazards. Socio-economic vulnerabilities further constrain communities' ability to cope and adapt, especially for women, youth, and poorer households. At the same time, institutional transitions, limited local capacities, and fragmented monitoring systems weaken adaptive capacity.

2. Adaptation Fund (AF) support is therefore critical to strengthen ecosystem resilience, enable inclusive livelihood diversification, and build the institutional foundations for climate-responsive natural resource governance. The Adaptive Landscapes & Agropastoral Transformation for Opportunities & Outcomes (ALATOO) project hence seeks to address these challenges, by enhancing the resilience of forests and agropastoral systems and communities in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Socio-economic context and social inclusion

3. **Demography.** The Kyrgyz population has reached 7.3 million people in 2025¹, with a relatively young demographic. In 2024, about 61.8% of the Kyrgyz Republic's population resided in rural areas, while the urban population grew by roughly 2.7%, underscoring an ongoing shift toward urban areas.

4. **Economic context.** With an average Gross National Income per capita of US\$ 2,190 in 2024, the Kyrgyz Republic is classified as a Lower Middle-Income Country (LMIC). The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 9% in 2024, driven by gold exports and construction, while per capita GDP rose to USD 2,420, though high inflation at 10.8% in 2023 limited real income gains.² Labor participation reached 53% for women and 78.6% for men,³ with unemployment at 3.5%⁴ (8% in rural areas⁵), while 73% of workers are engaged in the informal "missing middle". Migration remains vital to the economy, with 1 million citizens abroad and remittances contributing 17.7% of GDP in 2024. However, the Russian-Ukrainian conflict is constraining remittances, as many Kyrgyz are forced to return home.⁶

5. **Poverty.** Poverty reached 29.8% in 2023,⁷ ranging from 13.9% in Osh city to 48% in Batken, with 62% of the poor in rural areas, where poverty increased from 22.4% in 2018 to nearly 30% in 2023.⁸ In 2022, 32.6% of rural residents lived in general poverty and 6.2% in extreme poverty.⁹ Despite this, human development improved, with a Human Development Index of 0.720 in 2023, ranking the Kyrgyz Republic 117th out of 193 countries.¹⁰ While Kyrgyzstan has historically adopted dedicated poverty reduction strategies, such as the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS), poverty reduction is now primarily pursued through broader development frameworks. The National Development Strategy 2018–2040 and the National Development Program 2030 identify poverty and inequality reduction as key objectives and promote inclusive growth, job creation, improved access to education, healthcare, and social protection. These strategies are complemented by targeted social assistance and livelihood programs, including the Social Contract Programme. As a result, poverty reduction remains an explicit policy objective in Kyrgyzstan, although it is embedded within wider national development strategies rather than addressed through a standalone poverty reduction strategy. The social protection system provides insurance for retirement, assistance for low-income families and persons with disabilities,¹¹ and labour market programmes to reduce vulnerability. The Social Passport Program offers targeted cash transfers and social contract grants up to KGS 150,000 to support income-generating activities.

6. **Youth (14-35)** make up about 32% of the population, with two-thirds living in rural areas. They face limited economic opportunities, weak access to markets, skills, and finance, underdeveloped cooperatives, and low participation in local decision making, restricting access to better-paid work and increasing their vulnerability to shocks. Limited local jobs and low wages drive strong out-migration to cities and abroad (close to 25% of migrants are youth). Youth

¹ National Statistics Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, stat.gov.kg.xls

² [Kyrgyz Republic | Data](#)

³ [Kyrgyz Republic | World Bank Gender Data Portal](#)

⁴ Ibid

⁵ IFAD (2023). [The Kyrgyz Republic, Access to Market Project. Supervision report.](#)

⁶ [Kyrgyz Republic country strategic plan \(2023–2027\)](#)

⁷ National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, [Poverty rate - Open Data - Statistics of the Kyrgyz Republic](#)

⁸ <https://migrants-refugees.va/country-profile/the-Kyrgyz-Republic/>

⁹ [National Statistics Committee](#)

¹⁰ [UNDP Launches the 2025 Human Development Report | United Nations Development Programme](#)

¹¹ International Labour Organization. 2019. [Kyrgyz Republic.](#)

unemployment is nearly 7% (higher for young women), and 84.7% of youth work informally without contracts or social protection.¹² Youth entrepreneurship has high potential for MSME growth, but most young people are unprepared to start businesses due to lack of skills, and credit constraints.¹³ About 35.5% of youth depend on agriculture, often informally.

Initial Gender Assessment

7. Gender Equality. The Kyrgyz Republic ranked 90th out of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index 2024,¹⁴ with gender inequality remaining high compared to other Central Asian countries. The resurgence of conservative gender norms has limited women's participation in decision-making and economic life. While gender equality has improved on some fronts, inequalities persist, especially in rural areas. Despite of equal rights to resources by laws, women face greater challenges in access to land, financial resources, agricultural knowledge, and leadership roles compared to men. In 2024, women headed only about 21% of peasant farms and individual enterprises.

8. The Kyrgyz Republic has made significant strides in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, particularly through key national frameworks such as the National Gender Equality Strategy 2030, the State Programme on Women's Leadership, the State Programme on Women's Entrepreneurship, the revised domestic violence legislation and the introduction of the 30% quota for women's political representation. The 42% representation of women in local councils marks a significant step forward, reflecting the country's commitment to inclusive governance.¹⁵ Despite these developments, customary law and long-standing traditional practices continue to reinforce male dominance, limit women's equal access to assets, services, economic opportunities, and decision-making processes.

9. Gender machinery. The National Council on Family, Gender Development, Social Protection, and Child Rights oversees strategic coordination across ministries and local governments. The Ministry of Labour and Social Development leads gender policy implementation, supported by gender focal points in relevant Ministries. The Ministry of Agriculture advances gender-responsive rural development, including women's participation in extension services, cooperatives, and pasture or forest management. Local self-governments are legally required to integrate gender considerations into planning and budgeting.

10. Leadership and decision making. The proportion of seats held by women in the Kyrgyz Republic has decreased since 2010. Women held only 21% of parliamentary seats in 2024, 12.5% in ministerial positions, and 34% in firms' ownership 2023¹⁶, despite gender quotas. Only 36.8% of those employed in senior and middle management in 2022 were women; a rate lower than the average in LMIC economies¹⁷. At the household level women have power over non-economic decisions such as kitchen gardens, while men are usually the primary decision-makers about saving and spending, taking loans, choosing crops and deciding on the sale of agricultural products or livestock.

11. Education. Girls enrollment in primary education is high, however, rural girls dropout rates increase at secondary and tertiary levels due to socio-economic pressures, early marriage, and traditional gender roles which limits their opportunities. Limited access to education and skills development reduces women's opportunities for skilled employment and entrepreneurship, reinforcing cycles of poverty and economic dependence.¹⁸

12. Employment, and economic activities. Women labour-force participation is 53% versus 79% for men.¹⁹ On average, women earn 25% less than men, as they are predominantly employed in low-paying sectors, underscoring persistent gender gaps in employment.²⁰ Women are mainly employed in the public sector (health, education, social services) or in hospitality, while technical fields remain male-dominated. About 64% of working women are in the informal economy. Among working-age women who are outside the labour force, 63.4% cite domestic responsibilities as the main reason. Female vulnerable employment increased since 1991, with no access to formal work arrangements, social protection, and safety nets, making these women more likely to fall into poverty.²¹

13. Women in agriculture. Rural women, who make up 44.5% of agricultural workers, face traditional social barriers that limit land rights, access to credit (often requiring spousal approval), access to technology, trainings, and underrepresentation in cooperatives. Despite no legislative restrictions, patriarchal inheritance social norms and legal barriers limit rural women's land rights, while cultural pressures deter them from claiming ownership. Due to these barriers, women struggle to invest in land and productive assets, constraining their adaptive capacity.²² Gendered labour

¹² [Economy | Kyrgyz Republic | World Bank Human Capital](#)

¹³ Kyrgyz Republic. 2019. [Youth Policy Concept 2020-2030](#).

¹⁴ World Economic Forum (2024). [Global Gender Gap Insight Report](#).

¹⁵ UN Women. 2025. [The Kyrgyz Republic presents preliminary findings and recommendations of the Country Gender Equality Profile](#)

¹⁶ Kyrgyz Republic. Gender Data Landscape, [World Bank Document](#)

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ UNDP. [Accelerating Women's Economic Empowerment](#)

¹⁹ The labor force participation rate is the proportion of the population ages 15 and older that is economically active.

²⁰ UN Women. 2025. [The Kyrgyz Republic presents preliminary findings and recommendations of the Country Gender Equality Profile](#)

²¹ World Bank Group, Gender Data Portal, [Kyrgyz Republic | World Bank Gender Data Portal](#)

²² https://www.women2030.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GA_Alga-draft-final-12-nov.pdf?

norms confine women to low-paid, labour-intensive tasks^{23,24} while men control key decisions and income,²⁵ and rising male migration has increased women's workloads without improving access to assets or decision-making power. Discriminatory gender norms often relegate women to roles as farm workers rather than farm owners or decision-makers, perpetuating economic disparities.²⁶

14. Gender-Based Violence (GBV) including domestic violence, bride kidnapping, and physical abuse, is a widespread and pervasive issue affecting women in the Kyrgyz Republic. Legislation prohibiting forced marriages had been strengthened. The trend in bride kidnapping is marked by the reduction in reported cases of bride kidnapping or abductions from 251 cases in 2021 to 6 cases in 2024. The number of cases of domestic violence has almost tripled between 2015 and 2021,²⁷ and 23% of women aged 15-49 have experienced GBV from their intimate partner.²⁸ The country has the highest maternal mortality rate in the region, while 29 of every 1,000 girls ages 15-19 gave birth in the Kyrgyz Republic in 2022²⁹. Practices such as early and forced marriages and domestic violence are prevalent in some communities, undermining women's rights and well-being. Insufficient enforcement of protective laws exacerbate the situation, leaving many women without adequate recourse or support.³⁰

Geography and natural resources

15. The Kyrgyz Republic is a mountainous, landlocked country of 198,500 km², bordering Kazakhstan, China, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. Two mountain systems, the Tian Shan (90% of the land area) and the Pamir, meet in the Kyrgyz Republic, with 94% of land spanning above 1,000 m. The remaining land comprises valleys and river basins, including the Fergana and Chui valleys. Three broad ecoregions (Figure 1) may be described as: the Fergana Valley area, including the Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken Oblasts; the central mountainous zone, including Naryn; and the northern areas around the Chui and Talas rivers and Issyk-Kul Lake.

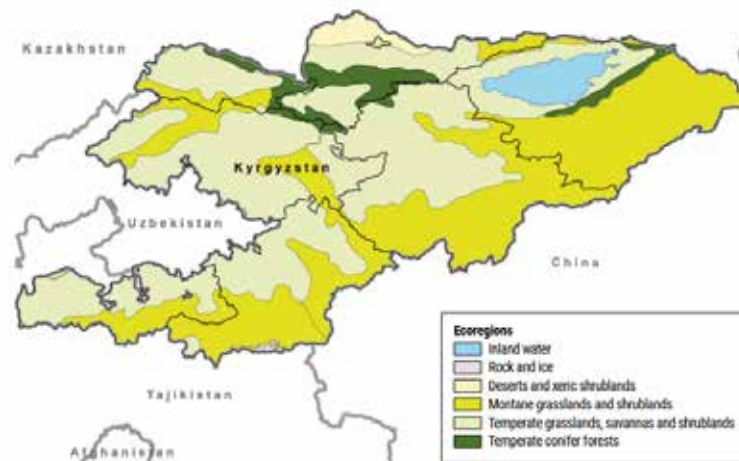


Figure 1 – Principal terrestrial ecosystem classifications, the Kyrgyz Republic (2019)³¹

16. Land cover. Land cover falls primarily under agricultural use. The land is commonly subdivided into permanent pastureland (48%), arable land (7%) and forestry (5.6%); the rest comprises other land types, mostly non-productive in the higher altitudes, rocky outcrops, glaciers and urban areas.

17. Hydrology and water resources. The Kyrgyz Republic's significant water resources are divided between two hydrological zones: a 171,800 km² flow-generation zone and a 26,700 km² dissipation zone. Nearly 10,000 glaciers cover over 3% of the land, though glacier area fell by 16% from around 8,000 km² in Soviet times to 6,700 km² in 2013-2016 as a result of climate change. Rivers fed by glaciers or snowmelt generate 49 billion m³ yearly, with major systems like the Naryn and Kara Darya forming the Syr Darya. About 90% of water is used for agriculture. 80% of arable land is irrigated, but productivity remains low at US\$0.84/m³ as networks are aging.

²³ [Gender data quiz reveals lived realities of women and girls in the Kyrgyz Republic | UN Women – Europe and Central Asia](#)

²⁴ World Bank Group, Gender Data Portal, [Kyrgyz Republic | World Bank Gender Data Portal](#)

²⁵ RURAL Agriculture Livelihood Survey RALS 2019, IAPRI

²⁶ FAO. 2023. Country gender spotlight – Kyrgyz Republic. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc6759en>

²⁷ [Gender data quiz reveals lived realities of women and girls in the Kyrgyz Republic | UN Women – Europe and Central Asia](#)

²⁸ [Kyrgyz Republic | World Bank Gender Data Portal](#)

²⁹ [Ibid.](#)

³⁰ Women2030 Monitoring and Review of the Sustainable Development Goals and Development Justice, [2019 FDJ Brief the Kyrgyz Republic ALGA.pdf](#)

³¹ Terrestrial Ecoregions, The Nature Conservancy. 2009. Principal terrestrial ecosystem classifications, the Kyrgyz Republic. Cited 12 November 2019. <https://geospatial.tnc.org/datasets/b1636d640ede4d6ca8f5e369f2dc368b/about>. Modified to comply with UN, 2020

18. Biodiversity. The relief, climate and location of the Kyrgyz Republic have all contributed to what is considered among the richest biodiversity in Central Asia,³² which however faces serious threats from unsustainable land use practices, habitat fragmentation, and climate change impacts. The country includes 4,100 plant species (850 genera, 140 families) forming 30 vegetation types, together with 814 animal species; of which 20 are considered threatened (International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN Red List).

19. Protected areas. Protected areas in the Kyrgyz Republic are defined under Law No. 18, 2011 and include 10 state nature reserves (509,952 ha), 13 state nature parks (724,670 ha), as well as forest, botanical, complex, hunting, and geological reserves totaling 241,498 ha. Together, these covered 7.38% of the territory in 2017.³³ Amendments such as Law No. 58 (2018) strengthened protection by introducing core zones, micro-reserves, and ecological corridors.

Agriculture, pasture and forest systems management

20. Agriculture contributed 9.65% of GDP in 2023 and employs 23.9% of workers, with 354,654 peasant farms and household plots producing over 95% of output, though farming makes up just 12-14% of rural income. Production is low-input and climate-sensitive, with risks of reduced crop and pasture productivity coupled to shrinking arable land, desertification, and pasture losses of up to 70%.³⁴ Farming is largely small-scale: household farms (<0.5 ha) produce 28.3% of crops, peasant farms (1-10 ha) cultivate 87.2% of arable land and produce 69.7%, while MSMEs engage in mechanization, processing, and market access, constituting key linkages of local value chains.

21. Livestock underpins rural livelihoods, with remittances often used to purchase animals. Households raise sheep, cattle and horses, relying largely on seasonal grazing and transhumant mobility, though some production systems are partially transitioning toward more sedentary patterns. Paid herding (shepherds) is a refuge sector for the unemployed or impoverished communities. Productivity is constrained by degraded pastures, winter feed deficits (averaging 1.2 tons per herd), high feed costs, poor-quality forage seed, and widespread use of low-yield breeds (70% of cattle, 80% of sheep). Weak veterinary services keep disease levels high, including brucellosis well above alert thresholds³⁵.

22. Land and pasture degradation is increasing with climate change: by 2020, 28% of land was in poor condition, including 42% of natural pastures, mainly due to overgrazing of winter pastures and overall unsustainable grazing management, unsustainable farming, fires, and pests. Soil erosion is associated with the loss of an estimated 409 million tons (20.4 T/ha), while degraded lands further increase landslide and mudflow risks. Under a wet/warm climate scenario, soil loss is projected to increase by 11% in croplands and 8% in pastures. The average productivity of summer pastures declined from 640 kg/ha to 410 kg/ha (-36%) between the 1960s and the 1990s; the spring and autumn average pasture yield fell from 470 kg/ha to 270 kg/ha (-43%). The productivity of winter pastures declined even more dramatically: from an average of 300 kg/ha to less than 100 kg/ha (-67%).³⁶

23. Pasture governance and management. Pasture governance in the Kyrgyz Republic has shifted profoundly over the past three decades. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, grazing pressure became increasingly concentrated on near-village pastures, contributing to their degradation. In response, the 2009 Pasture Law established community-based Pasture User Unions (PUUs) and Pasture Committees (PCs), with responsibilities for pasture planning, fee collection, seasonal and rotational pasture use, and conflict resolution. This decentralized model enabled thousands of communities to develop pasture plans, set access rules, and restore mobility practices in many areas, but studies from 2016-2023 highlighted structural weaknesses (insufficient financing, weak enforcement, unequal participation of mobile herders, and parallel mandates with municipalities).

24. Recent legal and administrative reforms have significantly transformed pasture governance, with these changes being implemented through the 2024-2029 Pasture Development Programme. Functions previously exercised through community-based pasture governance structures have been recalled by the Aiyl Okmotus (AOs) and transferred to newly established municipal entities. While seasonal rotation and ecosystem rehabilitation remain priorities, the transition has created uncertainty over institutional roles, technical capacity, fee collection, and the continuity of participatory practices and local knowledge built under the previous system.

25. Forests and forest management. According to the Forest Service under the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic (April 2025), forests and shrub forests cover close to 1.3 million hectares. Forests fall under three governance types: the State Forest Fund administered by the Forest Service (807,806.5 ha), Protected Areas

³² CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan till 2024. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/kg/kg-nbsap-v3-en.pdf>

³³ Specially protected natural territories of the Kyrgyz Republic. Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Specially Protected Natural Areas. Retrieved 21 February 2026.

³⁴ United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), 2024. Kyrgyz Republic, Environmental Performance Review.

³⁵ Kydyshov, K.; Usenbaev, N.; Sharshenbekov, A.; Aitkuluev, N.; Abdyraev, M.; Chegirov, S.; Kazybaeva, J.; Brangsch, H.; Melzer, F.; Neubauer, H.; et al. Brucellosis in Humans and Animals in Kyrgyzstan. *Microorganisms* **2022**, *10*, 1293. <https://doi.org/10.3390/microorganisms10071293>

³⁶ Sharpe, N., Mwangi, P., Isakov, I. and Onyango, V. 2022. Application of the participatory rangeland and grassland assessment (PRAGA) methodology in the Kyrgyz Republic – Baseline analysis, remote sensing, field assessment and validation report. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb9402en>

(126,747.5 ha), and municipal forests (336,251.1 ha). State Forest Fund forests are managed by territorial forest enterprises (leskhozoes). Management is guided by the Forest Code and, more recently, by the Concept of Development of the Forest Sector until 2040, updated in 2025.

26. The Kyrgyz Republic's forests comprise 17 shrub and 30 woody tree species, forming ecosystems ranging from high-altitude juniper and spruce to mid-mountain walnut-fruit forests and low-mountain riparian forests. Six main forest formations (spruce, walnut fruit, juniper, pistachio, deciduous broadleaf, and shrub forests) provide vital biodiversity, watershed protection, erosion control, and climate regulation services. Rising temperatures, shifting precipitation, and human pressures increasingly threaten juniper, walnut-fruit, and spruce forests, accelerating upward shifts in vegetation zones and risking biodiversity loss and reduced forest cover.

Governance, Institutional and Policy Framework for Adaptation

27. **Governance and administration.** In 2021, the Kyrgyz Republic (formerly a mixed-parliamentary republic) replaced its system with a full presidential model, greatly expanding executive authority and launching a wave of constitutional and territorial reforms. The country still operates a three-tier sub-national structure (7 oblasts (regions) and the municipalities of Bishkek and Osh, 40 districts, and local self-governments known as Ayl Okmotus, AOs). The lowest tier was reshaped dramatically in 2023, with the government merging 453 AOs into 230 larger consolidated AOs (doubling their average size) and assigning the new AOs wider responsibilities, including natural resource management. This consolidation concentrated authority at the local level but also strained local governance capacity. AOs have set up municipal enterprises as operational arms to manage services such as drinking water supply, sanitation, and waste management, with pasture management recently added to these duties as part of the reform process presented earlier.

28. **Institutional Framework for Adaptation.** The Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology, and Technical Supervision (MNRETS) is in charge of coordinating climate policy, including policy development and cooperation with international organisations. The Coordinating Council on Ecology, Climate Change, and Green Economy Development, established in 2020 and chaired by the Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic, serves as the central platform for policy coordination and monitoring the implementation of the environmental, climate, and green agendas. The Interagency Working Group on Climate Change under the MNRETS is another coordinating body to support this institutional architecture. Key sectoral ministries, including the Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry (MWRAPI); Ministry of Emergency Situations; and Ministry of Health, are responsible for implementing adaptation measures within their domains, while local administrations play a role in applying these actions at the community level.

29. **Policy Framework for Adaptation.** The Kyrgyz Republic became a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2000, ratified the Kyoto Protocol in 2003, and acceded to the Paris Agreement in 2019. Under these commitments, the country has submitted four National Communications (2003, 2009, 2017, and 2024), as well as its first Biennial Update Report (BUR) in 2016. The government submitted an updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2021 and a more recent, third nationally determined contribution (NDC 3.0) in 2025. Adaptation planning is guided by the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process, launched in 2022 with support from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which is helping mainstream climate resilience across priority sectors such as water, agriculture, biodiversity, and disaster risk management.

Climate change

(i) Past and current climate

30. **Climate and Ecological Zones.** Climate in the Kyrgyz Republic is characterized by strong contrasts driven by altitude and complex topography, and ranges from subtropical in Fergana Valley, to temperate in the northern foothills, and from dry continental to polar in the upper alpine regions of the Tian Shan. Summers are warm to hot in valleys and foothills, but short and cool at higher elevations. Winters are generally cold, particularly in mountain and intermontane basins where temperature inversions are common. The Siberian High strongly controls Kyrgyzstan's winter climate through cold, dry continental air that suppresses precipitation and produces prolonged cold spells, making it a primary driver of the country's severe, dry winters. Precipitation is unevenly distributed, with western and southwestern regions receiving greater moisture from westerly air masses, while interior basins and eastern highlands remain relatively dry. As such, climatic conditions align with four ecological zones: (i) the valley and sub-mountain zone (900-1,200 m), characterized by hot summers, mild, largely snow-free winters, and very low precipitation; (ii) the mountain zone (1,200 to 2,000-2,200 m), with warm summers and cold, snowy winters; (iii) the high-mountain zone (2,000-2,200 to 3,000-3,500 m), featuring cool summers and cold winters; and (iv) the nival belt above 3,500 m, dominated by snowfields and

glaciers under polar climatic conditions.³⁷ Observed spatial variations in historical temperature and rainfall across the country are illustrated in Figure 2.

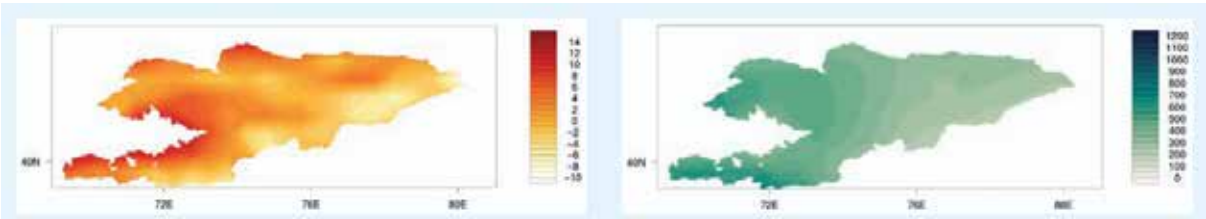


Figure 2 – (Left) Mean Annual Temperature (°C), and (Right) Annual Mean Rainfall (mm) in the Kyrgyz republic over the period 1991-2020³⁸

31. Temperatures. Average annual temperatures vary from less than -10°C in high altitude regions of the Tian Shan mountains to over 12°C in the northern and western lowlands. Absolute temperatures can however reach -54°C and 43°C. In the lowland regions around Bishkek and Osh temperatures regularly exceed 30°C between June and August, while falling below -5°C between December and February. Figure 3 below presents the average monthly temperature and rainfall in the Kyrgyz Republic for the period 1990-2020.

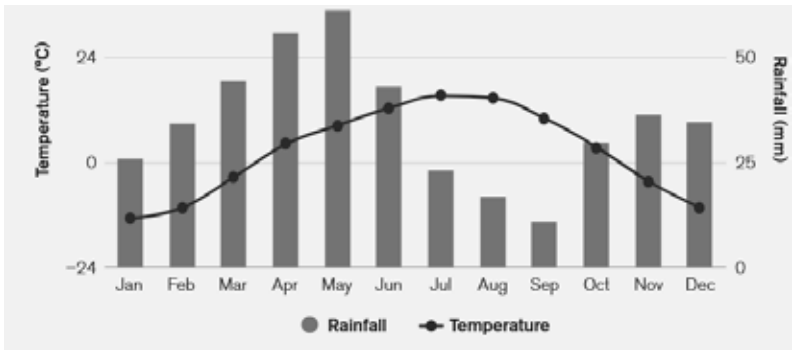


Figure 3 – Average monthly temperature and rainfall in the Kyrgyz Republic, 1991-2020³⁹

32. Precipitation. The country is predominantly arid, though the altitude and terrain contribute to microclimate development and rainfall varies with altitude (see Figure 4 and Figure 5). Mean annual precipitation ranges from approximately 100-500 mm in the plains to over 1,000 mm in mountainous areas, with the highest levels recorded around Jalal-Abad. Average national estimates range between about 378 mm and 533 mm annually. Most precipitation falls as snow between October and April. Approximately 24% of the country lies above 3,500 m in elevation and has historically remained under permanent snow cover. Heavy winter snowfall in mountainous regions frequently leads to spring flooding, which can cause substantial damage in downstream areas.

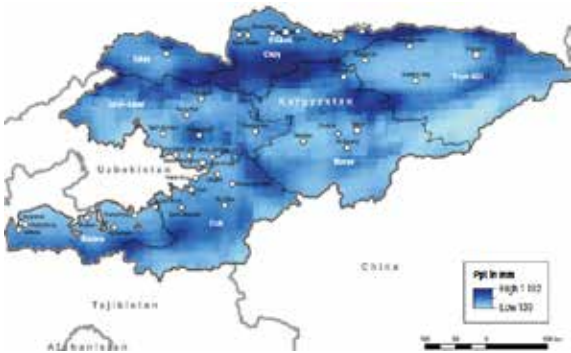


Figure 4 – Average annual precipitation rates, the Kyrgyz Republic, 2009-2019 (2019)⁴⁰



Figure 5 – Aridity index, the Kyrgyz Republic (2019)⁴¹

³⁷ UNECE, 2024. The Kyrgyz Republic, Environmental Performance Review.

³⁸ WBG Climate Change Knowledge Portal (CCKP, 2021). Climate Data: Historical.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station (CHIRPS) Database version 2, USGS & NOAA. 2019. Average annual precipitation rates, the Kyrgyz Republic, 2009–2019. Cited 12 November 2019. <https://data.noaa.gov/dataset/dataset/chirps-version-2-0-precipitation-global-0-05-5-day-1981-present>. Modified to comply with UN, 2020

⁴¹ Climate Database version 2. 2019. Aridity index, the Kyrgyz Republic 2019. Cited 12 November 2019.

<https://cqiarcslcommunity/2019/01/24/global-aridity-index-and-potential-evapotranspiration-climate-database-v2/>. Modified to comply with UN, 2020

(ii) Observed changes in climate

33. Temperatures. Average annual temperatures in the Kyrgyz Republic have risen approximately 1.1°C between 1960 and 2010. The rate of warming has accelerated over the period 1990-2010, with observed temperature increases exceeding the global average. Warming trends were reported across all of the Kyrgyz Republic's different regions, and at all altitudes.⁴² Warming has been most pronounced in winter minimum temperatures (November-March), and in late winter and spring. The shift of peak warming into spring distorts water supply regimes, shortens the snow accumulation period, accelerates early snowmelt and disrupts crop cycles, simultaneously affecting both agriculture and hydropower.⁴³ Inter-annual variation in temperature is weakly correlated with large scale climate circulation phenomena, El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and North Atlantic Oscillation.⁴⁴

34. Precipitation. The Kyrgyz Republic's TNC suggests there has been little change in average annual precipitation on a national level between 1920-2010. Some sub-national changes have been reported, including small increases in precipitation in the central and northwestern parts of the country and small decreases in the east, but there is little evidence distinguishing these trends from typical natural variability in the region.^{45,46} Inter-annual variations in winter precipitation in Central Asia are correlated with ENSO, with a tendency to increased winter precipitation under El Niño conditions. A climate risk assessment conducted using the bias-corrected reanalysis dataset W5E5 (Cucchi et al., 2020) is presented in Figure 6 below. Observed trends confirm high spatial and seasonal variability rather than uniform change.⁴⁷ While long-term national averages indicate only modest changes in total annual precipitation, there is strong evidence of shifts in seasonal distribution, with increased winter and spring precipitation in parts of the country and drier summer conditions in several valleys and interior basins. Modifications of precipitation regimes are also correlated with a rise in extreme events, including flash floods, river floods, and mudflows.

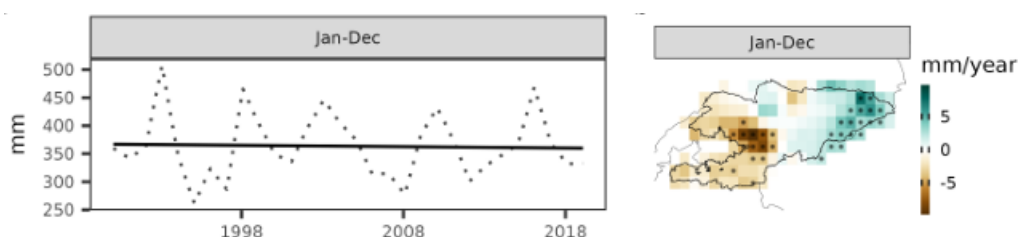


Figure 6 – Observed (W5E5) annual trends in precipitation for the whole year, during 1990-2019 time period. Black dots (right figure) indicate significant ($p < 0.05$) trends

(iii) Projected changes in climate

Temperatures. Climate projections for the Kyrgyz Republic based on CMIP6 multi-model ensembles indicate continued and significant warming across all regions and elevations. Mean annual temperature is projected to rise under all SSP scenarios, with ensemble anomalies showing stronger warming in summer and at higher elevations. CMIP6-based projections from the World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal (CCKP) show that warming intensifies steadily from mid-century to late century, with SSP2-4.5 and SSP5-8.5 leading to the largest increases in maximum temperatures and heat extremes (Figure 7 below). As a result, the Kyrgyz Republic will experience more frequent hot days, more intense heatwaves, and a longer warm season, increasing stress on agriculture, water resources, and human health.

⁴² Kyrgyz Republic (2016). Third National Communication to the UNFCCC. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/NC3_the_Kyrgyz_Republic_English_24Jan2017_0.pdf

⁴³ Kyrgyz Republic (2025). Nationally Determined Contribution of the Kyrgyz Republic NDC 3.0.

⁴⁴ Dixon, S.G. and Wilby, R.L. (2019). A seasonal forecasting procedure for reservoir inflows in Central Asia. Rivers Research and Applications – Special Issue, doi:10.1002/rra.3506. URL: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/rra.3506>

⁴⁵ Xu, L., Zhou, H., Du, L., Yao, H. and Wang, H., 2015. Precipitation trends and variability from 1950 to 2000 in arid lands of Central Asia. Journal of Arid Land, 7(4), pp.514–526. URL: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40333-015-0045-9>

⁴⁶ Chen, F., Huang, W., Jin, L., Chen, J. and Wang, J., 2011. Spatiotemporal precipitation variations in the arid Central Asia in the context of global warming. Science China Earth Sciences, 54(12), pp.1812–1821. URL: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11430-011-4333-8>

⁴⁷ UNESCAP (2023/2024) – Climate Change and Disaster Risk Profile: Kyrgyz Republic. URL: <https://www.unescap.org/resources/climate-change-and-disaster-risk-profile-kyrgyz-republic>.

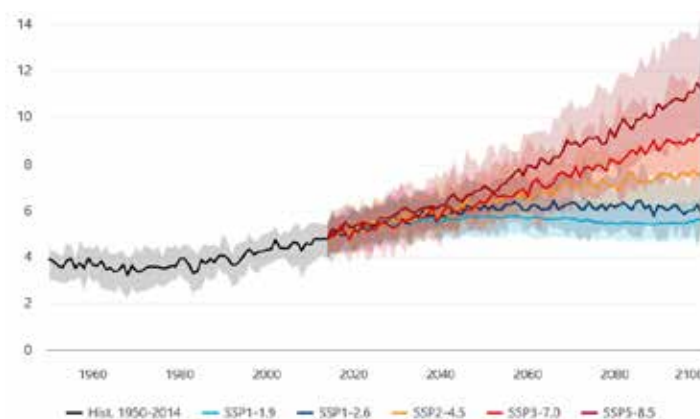


Figure 7 – Projected mean Temperature in different climate futures (°C) – World Bank CCKP

35. **Future precipitation projections** for the Kyrgyz Republic show high seasonal and spatial variability, though most CMIP6 model outputs suggest modest national scale increases in total annual precipitation (Figure 8). The World Bank CMIP6 projections (Figure 8) show that winter and spring precipitation are expected to increase, while summers may become relatively drier or more variable, especially in interior basins.

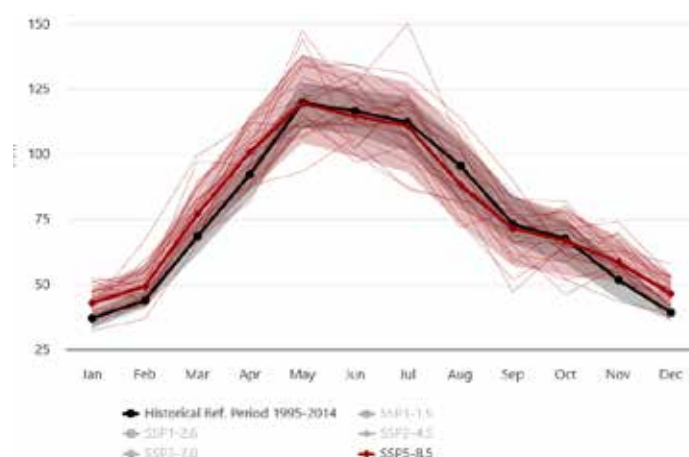


Figure 8 – Projected Climatology of Precipitation by 2040-2059; Multi-Model Ensemble; Reference Period: 1995-2014 (WB CCKP)

36. These seasonal changes are further highlighted in the Kyrgyz Republic - Climate Change and Disaster Risk Profile (ESCAP, 2020), which identifies shifts toward wetter cold seasons and persistent risks of hydrometeorological hazards such as floods, mudflows, and landslides under changing precipitation regimes. Overall, precipitation will likely continue to fluctuate more strongly between seasons, increasing challenges in terms of water storage, seasonal runoff reliability, directly impacting rainfed agricultural systems.

Vulnerability to climate change and expected impacts

37. The Kyrgyz Republic is “*at the frontline of climate change impacts*”, experiencing warming at twice the global average and a rapidly rising frequency of climate-related disasters, making it one of the most climate-vulnerable mountain countries in the region.⁴⁸ According to the 2023 ND-GAIN Vulnerability and Readiness Index, the Kyrgyz Republic ranks 70th. The largest shortcomings lie in institutional and economic readiness, critical areas for effectively scaling up of adaptation measures.⁴⁹

38. The Kyrgyz Republic’s mountainous terrain exposes the country to a wide spectrum of climate- and geology-related hazards (including earthquakes, floods, landslides, and avalanches) which frequency and severity are increasing due to climate change: in recent years, estimates suggest that 3,000 to 5,000 hazardous events now occur annually.⁵⁰ These impacts result in significant loss of life, infrastructure damage, and degradation of ecosystems vital to local livelihoods. If unaddressed, they could reduce national GDP by up to 4.2% by 2050 under a combined dry/hot climate

⁴⁸ UNEP (2025). Atlas of Environmental Change for the Kyrgyz Republic.

⁴⁹ Kyrgyz Republic (2025). Nationally Determined Contribution of the Kyrgyz Republic NDC 3.0.

⁵⁰ UNICEF. <https://www.unicef.org/the Kyrgyz Republic/climate-change>

scenario,⁵¹ particularly through disruptions to agriculture and water resources. The country faces roughly 200 emergencies each year, 90% triggered by natural hazards; in 2022 alone, major disasters, including severe floods, claimed nearly 150 lives. Economic losses from natural hazards averaged USD 27 million annually between 2012 and 2018.⁵² From 2000 to 2020, more than 4,500 disaster events were recorded nationwide, with the highest concentration in Osh, Jalal-Abad, Chui, and Batken.⁵³ The Fergana Valley remains particularly vulnerable to landslides (causing around 30 deaths annually) and recurrent flooding, while high-altitude regions face avalanches and growing threats from glacial lake outburst floods.⁵⁴ The number of unstable slopes has risen sharply, from 162 in 1962 to 208 in 2007, reflecting increasing geophysical instability.⁵⁵ Droughts and forest fires further damage natural resources and undermine agricultural productivity.

39. Cryosphere and hydrological impacts. Cryospheric change is at the heart of the Kyrgyz Republic's growing climate vulnerability. Warming has driven substantial glacier retreat and snowpack loss, with glaciers shrinking by an estimated 20–30% since the 1960s. This has shifted peak river flows to earlier in spring and increased variability in summer runoff, temporarily boosting water availability in some basins but threatening long-term dry-season flows as glacial reserves diminish: for high-mountain basins, the date of peak water discharge has shifted by close to 50 days (toward late July), with lower peak flows following a short-term increase linked to intensified glacier meltwater.⁵⁶ Some of the glaciers are melting faster than the average. According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Glaciers Monitoring Service, the glacier area of the Tian Shan decreased by between 25 and 35 per cent during the twentieth century.⁵⁷ According to the World Bank, even with no further warming, glaciers' volume would still decrease by another 36% between 2020 and 2050.⁵⁸ This trend is projected to accelerate under both dry/hot and wet/warm scenarios modeled, respectively with a 44% and a 46%. These changes increase short-term flood risks while reducing long-term water security, with direct consequences for seasonal water availability in downstream pastures and agricultural areas. They also heighten downstream risks for irrigation, hydropower, drinking water supply, and other climate-sensitive sectors.

40. Changes in glacier volumes, rate of melting and precipitation patterns are projected to change the volume and seasonality of streamflow in Kyrgyz Republic's three main rivers: the Naryn, Talas, and Chu. Observed streamflow data for the Naryn river from 1960 to 2010 shows an increasing trend in streamflows for all months, with the largest percentage increases during the low flow months. Assessing the impact of future climate change on streamflows shows an impact on peak flows, namely, a shift in peak flows to about a month earlier in the Naryn and Talas rivers.

41. As glaciers retreat and meltwater lakes expand, high-mountain hazards (especially glacial lake outburst floods – see below) are becoming more frequent and dangerous. At the same time, reduced snowpack and altered melt regimes are transforming hydrological patterns nationwide. Projections indicate that inflows to key reservoirs such as Toktogul could decline by nearly 19% by 2050, undermining the stability of summer water supplies.⁵⁹

42. Droughts. The Kyrgyz Republic faces increasing drought risk driven by both meteorological factors (reduced precipitation) and hydrological factors, including declining surface and subsurface water flows across Central Asia's major river basins. Agricultural drought further emerges when climate stress combines with crop choices and land-use practices. Climate change is sharply increasing drought probability: what would previously have been a 1 in 100-year drought event is projected to occur around once every 15 years under 2°C of global warming, a threshold which is likely to be surpassed under both RCP6.0 and RCP8.5.⁶⁰

43. Projected warming, particularly in summer, is expected to intensify evaporation, aridity, and soil moisture loss, intensifying drought risk across mid-century CMIP6 scenarios.⁶¹ Drier summers, reduced snowpack, and shifting precipitation patterns are already accelerating soil-moisture decline and hydrological stress, with significant impacts on agriculture, pastures, and rural livelihoods. Severe heat waves and more frequent droughts are contributing to rising irrigation demand, which the World Bank's Country Climate and Development Report (2025) estimates could exceed available supply by up to 24% by mid-century. Long-term observations confirm increasing aridity, higher evaporation

⁵¹ World Bank (2025). Kyrgyz Republic Country Climate and Development Report

⁵² UNEP (2025). Press release, Atlas of Environmental Change. <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/climate-change-reshaping-kyrgyz-republic-finds-new-unep-atlas>.

⁵³ UNDP (2024). Climate Risk Infographics. <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2024-03/infographics-climate-risks-kyrgyz-en.pdf>

⁵⁴ Danneels, G., Bourdeau, C., Torgoev, I., & Havenith, H.-B. (2008). Geophysical investigation and dynamic modelling of unstable slopes: case-study of Kainama (Kyrgyz Republic). *Geophysical Journal International*, 175(1), 17–34. URL: <https://academic.oup.com/gji/article/175/1/17/716950>

⁵⁵ Schlögel, R., Torgoev, I., De Marneffe, C., & Havenith, H.-B. (2011). Evidence of a changing size–frequency distribution of landslides in the Tien Shan, Central Asia. *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms*, 36(12), 1658–1669. URL: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/esp.2184>

⁵⁶ Kyrgyz Republic (2025). Nationally Determined Contribution of the Kyrgyz Republic NDC 3.0.

⁵⁷ UNECE (2024). Kyrgyz Republic, Environmental Performance Review.

⁵⁸ The World Bank Group and Asian Development Bank (2021). Climate Risk Profile: Kyrgyz Republic.

⁵⁹ UNEP (2025). Atlas of Environmental Change for the Kyrgyz Republic.

⁶⁰ Naumann, G., Alfieri, L., Wyser, K., Mentaschi, L., Betts, R. A., Carrao, H., Feyen, L. (2018). Global Changes in Drought Conditions Under Different Levels of Warming. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 45(7), 3285–3296.

URL: <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/2017GL076521>

⁶¹ UNDP (2024). Climate Risk Infographics. <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2024-03/infographics-climate-risks-kyrgyz-en.pdf>

rates, and more heatwave days, all of which compound agricultural and hydrological drought conditions. Climate-driven glacier retreat and altered runoff patterns further reduce summer water availability, amplifying water scarcity.

44. Floods and mudflows. Flooding is one of the most frequent and damaging climate hazards in the Kyrgyz Republic, with clear evidence of increasing frequency and impacts in recent years, in relation to disruptions to hydrology. Government hazard monitoring data highlights the scale of flood and mudflow exposure, noting that the Kyrgyz Republic has 3,103 mudflow-prone rivers and 2,503 mudflow and flood risk areas, with about 70 flood-related emergencies occurring each year, representing 30% of all national emergencies.⁶² This is notably due to the high exposure of settlements, with 95% located on the banks or alluvial cones of rivers or temporary watercourses.

45. Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) refer to the catastrophic release of a water reservoir that has formed either at the side, in front, within, beneath or on the surface of a glacier. Dam structures that impound the water reservoir may be composed primarily of glacial ice, morainic debris, or bedrock. GLOFs pose a growing threat in the Kyrgyz Republic as climate-driven glacier retreat increases the number and instability of high-mountain lakes. According to the Kyrgyz Ministry of Emergency Situations,⁶³ the country has more than 2,000 high-mountain lakes, of which 367 are classified as prone to breakthrough, reflecting a substantial level of GLOF risk nationwide. Warming temperatures and increased meltwater accumulation (in relation with accelerated glacier loss and shifting snow-melt patterns) heighten the likelihood of outburst events in vulnerable mountain valleys, with direct impacts on downstream communities, infrastructure, hydropower assets, and water security across the country's major river basins.

46. Landslides. Landslides constitute another widespread and highly damaging climate-related hazard in the Kyrgyz Republic, driven by the country's steep mountainous terrain, intense precipitation events, snowmelt, and increasing climate variability. According to the Kyrgyz Ministry of Emergency Situations, the country has over 4,554 active landslides, with the total landslide belt covering around 15,000 km², placing more than 860 settlements and critical infrastructure at risk.⁶⁴ The Talas, Jalal-Abad, and Chui oblasts are projected to see the largest increases in area exposed to landslide risk due to a combination of ongoing land degradation and changing climate conditions. ESCAP's Disaster Risk Profile identifies landslides as a major hazard likely to worsen under climate change, as warming temperatures, increasing spring precipitation, and more frequent extreme-weather events intensify soil saturation and slope instability across the country's high-relief landscapes.

47. Impact on land, soils and ecosystems. As mentioned previously, climate change is driving the accelerated degradation of land, soils, and ecosystems across the Kyrgyz Republic through combined cryospheric decline, hydrological alteration, and increasing aridity. Rapid glacier retreat and shifts in snowmelt and runoff regimes are undermining rangeland stability, contributing to the documented degradation of up to 70% of the country's pastures⁶⁵ and elevating risks of landslides, mudflows, and drought-induced ecosystem stress. Long-term warming has reduced vegetation *greenness* across lowland and cropland areas due to increased evapotranspiration and persistent soil-moisture deficits, while expanding aridity is accelerating the transition of grasslands and forests (particularly juniper ecosystems) toward shrub-dominated states.⁶⁶ Regionally, 8% of grasslands and 10% of forests converted to shrubland between 2000 and 2013,⁶⁷ highlighting systemic ecological pressures. Projected dryland expansion and localized desertification risk indicate further vulnerability, with climate change amplifying the impacts of maladaptive land-use practices. Resulting shifts in temperature and hydrological regimes will drive upslope and northward shifts in species' viable ranges,⁶⁸ reducing habitats and threatening high-mountain biodiversity and ecosystem functions.

48. Climate impact on crops. Climate change is projected to increase the irrigation requirements for crop production but also the quantity of water supplied to agriculture. Under wet/warm and dry/hot climate scenarios modeled by the World Bank,⁶⁹ irrigation demand is expected to rise by 2% and 6% respectively, whereas water supply increases by only about 1%, resulting in growing irrigation deficits. Consequently, unmet irrigation demand is projected to reach 20% under the wet/warm scenario and 24% under the dry/hot scenario, highlighting the need for substantial improvements in irrigation efficiency. Beyond water constraints, climate change is expected to affect crop performance through increased heat and cold stress, soil erosion, and shifts in precipitation patterns. While most yields are expected to change by less than 5%, vegetable yields may decline by up to 10% under dry/hot conditions. Rainfed cereals display high sensitivity,

⁶² Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic (2024). Hazard Monitoring Report. "Monitoring and Forecasting of Hazardous Natural Processes in the Kyrgyz Republic". https://www.almaty-bishkek.org/uploads/images/Session%202.4.%20KGZ%20Min%20of%20Emergencies-8th-ABEC-SC_ENG.pdf

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ UNEP (2025). Atlas of Environmental Change for the Kyrgyz Republic.

⁶⁶ Zhou, Y., Zhang, L., Fensholt, R., Wang, K., Vitkovskaya, I., & Tian, F. (2015). Climate Contributions to Vegetation Variations in Central Asian Drylands. *Remote Sensing*, 7(3), 2449–2470. URL: <https://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/7/3/2449>

⁶⁷ Li, Z., Chen, Y., Li, W., Deng, H., & Fang, G. (2015). Potential impacts of climate change on vegetation dynamics in Central Asia. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres*, 120(24), 12345–12356. URL: <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/2015JD023618>

⁶⁸ The World Bank Group and Asian Development Bank (2021). Climate Risk Profile: Kyrgyz Republic.

⁶⁹ The World Bank Group and Asian Development Bank (2021). Climate Risk Profile: Kyrgyz Republic.

with large yield gains under wet/warm conditions and sharp declines under dry/hot scenarios. Overall, average yields and agricultural revenues decrease under the dry/hot scenario, even when accounting for sector reforms.

49. Climate impacts on pastoral systems. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 2022 report⁷⁰ on the application of the participatory rangeland and grassland assessment (PRAGA) methodology in the Kyrgyz Republic documents how rising temperatures, shifting precipitation patterns, and more frequent extreme events are worsening pasture degradation, water scarcity, and livestock productivity. The assessment shows that 87% of pastures are now degraded in at least one season, with over 40% of summer pastures severely degraded compared to the early 2000s; winter pastures are the most affected, with 82% classified as severely degraded. These ecological pressures, intensified by climate variability, are reducing forage availability, increasing dependence on costly winter fodder, and forcing herders to adjust mobility patterns as traditional grazing routes become less reliable. The report further highlights that climate-driven degradation interacts with maladaptive and unsustainable grazing practices and rising livestock numbers, collectively undermining the resilience of pastoral systems and increasing the vulnerability of rural livelihoods in high-mountain regions. At the same time, veterinary services consulted during this concept preparation raised the increased occurrence of diseases and parasites as an important issue for the sector.

50. Climate impacts on vulnerable groups. Climate change will disproportionately affect vulnerable groups (especially rural communities, low-income households, women, youth and children), exacerbating poverty, inequality, social tensions, migration, and conflict. Impacts and coping capacity vary with socio-economic status, cultural norms, gender, and access to resources. Droughts pose the greatest risk for the poor in the Kyrgyz Republic, with the poorest quintile more than twice as likely to be exposed compared to other groups (Winsemius et al., 2018), as many depend on agriculture. Small businesses struggle to afford heating, cooling, or energy-efficiency upgrades, while poorer farmers cannot invest in water storage, irrigation, or adaptation technologies. Women and low-income rural residents are more vulnerable to flash floods and landslides due to their greater presence in exposed residential and subsistence areas and increases in such hazards may accelerate rural-urban migration.⁷¹

51. Climate change hence compounds existing structural vulnerabilities by undermining the essential resource systems on which rural households depend. Rising temperatures and erratic precipitation will make electricity for heating, cooking, and water pumping more costly and unreliable, while surface and shallow groundwater become increasingly stressed. Declining water quality and availability will affect child health, nutrition, and school attendance, particularly where WASH infrastructure is limited. More frequent droughts, crop failures, pasture degradation, and livestock stress will reduce household income and food security, while heat- and flood-related diseases (including diarrheal illness) will rise. Women, children, and poor rural households are expected to be disproportionately affected, with these impacts deepening inequality and driving further rural-urban migration.

Project's Theory of Change

52. The main climate-related development problem addressed by ALATOO is that climate change is accelerating the degradation of pasture and forest systems and undermining the resilience of agropastoral livelihoods in vulnerable rural communities of the Kyrgyz Republic. Rising temperatures, shifting precipitation patterns, droughts, floods, mudflows, landslides, earlier snowmelt and increasing water stress are reducing the productivity and protective functions of pasture and forest ecosystems, while socio-economic vulnerability, weak local institutional capacity, fragmented monitoring systems, limited access to climate-adaptive finance and technologies, and barriers faced by women, youth and poorer households constrain adaptive capacity.

ALATOO's overall objective is to enhance the climate resilience of forests, pasture ecosystems and agropastoral communities in the Kyrgyz Republic. The project will achieve this objective through three mutually reinforcing pathways.

First, Component 1 will strengthen climate-resilient pasture and forest systems by supporting climate-risk diagnostics, participatory planning and the integration of adaptation priorities into SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs. These plans will provide the basis for targeted investments in sustainable grazing, restoration of degraded hotspots, water retention, fire prevention, forest regeneration, protected-area management and forest-pasture interface management.

Second, Component 2 will strengthen the resilience of agropastoral livelihoods by linking value-chain mapping, technical assistance, GALS/BALI-informed empowerment and adaptive matching grants. This will enable vulnerable households, women, youth, producer groups and MSMEs to adopt climate-resilient production, storage, processing and marketing practices.

Third, Component 3 will mainstream climate-adaptive decision-making by harmonizing pasture and forest monitoring frameworks, supporting applied research and knowledge products, and operationalizing monitoring and decision-support

⁷⁰ Sharpe, N., Mwangi, P., Isakov, I. and Onyango, V. 2022. Application of the participatory rangeland and grassland assessment (PRAGA) methodology in the Kyrgyz Republic – Baseline analysis, remote sensing, field assessment and validation report. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb9402en>

⁷¹ International Monetary Fund (2023). Kyrgyz Republic, Selected Issues.

systems. The Theory of Change assumes that local institutions remain functional and willing to apply climate-informed planning and management; communities perceive clear livelihood benefits; value-chain and grant support reach poorer households, women and youth through deliberate targeting; and climate extremes remain broadly within design assumptions.

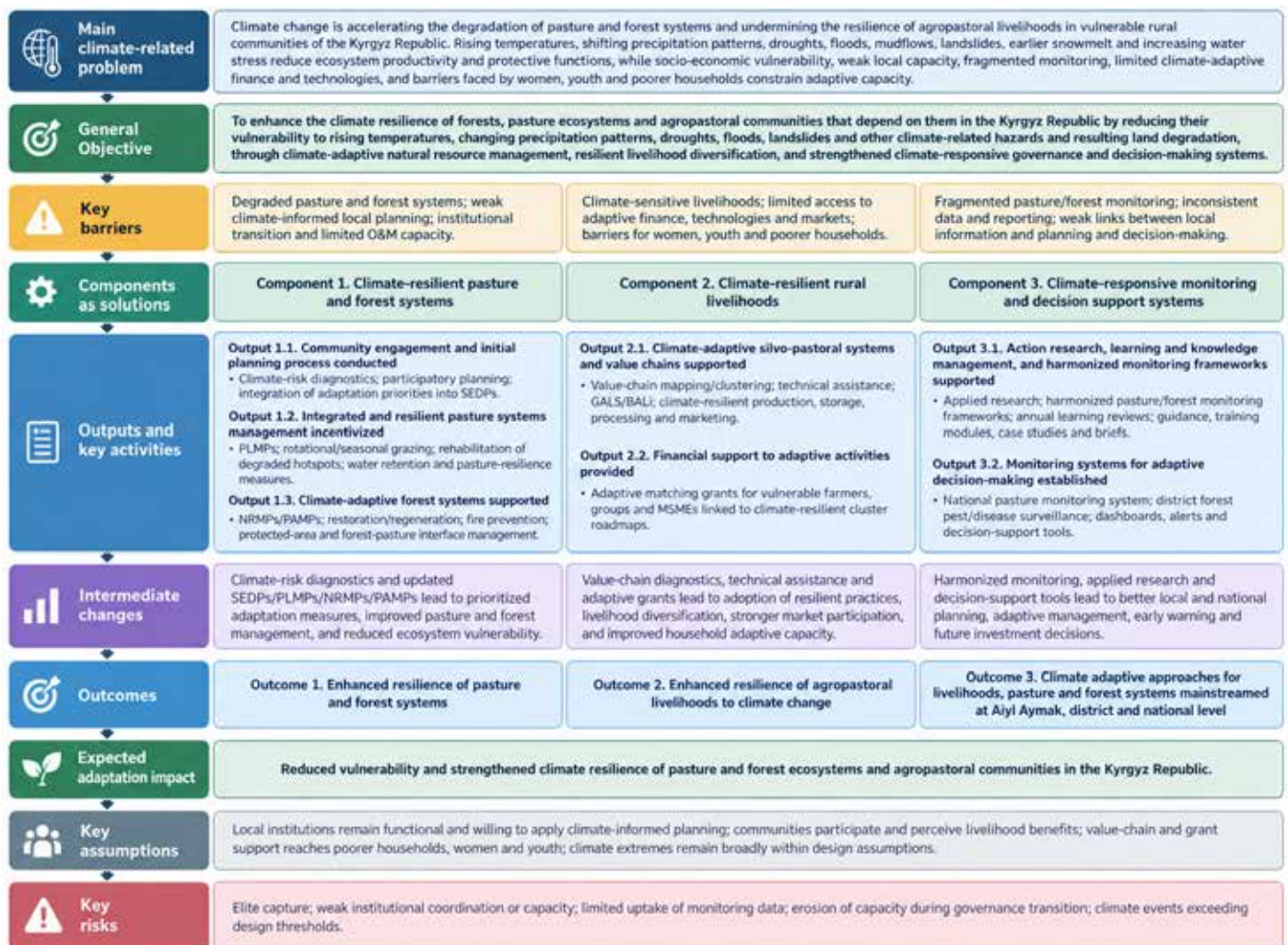


Figure 9 – Theory of Change Diagram

Project area and targeting strategy

53. Geographic targeting. The project will intervene nationwide, following a logic of complementarity with other ongoing initiatives (particularly the IFAD-implemented AF Regional Resilient Pastoral Communities Project – RRPCP-ADAPT, the IFAD Livestock and Market Development Programme III – LMDP III and the FAO-implemented Green Climate Fund project Carbon Sequestration through Climate Investment in Forests and Rangelands in Kyrgyz Republic – CS-FOR). More specifically, the project will prioritize vulnerable Aiyl Aymak (AA) which concentrate the presence of degraded pastures, and border leskhozoes and/or state nature parks. It is expected that around 70 Aiyl Aymaks will benefit from ALATOO interventions. Those Aiyl Aymaks will be identified specifically at the project proposal stage based on a detailed vulnerability assessment.

54. Target groups. Building on the experience of IFAD in the Kyrgyz Republic, the project will target: the poor and the most climate and socio-economic vulnerable groups whose livelihoods depends on the resilience of the pasture and forest systems, including herders, forest users, forest product collectors, fodder producers, as well as individual entrepreneurs, and micro, small and medium enterprises. The total number of targeted individuals is estimated at 200,000, of which 40% women and 30% youth.

55. Social targeting. The targeting strategy integrates equitable access to the project interventions and distribution of benefits. ALATOO will rely on a combination of targeting approaches to ensure inclusion of the most vulnerable groups and engagement with value chain actors to create market linkages and employment opportunities. These targeting

approaches include a) community-based participatory targeting, b) direct targeting through quotas for women and youth, c) and self-targeting measures through designing interventions that meet each target group's needs and address their challenges.

56. The Project will undertake a detailed Gender Assessment at project proposal preparation stage. To address the identified gender issues, the project will take proactive measures to integrate gender focused development strategies, ensuring it will not pose a risk to the principle of gender equality and women's empowerment. In particular, three strategic pathways for gender equality and women's empowerment may be followed: (i) promote economic empowerment to enable rural women and men to have equal opportunities to participate in and benefit from profitable economic activities; (ii) enable women and men to have an equal voice and influence in rural institutions and organizations; and, (iii) achieve a more equitable balance of workloads and the sharing of economic and social benefits between women and men.

B. Project Objectives

57. General Objective. To enhance the climate resilience of forests, pasture ecosystems and agropastoral communities that depend on them in the Kyrgyz Republic by reducing their vulnerability to rising temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, droughts, floods, landslides and other climate-related hazards and resulting land degradation, through climate-adaptive natural resource management, resilient livelihood diversification, and strengthened climate-responsive governance and decision-making systems.

58. Specific Objective 1. To strengthen the climate resilience of pasture and forest ecosystems through climate-informed local planning, sustainable management, restoration, improved water retention, fire prevention and forest-pasture interface management.

59. Specific Objective 2. To enhance the adaptive capacity and livelihood resilience of vulnerable agropastoral households, women, youth, producer groups and MSMEs through climate-resilient value chains, technical assistance, inclusive empowerment approaches and adaptive matching grants.

60. Specific Objective 3. To mainstream climate-adaptive decision-making at Aiyl Aymak, district and national levels through harmonized pasture and forest monitoring, applied research, learning and knowledge management, and operational decision-support systems.

61. These specific objectives correspond respectively to the three project outcomes:

- a) **Outcome 1.** Enhanced resilience of pasture and forest systems
- b) **Outcome 2.** Enhanced resilience of agropastoral livelihoods to climate change
- c) **Outcome 3.** Climate adaptive approaches for livelihoods, pasture and forest systems mainstreamed at Aiyl Aymak, district and national level

C. Project Components and Financing

Table 1 – Project components and financing

Table 1 – Project components and financing			
Project Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Concrete Outputs	Amount (USD)
Component 1 Climate-resilient pasture and forest systems	Outcome 1. Enhanced resilience of pasture and forest ecosystems	Output 1.1. Community engagement and initial planning process conducted	2,600,000
		Output 1.2. Integrated and resilient pasture ecosystems management incentivized	5,100,000
		Output 1.3. Climate-adaptive forest ecosystems supported	3,700,000
Component 2 Climate-resilient rural livelihoods	Outcome 2. Enhanced resilience of agropastoral livelihoods to climate change	Output 2.1. Climate-adaptive silvo-pastoral systems and value chains supported	475,000
		Output 2.2. Financial support to adaptive activities provided	3,725,000
Component 3 Climate-responsive monitoring and decision support systems	Outcome 3. Climate adaptive approaches for livelihoods, pasture and forest systems mainstreamed at Aiyl Aymak, district and national level	Output 3.1. Action-research and harmonised monitoring frameworks supported	700,000
		Output 3.2. Monitoring systems for adaptive decision-making established	382,028
Total project activity cost			16,682,028
Project Execution cost (9.5%)			1,751,152
Total Project Cost			18,433,180
Project Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (8.5%)			1,566,820
Amount of Financing Requested			20,000,000

D. Projected Calendar

Table 2 – Projected calendar

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project Implementation	April 2028
Mid-term Review (if planned)	September 2030
Project Closing	March 2033
Terminal Evaluation	December 2033

Part II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. Project components

Component 1. Climate-resilient pasture and forest systems

Outcome 1. Enhanced resilience of pasture and forest systems

62. Pasture and forest systems are among the most climate-vulnerable sectors in the Kyrgyz Republic due notably to their strong dependence on stable hydrological regimes. Shifting precipitation patterns are reducing water availability, while rising temperatures increase water stress, particularly affecting irrigated lowlands and high-altitude summer pastures. Earlier snowmelt and altered runoff timing further reduce water availability during the growing season, while extreme rainfall events accelerate soil erosion, pasture degradation, and the occurrence of landslides, floods and mudflows. Pasture systems are increasingly exposed to overgrazing and unsustainable grazing management, drought stress, and invasive species, undermining livestock productivity and rural incomes, in a context where the governance transition is affecting adaptive capacity. Forest systems, which play a critical role in slope stabilization, water regulation, and carbon sequestration, face heightened risks from drought, pests, diseases, and wildfires. Together, these pressures threaten the resilience of agropastoral livelihoods, reduce the buffering capacity of forests against natural hazards, and increase the vulnerability of rural and mountain communities, making integrated landscape management, sustainable pasture governance, and forest restoration central priorities to climate adaptation in rural the Kyrgyz Republic.

63. The present component will consolidate community-led participatory resource management approaches that have demonstrated their relevance for climate adaptation, while supporting local administrations take on their new responsibilities for pasture governance, in the context of the ongoing pasture management transition. The project will hence support the updating and integration of climate adaptation priorities in key local planning tools, including 70 Socio-Economic Development Plans, 70 Pasture and Livestock Management Plans, 36 Natural Resources Management Plans and 6 Protected Areas Management Plans in up to 70 Aiyl Aymaks. The project will also support the implementation of those plans, through targeted adaptation investments, including land restoration measures, anti-erosion and slope stabilization works, small-scale water mobilization and conservation for climate resilience, provision of infrastructure and assets facilitating access to summer pastures, forest restoration through naturally assisted regeneration and selection of adapted varieties, fire prevention measures, and financing of productive public investments (municipality owned irrigation schemes, storage facilities, small scale processing, etc.). Any public investment supported will be limited to assets with a clear and direct adaptation function for vulnerable communities and climate-sensitive livelihoods. It is expected that these measures will directly enhance the management of 400,000 hectares of pasture systems, 250,000 hectares of forest systems, and reach up to 200,000 individuals.

Output 1.1. Community engagement and initial planning process conducted

64. **Selection of 70 Aiyl Aymak.** Nationwide, and following a logic of complementarity with other ongoing initiatives, the project will prioritize around 70 vulnerable Aiyl Aymaks through a first-stage screening exercise as part of the broader vulnerability assessment. This screening will use a limited set of robust and spatially meaningful criteria, likely including climate hazard exposure, degree of pasture and forest degradation, presence of forest-pasture interface, dependence on climate-sensitive livelihoods, socio-economic vulnerability, remoteness, and complementarity with other interventions. The exercise will draw on available geospatial, administrative, and socio-economic data, including screening-level GIS and remote sensing analysis, to support prioritization and elimination. Final selection criteria, indicators, and weighting will be refined during the project proposal preparation.

65. **Aiyl Aymak level diagnostic.** Following the selection process, a detailed diagnostic will be conducted for each selected Aiyl Aymak. This diagnostic will compile and analyse key information required for local adaptation planning and investment design, including: updated demographic and socio-economic data; detailed gender assessment; characterization of production systems (including inventory of livestock numbers and fodder requirements, and of feed and fodder resources available), livelihoods, and mobility patterns; mapping of relevant stakeholders and local institutions; review of available studies, plans, and documentation; detailed GIS and remote sensing analysis of land

use, vegetation condition, water resources, infrastructure, and hazard exposure; and mapping of recent and ongoing interventions by other partners. This evidence base will inform community consultations, local planning, and the identification of priority adaptation investments.

66. Stakeholder engagement and sensitization. The project will establish a robust and inclusive stakeholder engagement process at the Aiyl Aymak level to ensure strong ownership, awareness, and early mobilization for climate-resilient pasture and forest interventions. Building on the selection of 70 AA during the project proposal preparation stage, the project will initiate engagement through introductory meetings with Aiyl Okmotu authorities, LSGB councils, Municipal Enterprises, Local Development Committees, herders, shepherds, women and youth groups, and community-based organizations involved in natural resource management where they exist (e.g. former pasture committees). Supported by service providers (NGOs), the engagement process will build on the detailed diagnostics conducted at project proposal stage (and described above), followed by facilitated social mobilisation and community visioning exercises (“village vision”) to introduce project objectives, expected benefits, and planned adaptation measures. This continuous engagement process will also include regular community workshops, notably for the validation of all planning processes established under the project (SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs, PAMPs, etc.).

67. Building capacities of AOs and Municipal enterprises on ecosystem-based adaptation and adaptation planning. To ensure that Local Self-Government Bodies and municipal enterprises can effectively integrate climate priorities into local development planning, the project will deliver a structured package of capacity-building targeting LSGB technical staff (including planners, engineers, environmental specialists, and social development officers), LSGB council members, and municipal enterprises, as well as leskhozoes and state nature parks administration. Trainings will cover: (i) understanding and assessing climate risks and vulnerabilities at AA level; (ii) integrating climate considerations into statutory planning instruments, including SEDPs and sectoral plans (pasture, water, forests); (iii) applying ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) solutions in local decision-making; (iv) mainstreaming the use of participatory and gender-responsive planning techniques to ensure meaningful community engagement; (v) using digital planning tools (providing feed and fodder balance calculation at local level for distributing the stock on the various types of pastures at the right time), GIS, and climate-risk screening methods; and (vi) promoting climate-sensitive budgeting, monitoring and reporting. This blended training program will be delivered by specialized service providers (NGOs, extension services, and accredited national experts).

68. Integration of climate risks into 70 Socio-Economic Development Plans (SEDPs). SEDPs serve as the core strategic planning tool for local self-governments (LSGs) in the Kyrgyz Republic, guiding how Aiyl Aymaks identify development priorities, allocate resources, and coordinate with national and regional authorities. They emerged as part of the government's wider effort to strengthen evidence-based, decentralized planning across the country. SEDPs are designed to integrate socio-economic analysis with spatial planning, climate considerations, and local citizen engagement, allowing Aiyl Aymaks to make development decisions that reflect local vulnerabilities (e.g., water stress, degraded pastures, flood risk). While SEDPs intend to play a practical budgeting function by helping identify priority infrastructure, social services, economic activities, and climate-resilient interventions, they often miss a proper integration of climate considerations due to the lack of capacities of local administrations.

69. Local stakeholders (including pastoralists, forest users, smallholders, and vulnerable groups) will jointly identify priority climate risks and contribute to the integration of these priorities into the AA's SEDPs. Engagement approaches will follow culturally grounded and widely accepted practices (e.g. village assemblies, elders' and initiative group dialogues, storytelling-based facilitation, and inclusive women and youth platforms) to ensure meaningful participation across the Aiyl Aymak.

70. Based on the local consultations and on the AA assessment conducted at PP stage, the project will support the update and full integration of climate priorities into 70 SEDPs. Each SEDP will include a concise climate-risk profile for the Aiyl Aymak and a set of climate-informed development priorities, such as improved access to reliable drinking-water through climate-resilient infrastructure, upgrade of rural roads and bridges prone to floods or mudflows, expansion of small-scale irrigation to cope with growing water stress, and support to diversified, climate-resilient livelihoods such as fodder production, greenhouses, or drought-tolerant crops. The latter will also be connected to the development of resilient value chains foreseen under Component 2.

71. Direct support to climate adaptive economic development priorities identified in revised SEDPs. The project will provide direct support through grants of up to USD 30,000 per LSGB to fund climate-adaptive economic development priorities integrated into the revised SEDPs. These grants will focus on LSGB-owned municipal productive investments, both within and beyond pastureland, in infrastructure related to livestock and non-livestock activities that increase productivity, improve targeted households' livelihoods and contribute to reducing grazing pressure on pastures and other natural resources. Prioritized investments should demonstrate their relevance both in terms of climate adaptive potential and in resolving bottlenecks for climate resilient value-chains supported under Component 2.

Output 1.2. Integrated and resilient pasture systems management incentivized

72. As indicated previously, pasture governance in the Kyrgyz Republic is undergoing a profound transition that directly affects how Pasture and Livestock Management Plans are developed and implemented. In the new governance arrangement, municipal authorities are mandated to prepare annual and multi year PLMPs aligned with national priorities under the Pasture Development Programme 2024-2029. These plans must integrate grazing schedules, livestock inventories, degradation assessments, rehabilitation priorities, and fee-based service delivery, informed by modern monitoring systems and local knowledge. Yet many municipalities are still building the technical, financial, and institutional capacity required to develop evidence-based plans and to systematically engage pasture users in the planning process. The rapid shift from community-based organizations to municipal entities has also created uncertainty about roles, responsibilities, and mechanisms for incorporating traditional practices into official planning cycles.

73. This transition period is therefore particularly sensitive: without targeted support, the shift to a new governance system could inadvertently weaken adaptive capacity and erode the valuable knowledge generated under the previous model. Targeted investments are therefore essential to help the newly responsible institutions design high quality, climate responsive PLMPs that preserve effective grassroots practices, integrate climate information, and promote sustainable pasture use.

74. Support to LSGBs capacities on resilient pastoral management. Beyond support provided under output 1.1, the project will strengthen the capacities of LSGBs and their municipal enterprises (MEs) to develop and manage high-quality PLMPs by combining technical training, practical tools, and structured participatory processes. Support will equip MEs to prepare both: (i) annual operational plans detailing grazing schedules, rotational use, land restoration priorities, livestock movements, and priority maintenance works, etc.; and (ii) multi-year strategic plans that set longer-term rehabilitation, climate-resilience, and infrastructure investment priorities. Capacity-building will include training on climate-informed planning, use of satellite and field-based monitoring data, integration of local and traditional knowledge, and application of new regulatory requirements. MEs will also be supported on adapted economic and financial planning to ensure adequate fee setting and cost recovery mechanisms (including to ensure pasture fees are reinvested specifically in pasture management).

75. Integration of climate considerations into 70 PLMPs. Further to the training provided, ALATOO will accompany LSGBs (MEs) in the preparation and updating of PLMPs. This will include helping local actors compile and interpret pasture condition data, integrate satellite-based climate and vegetation monitoring (using for example The Landmetric tool from the IFAD CAPEO with 10-30m resolution - <https://app.landmetric.org/>), and systematically incorporate traditional herder knowledge on seasonal mobility and climate-sensitive grazing patterns. Particular attention will be paid to the risks of grazing on steep slopes and encroachment into forested areas, which can accelerate soil erosion, reduce grass cover, and negatively affect water balance. To address this, the project will integrate a land use planning process into PLMPs, involving slope, soil type, and vegetation mapping to identify areas where grazing should be restricted or prohibited. The project will ensure that PLMPs embed climate adaptation measures such as rotational grazing, early-season drought adjustments, rehabilitation of degraded hotspots, and measures to strengthen winter-pasture resilience. Each plan will also include a multi-year O&M budget, with a defined share of pasture fee revenues earmarked for maintenance.

76. Implementation of priority measures for pasture resilience. For each of the targeted AA, the project will finance the implementation of priority climate adaptation measures outlined in the updated PLMPs, for grant amounts of up to USD 70,000 per AA, enabling the sustainable management of about 400,000 hectares of pastureland across 70 AAs. These measures may include:

- Climate-responsive, improved grazing planning and management, including through rotational and sequential grazing, introducing or refining rotational, sequential and seasonal grazing cycles based on climate indicators (e.g., drought onset, delayed snowmelt), reducing pressure on vulnerable winter and village-level pastures and improving vegetation recovery.
- Restoration of degraded hotspots, by implementing targeted rehabilitation measures (pasture grass seed development and reseedling, shrub and inedible vegetation control, erosion mitigation, controlled land resting, application of organic fertilizers and fencing of pasture plots) in climate sensitive areas where degradation is accelerating due to increased heat and precipitation variability.
- Strengthening livestock mobility and use of summer and remote pastures through support to relevant infrastructure as an adaptation mechanism: AOs will make remote pastures more attractive with a view to restore traditional mobility routes, enabling herders to adapt grazing patterns to shifting climate conditions and rebalance grazing pressure. This may include repairing access roads, footbridges, watering points and seasonal campsites, setting clear livestock-shift targets, and offering fee discounts for herders and shepherds (especially poor households) who use distant areas.

- Enhancing water security through the rehabilitation of natural springs, installation of climate resilient watering points, and water distribution systems to support adaptive grazing and reduce livestock stress during hotter, drier seasons.
- Supporting the enhanced management of pasture-forest interface, as those areas are often critical point for conflicts, whose management leadership is not always clarified.

77. Release of programme funds will be conditioned to the approval of an O&M plan and submission of quarterly O&M reports. For every asset created, such as tracks, bridges, watering points or shelters, ownership and custodianship will be assigned to the Aiyl Okmotu through signed MoUs, and recorded in a GIS-based asset register with annual maintenance schedules. Infrastructure designs will also be adapted to local terrain and climate risks, using agreed standards for drainage, erosion control and winter access, while ensuring simple upkeep through spares, toolkits and routine maintenance contracts.

78. Conflict resolution mechanisms. The project will strengthen local conflict-resolution mechanisms by helping LSGBs and their municipal enterprises establish clear, practical procedures for preventing and addressing grazing-related disputes; an issue increasingly exacerbated by climate stress and shifting pasture governance. Support will include training local authorities and community representatives in facilitation and mediation techniques, developing simple agreement-making tools for seasonal access and rotational schedules, and creating rapid-response system for resolving conflicts during peak grazing periods. The project will also help formalize these mechanisms within PLMPs, ensuring that rules, responsibilities, sanctions, and appeal pathways are clearly communicated and jointly endorsed by pasture users.

79. Support to local level pasture monitoring systems. Local pasture monitoring in the Kyrgyz Republic has long relied on community observations, simple field checks and participatory mapping methods such as FAO's Participatory Rangeland and Grassland Assessment (PRAGA)⁷². Recent reforms shifting responsibilities to municipalities create both challenges and opportunities to strengthen these systems through better tools, climate data, and structured collaboration with herders.

80. The project will support the development of sound local-level pasture monitoring systems by combining participatory methods with modern data tools. Building on approaches like PRAGA, which integrates local indicators, field transects, and validation workshops with remote sensing data, the project will support LSGBs and pasture users' adoption of a standardized set of ecological indicators, seasonal photo-points, and simple digital data-capture tools. Satellite-based pasture condition maps will be incorporated as a screening and early-warning layer for identifying degradation hotspots and planning adaptive actions, and consolidated at national level through support provided under Component 3. piloted systems such as the Electronic Pasture Committee (EPC), which provided inventories, rangeland cards and livestock records, will be simplified and adapted for municipal use to maintain continuity of local monitoring capacities.

Output 1.3. Climate-adaptive forest systems supported

81. Forest systems in the Kyrgyz Republic are vital buffers against climate risks at the local landscape level. Mountain forests regulate water flows, stabilize slopes, reduce erosion, and moderate microclimates: functions that become increasingly important as temperatures rise and extreme events intensify. By slowing runoff, enhancing groundwater recharge, and maintaining vegetative cover in fragile highland environments, forests help protect downstream communities, pastureland, farmland, and infrastructure from floods, landslides, and drought-driven degradation.

82. Leskhozoes are the primary local operational units managing the State Forest Fund lands, which is done through centrally defined targets (e.g. afforestation, protection, and use rules), with implementation plans prepared locally but shaped by higher level directives, limiting adaptive decision making. Although planning draws on inventories, cadastre, and monitoring required under the Forest Code, climate risks are not systematically assessed. Mainstreaming adaptation would require integrating climate risk analysis into annual and long term leskhoz plans, guiding silviculture, grazing limits, and fire preparedness accordingly.

83. Pasture management inside forest areas is weakened by a split governance system: leskhozoes issue grazing permits but staff and resources are insufficient to monitor livestock, repair infrastructure, or implement improvements such as reseedling, erosion control, or rotational grazing. Meanwhile, recent administrative reforms placed pasture governance (excluding forest pastures, which remain within the Forest Fund) under local administrations reporting to the Ministry of Agriculture (separated from the forest hierarchy). This isolation leaves no unified policy for managing the pasture-forest interface, resulting in weak coordination, and continued degradation. Mainstreaming climate adaptation into this system requires integrated forest-pasture planning, shared climate risk assessments, and harmonized rules on stocking rates and seasonal grazing.

⁷² FAO and IUCN. 2022. PRAGA methodology. First edition. Rome, FAO and Gland, IUCN. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0841en>

84. State nature parks follow the same forest inventory and planning requirements as leskhozoes but with a mandate centered on conservation, biodiversity protection, and regulated recreation. Unlike leskhozoes, these areas are managed for ecological value, with “*no economic profits expected*”, emphasizing protection over use. Their plans rely on national policy frameworks and protected area regulations, but climate adaptation is not yet systematically integrated. Embedding climate-sensitive zoning, vulnerability assessments, and ecosystem-based adaptation into park planning is critical to safeguard ecological functions under increasing climate stress.

85. Support to Leskhozoe and State Nature Parks administration capacities on resilient forest management. ALATOO will strengthen the capacities of leskhozoes and State Nature Park administrations by equipping them to develop, update, and manage Natural Resources Management Plans and Protected Areas Management Plans that explicitly integrate climate risks. The project will provide these institutions with adapted training, guidance and tools to apply climate informed assessments, adjust management measures for drought, fire, pests, and erosion, and adopt ecosystem-based adaptation practices.

86. Integration of climate considerations into 36 Leskhozoe Natural Resource Management Plans and 6 Protected Areas Management Plans. The project will support 36 leskhozoes prepare or update Natural Resources Management Plans that integrate climate risks directly into forest planning. This includes building practical skills to use inventory and monitoring data, incorporating climate-risk assessments, and prioritizing measures such as regeneration, grazing management, fire prevention, and erosion control. The project will ensure that updated plans move beyond traditional production or protection targets and instead apply climate-responsive, ecosystem-based management across forest ecosystems. Similarly, the project will assist the administration of the 6 targeted State Nature Park in preparing or updating Protected Areas Management Plans that fully integrate climate adaptation. It will build staff skills to use ecological and climate-risk data, apply ecosystem-based adaptation measures, and adjust zoning, restoration, and visitor-use rules to projected climate stresses.

87. Implementation of priority measures for forest resilience. The project will finance the implementation of priority climate adaptation measures outlined: (i) in the updated Natural Resource Management Plans for grant amounts of up to USD 65,000 for each of the 36 leskhozoes targeted; and (ii) in the updated Protected Areas Management Plans for grant amounts of up to USD 200,000 for each of the 6 protected areas targeted. Together, the measures implemented are expected to support the sustainable management of 250,000 ha of forest ecosystems. Such measures may include:

- Fire prevention measures through: (i) adaptive thinning and stand structure management, including silvicultural thinning to improve stand structure (reducing stand density to lower fire risk, improving water availability, and increasing resilience to pests and extreme weather); (ii) creation of fire breaks, removal of dry biomass, and improvement of fire-watch routines; (iii) establishment of local early-warning protocols and basic response capability (from small equipment such as 30L water spraying backpacks for early intervention on forest fires, to larger machinery).
- Climate resilient regeneration and enrichment planting: e.g. assisted natural regeneration in areas showing climate related dieback; identification and introduction of drought tolerant and site appropriate native species; introduction of climate resilient practices in nursery management; etc.
- Water retention and micro-climate measures: protecting and restoring spring zones, small wetlands, and riparian forests; installing check dams or small retention structures to buffer drought impacts.
- Soil and slope stabilization measures, applying bioengineering techniques (e.g. contour planting, vegetative barriers, shrub belts) to reduce erosion and landslide risks intensified by climate change.
- Forest-pasture interface management (in leskhozoes specifically): implementing rotational grazing zones, erosion control plantings, and protective fencing in vulnerable forest edges where overgrazing accelerates climate stress, in close synergy with LSGBs and MEs and their PLMPs.
- Forest road and access improvement for climate resilience (in leskhozoes specifically): upgrading drainage, culverts, and erosion prone segments of existing forest roads to prevent washouts and maintain access for protection and firefighting operations.
- Introduction of monitoring systems for ecosystem condition and climate impacts (pests, diseases), e.g. setting up simple biodiversity and forest-health monitoring plots (climate related pests, phenology, dieback) to guide adaptive management.
- Climate sensitive wildlife habitat protection (in state nature parks specifically): identifying climate refuges for key species and enhancing connectivity between habitats through forest corridor restoration.
- Climate informed zoning and visitor management (in state nature parks specifically): adjusting zonation (strict protection, ecological stabilization, tourism and recreational activities, and limited economic activities.) based

on climate risk hotspots (fire prone zones, erosion sensitive slopes) to reduce pressure on vulnerable habitats, and adapting visitor access infrastructure to climate risks (e.g. improving trails, drainage, and small bridges to withstand intense rainfall and erosion).

Component 2. Climate-resilient rural livelihoods

Outcome 2. Enhanced resilience of agropastoral livelihoods to climate change

88. The multiple impacts of climate change on production systems go beyond drought and heat cycles, to include hail, late spring frost, and an increase in pests and diseases. A resilient agricultural strategy in mountainous areas combines risk management through diversification of crops (species as well as varieties) with the development of high nutritional value products (dairy, meat, fruits, Non-Timber Forest Products-NTFP), an optimized use of productive surfaces (summer pastures, agroforestry) and resources (water, manure) as well as physical and social infrastructures that optimize their market value (collection, storage, processing, certification or branding, access to high-end consumers, etc.). The present component aims at facilitating value-chain clustering for resilient transformation of the farming systems and local businesses through stakeholders training and financial support. Adaptive matching grants will be designed to directly reach the most vulnerable, thus responding to priorities in terms of diversification and resilient value-chain development. It is expected that up to 2,000 local stakeholders (at least 40% women, 30% youth) will benefit from the support delivered under this outcome. It is also expected that training on climate resilient practices at household/farm level could contribute to the resilient management of up to 1,400 hectares of farmland (on top of surface of pasture and forest benefitting from Component 1 activities). The project will support value-chains which have been screened for their relevance with regards to climate adaptation in the project area.

Output 2.1. Climate-adaptive silvo-pastoral systems and value chains supported

89. Value chain mapping. Building on the AA level diagnostics and consultative processes conducted under Output 1.1 for the preparation of SEDPs, the project will undertake comprehensive value chain mappings for priority climate-resilient products (including dairy, berries, and key non-timber forest products such as nuts, dried fruits, honey, medicinal plants, and herbs). As the first step in the VC development process, VC mapping relies on the identification of stakeholders connected to the VC, confirmation of VC potential, verification that the project target groups will benefit from its development, as well as confirming buyers' demand, climate risks analysis, analysis of players, and attractiveness of opportunities to smallholders (especially women and youth). The project will ensure that key stakeholders identified through the mapping will be engaged on a continuous basis during implementation, as the facilitation process is key to building the social capital needed to increase resilience. The mapping process will also be the occasion to discuss aspects related to the quality of products considered, with a view to support a shift towards quality (over quantity). It is expected that the project will identify and support 25 value chain clusters across 70 AAs.

90. Value chain structuring. For each of the targeted value chains and associated clusters, the project will facilitate clustering by bringing together producers, local enterprises, buyers, and service providers to collaboratively identify bottlenecks and design practical action plans for improving production, aggregation, and market linkages within each selected climate-resilient value chain. For every cluster, a simple *Public-Private-Producer Partnerships* (4Ps) roadmap will outline engagement with lead MSMEs, quality requirements, delivery arrangements, and mechanisms to address barriers related to standards, certification, logistics, and finance.

91. Targeted training in quality enhancement, business skills, and financial literacy will strengthen participants' ability to seize new market opportunities (particularly for women and youth). The project will also provide stakeholders with dedicated training to enhance the resilience of productions (agroforestry, animal feed production, etc. – see below). Throughout implementation, clusters will be continuously animated through facilitated dialogue, buyer meetings, and market exposure, thereby building the social capital and trust necessary to diversify incomes, enhance product quality, and increase climate resilience at community level.

92. Mainstreaming GALS and BALI into value chain clusters. Building on the proven effectiveness of community-led and gender-transformative methodologies under previous IFAD investments and the ongoing RRPCP-ADAPT, the project will integrate the Gender Action Learning System (GALS)⁷³ and the Business and Leadership Innovation (BALI)⁷⁴ methodologies. The project design will draw on the Access to Market Project (ATMP) and RRPCP-ADAPT experience and lessons learned to ensure effective and scalable implementation.

93. GALS will strengthen equitable household decision-making, improve shared responsibilities, and address restrictive social norms, thereby enhancing inclusive participation in value-chain clusters. BALI will promote entrepreneurship, business innovation, and income diversification among climate-vulnerable rural women and men. It will support target groups to identify viable business opportunities, develop simple business and financial plans, improve

⁷³ See <https://www.ifad.org/en/web/knowledge/-/how-to-do-note-integrating-the-gender-action-learning-system-in-ifad-operations>

⁷⁴ The BALI methodology adapts established PALS-based livelihoods and financial strengthening tools for business innovation by women's groups and associations. <https://gamechangenetwork.org/toolkit/bali-ifad-the-Kyrgyz-Republic/>.

marketing strategies, and build confidence and motivation. Together, these approaches will enhance financial literacy, foster household and community dialogue, and strengthen the economic resilience of rural households. They will contribute to the project's promotion of youth employment opportunities and gender empowerment.

94. Support to climate resilient productions. To enhance farmers' climate resilience, the project will provide tailored technical assistance across key production systems through short, practical training modules, on-farm coaching, seasonal clinics, and mobile advisory visits:

- For household gardens (greenhouses) berries and vegetable production, topics will cover water-efficient irrigation and mulching, soil-health management, varietal selection for heat and frost tolerance, micro-climate control inside greenhouses, and integrated pest and disease management.
- For agroforestry (development of low-productivity pastures, areas of the State Forest Fund, and areas with restricted economic activity within protected areas), training will focus on tree-crop and tree-pasture combinations, erosion-control planting, sustainable harvesting of NTFPs, and fire-risk reduction practices.
- Support for fodder and animal-feed production will include the introduction of drought-tolerant fodder varieties, improved silage, haymaking and drying techniques, small-scale fodder conservation and storage, rotational fodder plots, and nutrient-efficient fertilization approaches.
- For livestock production, the project will offer modules on climate-optimized feeding strategies (balanced rations using local feeds, winter-feed management), improved animal husbandry and grazing planning, animal-health monitoring, biosecurity and hygiene (including on-farm processing and food safety), and preventive veterinary care aligned with emerging climate-related disease risks.

Output 2.2. Financial support to adaptive activities provided

95. Matching grants for private investments promotion will be offered on a competitive basis to smallholders and MSMEs. They will be used exclusively to stimulate climate-adaptive investments that address bottlenecks identified through the climate-resilient cluster roadmaps. Eligible investments will be limited to activities that directly strengthen resilience to climate risks, such as drought-resilient fodder production, climate-resilient nurseries, reduction of climate-related post-harvest losses, resilient storage and cooling, labour-saving technologies that address climate-related workload peaks, innovative youth-led adaptation solutions, and market linkages that improve the viability of climate-resilient production systems.

96. Eligibility of MSMEs (under Window 3 – see below) will be conditioned to engagement to support small producers specifically women and youth in areas such as aggregation, transport, off takers, marketing, and others by providing employment opportunities, on the job trainings, internship, and market linkages opportunities. Any required technical advice or training to farmers will be included in the investment plans, and provided under output 2.1, including by specialised service providers. The rationale for the use of grants is to stimulate resilient investment to address identified bottlenecks, introduce innovations and/or achieve minimum critical mass in local clusters. Once the investments are successful and the clusters become more dynamic, other smallholders will be able to copy them at lower risk, and without the same level of grant subsidies. Three windows of financing are foreseen, with a view to target key stakeholders engaged in the value-chain, as presented in Table 3 below.

97. The grant scheme will be administered through IFAD and Agricultural Projects Implementation Unit (APIU) systems and will follow standardized eligibility, appraisal, approval and monitoring procedures to be detailed in the Project Implementation Manual and dedicated grant manual. These procedures will include clear eligibility and exclusion criteria, beneficiary contribution rules, safeguards screening, technical and financial appraisal, field verification, technical assistance to applicants and beneficiaries, monitoring of grant use and results, and access to the project grievance mechanism. Grant rollout will be phased to ensure quality control, fiduciary oversight and adequate technical support to beneficiaries.

Table 3 – Financing windows for adaptive activities

Window 1: Investment in primary production for a total investment cost of USD 3,000 on average (maximum USD 8,000) Maximum grant: USD 3,000 (net value). Beneficiaries' contribution: from 10-15% of total investment value Total: 700 matching grants Targeting: Grants to be allocated to vulnerable farmers (belonging to household farms and peasant farms). 50% grants to be allocated to women and 40% to youth. Focus: Production in the targeted value chains
Window 2: Investments for groups engaged in production, post-harvest handling, storage, processing, marketing, etc. up to USD 11,500 Maximum grant: USD 10,000 (net value) Beneficiaries' contribution: 15% of total investment value Total: 125 matching grants

Targeting: Economically and commercially viable groups. Grants will be allocated to women 40% and up to 30% beginners (particularly enthusiastic young entrepreneurs, included those interested in innovative adaptation solutions) based on the viability of a submitted business plan. Focus: Production, post-harvest handling, storage, processing, marketing etc.
Window 3: Investments for MSMEs engaged in post-harvest handling, storage, processing, marketing, etc. up to USD 30,000 Maximum grant: USD 15,000 (net value). Beneficiaries contribution: 50% of total investment value Total: 25 matching grants Targeting: Off-takers engaged in targeted clusters 40% grants to be allocated to women and 30% to youth. Focus: Post-harvest handling, storage, processing, marketing, etc. MSMEs that buy from or supply inputs and services to smallholders in the target clusters

Component 3. Climate-responsive monitoring and decision support systems

Outcome 3. Climate adaptive approaches for livelihoods, pasture and forest ecosystems mainstreamed at Aiyi Aymak, district and national level

98. The Kyrgyz Republic has strong national-level satellite tools and a rich legacy of community-based monitoring tools for pasture systems, but the 2023-2025 governance transition has weakened local monitoring capacity, creating a gap between available data and decision-making. Forest systems monitoring in the country is built on local field level observations (leskhozoes, parks, communities) feeding into subnational coordination, and ultimately into national systems (notably the National Forest Inventory, SFM indicators, forest cadastre, and remote sensing-based mapping). Together, these form a multi layered monitoring architecture that supports forest protection, management planning, and national climate and policy reporting.

99. However, and both for pastures and forests, the components of monitoring systems currently operate in parallel rather than as integrated systems, with inconsistencies in data quality, methods, and reporting flows. Gaps remain in how local monitoring links to national decision-making, how climate risks are captured, and how pasture and forest data connect across the landscape. Under Component 3, the project will seek to address these gaps by supporting the harmonisation of methodologies, consolidation of datasets, and strengthening of institutional and technical links needed to turn these multi-layered systems into coherent, climate-responsive national monitoring systems.

Output 3.1. Action research, learning and knowledge management, and harmonized monitoring frameworks supported

100. Under Output 3.1, ALATOO will finance a dedicated learning and knowledge management package, including annual learning reviews, knowledge stocktakes, practical field guidance, training modules, case studies, policy and technical briefs, project stories, dissemination events and cross-country exchanges. These activities will document and validate lessons from pasture, forest, protected-area, livelihood and grant activities, feed them back into implementation, and support replication through MWRAPI, APIU, LSGBs, leskhozoes, protected-area administrations, IFAD regional learning channels and Adaptation Fund dissemination opportunities.

101. In partnership with academia/research institutions, ALATOO will implement a set of socially inclusive and gender-responsive action research activities aimed at producing concrete management products for LSGBs, leskhozoes, State Nature Parks and community users (in addition to documented research material). Each pilot will respond to a real planning or operational decision already embedded in PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs. The final products may be guidelines, step by step operational protocols, short training modules, etc., that can directly be reused by local and national stakeholders. Grant selection will prioritize themes already identified under Components 1 and 2 (e.g., degraded hotspots, fire prone forest edges, mobility corridors, NTFP pressure), and will build on existing national systems (forest inventories, pasture monitoring, hydromet hazard feeds). For pastures, this may include developing threshold based grazing rules (e.g. locally calibrated “trigger points” such as NDVI decline or soil moisture deficit that signal when to further encourage use of high summer pastures, rest degraded areas, or adjust livestock mobility). For forest-pasture interface zones (where overgrazing, fire risk and erosion often converge) the project could test micro-zoning, low-cost physical barriers, and community operated fuel break layouts that can be applied directly by municipal enterprises and leskhozoes under existing Forest Code mandates. Finally, small “resilience economics” notes could document the costs and benefits of rotational systems, restoration, and fire prevention, helping LSGBs meet the budgeting and reporting expectations of the Pasture Development Programme 2024-2029. Once validated with users, the project may package these products into standardized annexes for LSGB and leskhozoes plans, and feed aggregated lessons into national systems (e.g. adaptation monitoring under the NDC).

102. Stock take and harmonization of data and monitoring systems on the state of pasture systems. The project will run a national stock take of pasture data and monitoring practices (covering all types of pastures, including summer and most remote) and harmonise them into one coherent framework. As part of this, the project will support: (i) inventorying all existing datasets and tools (i.e. pasture inventories, Soviet-time maps, PLMP monitoring annexes, EPC/legacy admin records, GIS layers and satellite products, and climate-risk datasets, etc.) across targeted Aiyl Aymaks, districts, and national agencies; (ii) comparing indicator lists and survey methods (PRAGA-style field metrics, photopoints, transects, administrative headcounts and tickets, etc.) and validating national “core indicators” list with standard definitions, forms, and collection periodicity; (iii) designing a common data model and exchange protocols so AA/district submissions, satellite layers, and climate feeds can be compiled and quality-checked centrally; and (iv) issuing Standard Operating Procedures and templates that LSGBs can embed in PLMP cycles and that the Ministry of Agriculture can use for regular national reporting. For this exercise, the project will rely on national service providers, and closely involve relevant national institutions, e.g. the Gyprozem (State land resources agency), that will provide authoritative boundaries/cadastral and land-use layers for the common geospatial base, while verifying/validating products consolidated by the project. The Livestock & Pasture Research Institute (LPRI) and universities may also be involved to support methodologies and data analysis. The Hydromet agency can be engaged for integration of climate series and alerts for integration.

103. Stock take and harmonization of data and monitoring systems on the state of forest systems. The project will carry out a nationwide review of all existing forest related monitoring systems, bringing together the different types of information currently held by the State Forest Service, the national environmental authorities, leskhozoes, State Nature Parks, and local governments. This review will compile what already exists (including forest inventories, management plans, remote sensing maps, and datasets produced through the National Forest Inventory and recent projects) and identify where methods, indicators, and data formats overlap or conflict. This process will be conducted with the participation of key actors including forestry administrations, protected area staff, local authorities, universities, and technical partners who were involved in developing digital tools and national indicator frameworks.

104. Building on this review, the project will harmonise the different monitoring approaches by developing a single set of practical standards for data collection, mapping, and reporting that can be used across leskhozoes, parks, and local administrations. These standards will ensure that field observations, satellite-based maps, and local planning data can be combined easily and feed into a shared system. The project will also establish common GIS layers (including updated forest maps and land use information) and produce a clear data sharing arrangement between national institutions and local managers. This work will be guided and validated by a multi stakeholder working group involving the State Forest Service, environmental authorities, leskhozoes, State Nature Parks, local governments, universities, etc.

Output 3.2. Monitoring systems for adaptive decision-making established

105. National pasture monitoring system. Building on the stock take conducted under output 3.1, the project will set up a national pasture monitoring system, anchored in the Ministry of Agriculture’s department that oversees pasture policy and PLMPs, and technically hosted by the Ministry’s information and digitalization unit. The monitoring system will use the harmonized indicators and templates from Output 3.1 to (i) collect seasonal LSGB submissions and basic administrative records through simple web/mobile forms; (ii) validate them with a light, district-level quality check; and (iii) compile and visualize results on dashboards showing pasture condition, grazing pressure, priority hotspots, and progress on measures agreed in PLMPs. The system shall also include a balance mechanism using estimates of livestock requirements in dry matter, energy and protein to compare to pasture availability and better plan excess/shortages (e.g. using simple tools such as FAO’s Feed Balance Sheet or the Landmetric online tool). Each quarter, the Ministry team will generate a short early-warning brief, and once a year publish a national pasture condition summary that municipalities must reference when updating PLMPs. The system’s operating rules (i.e. who submits what, when, and how data feeds into planning) will be formalized by Ministerial instruction, ensuring the monitoring system becomes part of the regular PLMP cycle and continues to be used beyond the project.

106. Surveillance and alert systems for new forest pests and diseases piloted at district level. The project will pilot practical surveillance and alert systems for emerging forest pests and diseases at district level. These pilots will bring together district forestry units, leskhozoes, State Nature Parks, local authorities, and research partners to establish simple but reliable monitoring routines (such as seasonal field checks, photo-point observations, trap placement, and rapid reporting protocols) linked to satellite-based vegetation-stress signals and existing forest-health data from national inventories. The project will support participating districts to develop clear procedures for early detection, verification, and communication of pest outbreaks, ensuring that warning signals are rapidly shared with national forestry authorities and neighbouring management units. As part of the pilot, the project will help define response guidelines and integrate these surveillance findings into routine planning and risk-management processes, creating a practical model that can be scaled up through the national forest monitoring system.

107. Implementation phasing and quality assurance. Implementation will be sequenced to ensure that the proposed coverage remains manageable and quality-assured. During start-up, the project will confirm target Aiyl Aymaks,

leskhozoes and protected areas; finalize manuals, safeguards screening procedures, grant criteria and workplans; and launch diagnostics and first-batch activities. Scaled implementation will then expand planning, ecosystem measures, value-chain support and grants in batches, based on institutional readiness, safeguards clearance, technical design quality and APIU oversight. The final year will focus on O&M arrangements, monitoring systems, knowledge products, institutionalization and handover. Final annual sequencing and targets will be confirmed during full proposal preparation.

108. Use of partially unspecified subprojects. Some site-specific investments under Components 1 and 2 are treated as partially unspecified subprojects at concept note stage because final Aiyl Aymaks, sites, beneficiaries and technical designs will be confirmed during full proposal preparation and implementation through vulnerability assessment, participatory planning and environmental and social screening. The activity types, thematic scope, target institutions, exclusion criteria and preliminary risk profile are already defined; however, final site selection before completion of the required diagnostics would weaken climate targeting and local ownership. This approach is justified because it allows the project to select investments based on updated climate vulnerability, institutional readiness, safeguards screening, complementarity with other projects and locally validated priorities. During full proposal preparation, the project will seek to identify and define all site-specific investments, locations, beneficiaries and technical designs to the maximum extent feasible, with the objective of avoiding USPs in the final design.

B. Project benefits

109. Beneficiaries. At concept note stage, the project is expected to reach approximately 200,000 people in targeted climate-vulnerable Aiyl Aymaks, comprising an indicative 120,000 direct beneficiaries and 80,000 indirect beneficiaries. Direct beneficiaries include members of households, user groups, producer groups, MSMEs and local institutions receiving project-supported services, investments, training, grant support or direct benefits from improved pasture, forest and livelihood management. Indirect beneficiaries include other residents and resource users in targeted Aiyl Aymaks who benefit from improved local planning, ecosystem management, market linkages, monitoring and reduced pressure on climate-vulnerable natural resources. Double counting will be avoided through beneficiary registries, sex- and age-disaggregated monitoring, household-level records where feasible, and counting each beneficiary once under the highest-intensity benefit category. The methodology and final direct/indirect figures will be confirmed during full proposal preparation.

110. Economic benefits. Economic benefits will be generated through more resilient agropastoral livelihoods, diversified income sources and improved climate-resilient value chains. At concept stage, proxy indicators include 25 value-chain clusters, 850 adaptive grant packages, support to producer groups/MSMEs and reduced dependence on degraded pasture resources. Detailed estimates of income, productivity, avoided losses and enterprise-level returns will be developed during full proposal preparation through the economic and financial analysis.

111. Social benefits. Social benefits will include improved adaptive capacity and participation of vulnerable rural households, women and youth in climate-informed planning, grant-supported livelihood activities and local natural resource management. At concept stage, proxy indicators include approximately 200,000 beneficiaries, with at least 40 percent women and 30 percent youth. Equitable distribution of benefits, including compliance with women and youth targets, will be ensured through participatory targeting, mandatory participation thresholds, transparent eligibility and scoring criteria, sex- and age-disaggregated beneficiary records, APIU verification, spot checks, GRM channels and GALS/BALI facilitation. Specific benefits for women and youth will include participation in climate-informed decision-making, technical training, eligibility for adaptive grants, livelihood diversification, market linkages and increased voice in household and community resource management.

112. Environmental benefits. Environmental benefits will include improved climate-resilient management and restoration of pasture, forest and agricultural landscapes. At concept stage, proxy indicators include up to 650,000 ha of pasture and forest ecosystems under improved climate-resilient management and approximately 1,400 ha of agricultural land under climate-resilient practices. Expected benefits include reduced land degradation, improved water retention, reduced erosion, strengthened ecosystem services and improved capacity to manage climate-related hazards.

113. The project also contributes to Adaptation Fund outcomes 5, 6 and 8, as further described in Part III.A. More detailed benefit estimates, including direct/indirect beneficiary disaggregation, household-to-person conversion factors, aggregation rules, income effects, productivity gains, avoided losses and ecosystem-service benefits, will be developed during full proposal preparation.

C. Cost Effectiveness

114. The cost-effectiveness of ALATOO derives from a territorial and systems-based design that concentrates Adaptation Fund resources where climate exposure, pasture and forest degradation, and rural livelihood vulnerability overlap. The project does not finance isolated works or stand-alone grants. Investments are sequenced through climate-risk diagnostics, Aiyl Aymak-level planning and value-chain prioritization, so that physical measures, advisory support,

matching grants and monitoring systems reinforce the same adaptation pathway. This reduces the risk of mis-targeted expenditure, avoids fragmented delivery, and enables the same local planning platform to generate ecosystem, livelihood and institutional benefits.

115. At concept note stage, cost-effectiveness is assessed through a combination of qualitative alternatives analysis and indicative proxy indicators. The main proxy is the scale of adaptation coverage achieved for the requested financing: the project is expected to reach approximately 200,000 vulnerable people, support climate-responsive planning and investments in about 70 Aiyl Aymaks, 36 leskhozoes and 6 protected areas, place around 400,000 ha of pastureland and 250,000 ha of forest systems under more resilient management, and support 25 value-chain clusters and 850 climate-adaptive investment grants. On a portfolio basis, the total financing request of US\$20 million is equivalent to about US\$100 per person reached. Considering project activity costs only, the indicative cost is about US\$83 per person reached. These figures are not presented as final economic returns, but as concept-stage proxies demonstrating the breadth of adaptation coverage relative to the size of the grant.

116. Under Component 1, cost-effectiveness is strengthened by using local planning instruments as the entry point for investment. Updating SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs before financing priority measures reduces the likelihood that rehabilitation works are selected on an ad hoc basis or implemented without institutional ownership. Ecosystem-based adaptation measures such as improved grazing rotation, rehabilitation of degraded pasture hotspots, erosion control, assisted natural regeneration and climate-adaptive forest management are expected to provide lower-cost and more durable resilience benefits than stand-alone engineered responses, particularly in remote mountain landscapes where operation and maintenance capacity is limited. The Component 1 activity envelope of US\$11.4 million covers a large territorial platform - 70 Aiyl Aymaks, 36 leskhozoes, 6 protected areas and approximately 650,000 ha of pasture and forest systems - providing an indicative coverage proxy of about US\$17.5 per hectare of pasture and forest systems targeted, including sustainable management and fragmented rehabilitation.

117. Under Component 2, the project avoids the inefficiency of scattered household grants by linking financial support to value-chain assessment, business development support, climate-resilient production practices and market aggregation. The matching-grant mechanism is designed to reduce the upfront cost and perceived risk of climate-adaptive investments while requiring beneficiary or MSME contributions. This improves value for money by leveraging private resources and by screening out investments that are not technically viable, climate-resilient or linked to clear market opportunities. The grant window for adaptive activities is expected to support about 850 grant packages with an indicative AF financing envelope of US\$3.725 million.

118. As a significant share of the grants will be channelled through groups and MSME/off-takers rather than individual households, the average grant size alone does not provide a meaningful cost-per-beneficiary measure. Based on conservative planning assumptions, each Window 1 grant is expected to reach one household, each Window 2 group grant around ten households, and each Window 3 MSME/off-taker grant around twenty linked smallholder households. On this basis, the grant window would directly reach an estimated 2,450 household-equivalent beneficiaries, or 12,985 people, using an average rural household size of 5.3 persons. Against the indicative AF financing envelope of US\$3.725 million, this implies an estimated AF contribution of about US\$1,520 per household-equivalent beneficiary, or about US\$287 per person, before beneficiary and MSME co-financing. These figures are preliminary cost-effectiveness proxies and will be refined during full proposal preparation once the final grant windows, group sizes, MSME outreach requirements and beneficiary-counting methodology are confirmed.

119. Under Component 3, cost-effectiveness is derived from avoiding parallel project-specific monitoring systems. The project will strengthen harmonized monitoring frameworks and decision-support functions that can be used by national and subnational institutions beyond the project period. This spreads the cost of data, monitoring and applied research across the full project geography and creates a public good for future pasture, forest and climate-adaptation programming. The Component 3 activity envelope of US\$1.082 million is therefore not limited to project M&E, but supports institutional systems for targeting, adaptive management and post-project replication.

120. The alternatives analysis below distinguishes cost-effectiveness from benefits. Benefits are described in Part II.B, while the full-cost adaptation rationale and the comparison between the business-as-usual and Adaptation Fund scenarios are presented in Part II.I. A more detailed economic and financial analysis, including sensitivity analysis and refined unit-cost assumptions, will be prepared during full proposal preparation (already budgeted in PFG proposal) once the final target Aiyl Aymaks, investment packages, technical designs, grant windows, recurrent costs and beneficiary streams are confirmed.

121. Cost-effectiveness over time is supported by the sustainability arrangements described in Part II.J, including institutional anchoring, O&M responsibilities, beneficiary ownership of productive assets, monitoring systems and post-project replication pathways.

Table 4 – Cost-effectiveness and alternatives to project

Component and selected approach	Less cost-effective alternative	Cost-effectiveness rationale	Indicative CN-stage proxy
Component 1. Climate-resilient pasture and forest systems: Integrated climate-risk diagnostics, participatory planning and priority ecosystem-based adaptation investments for pasture, forest and protected-area systems.	Scattered rehabilitation works or pasture/forest investments selected outside local planning processes; stand-alone engineered responses without community ownership or O&M arrangements.	The selected approach uses SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs to prioritize measures before investment. This improves targeting, reduces duplication between pasture and forest interventions, and increases the probability that assets and management measures are maintained by local institutions.	US\$11.4 million activity envelope; 70 Aiyl Aymaks, 36 leskhozoes and 6 protected areas; approximately 400,000 ha of pastureland and 250,000 ha of forest systems targeted; indicative coverage proxy of about US\$17.5/ha across pasture and forest systems targeted including sustainable management and fragmented rehabilitation.
Component 2. Climate-resilient rural livelihoods: Value-chain clustering, technical assistance and matching grants for climate-adaptive livelihood investments.	Untargeted individual grants, conventional credit without risk-sharing, or equipment support without value-chain assessment, technical assistance or market linkages.	The selected approach reduces the risk of low-adoption or under-used investments by linking grants to climate-resilient practices, market opportunities, business support and contributions. Matching grants leverage beneficiary and MSME resources rather than fully subsidizing private investment.	US\$4.2 million activity envelope, including US\$3.725 million for adaptive activity grants; 25 value-chain clusters; 850 grants; indicative average AF grant contribution of about US\$4,400 per grant before beneficiary contributions; at least 1,400 households to receive technical assistance.
Component 3. Climate-responsive monitoring and decision support systems: Harmonized monitoring frameworks, applied research and decision-support systems for adaptive pasture, forest and livelihood management.	Separate project-level databases, fragmented paper-based monitoring, or isolated studies not linked to government decision-making and local planning.	The selected approach creates reusable institutional systems rather than one-off project outputs. Shared monitoring frameworks improve future targeting, allow adaptive management during implementation, and reduce future transaction costs for government and partners.	US\$1.082 million activity envelope; national pasture monitoring system; forest pest and disease surveillance pilots; harmonized pasture/forest monitoring frameworks; monitoring outputs serving Aiyl Aymak, district and national decision-making.
Whole project delivery model. Integrated territorial package combining planning, ecosystem restoration, livelihood diversification, grants and monitoring.	Parallel sector projects or dispersed small investments implemented independently across pasture, forest, livelihood and monitoring themes.	The integrated model allows the same territorial platform to deliver multiple adaptation outcomes. This lowers coordination costs, strengthens sequencing between planning and investment, and supports sustainability through existing institutions and local plans.	The project requests US\$20 million in AF financing and is expected to reach approximately 200,000 vulnerable people, corresponding to an indicative overall AF financing cost of about US\$100 per person reached. When only direct project activity costs are considered, excluding execution and implementing entity fees, the indicative cost declines to about US\$83 per person reached.

D. Strategic alignment

122. **Background.** The Kyrgyz Republic became a Party to the UNFCCC in 2000, ratified the Kyoto Protocol in 2003, and acceded to the Paris Agreement in 2019. Under these commitments, the country has submitted four National Communications (2003, 2009, 2017, and 2024), as well as its first BUR in 2016. The government submitted an updated NDC in 2021 and a more recent, enhanced NDC 3.0 in 2025. Adaptation planning is advanced through the NAP process, launched in 2022 with support from the GCF and UNDP.

123. The **Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC3.0; 2025)** of the Kyrgyz Republic sets the national vision for climate mitigation, adaptation, ecosystem resilience, land management and biodiversity. ALATOO directly aligns with NDC3.0 priorities in terms of support to: sustainable pasture management; climate-resilient forest systems; water resource adaptation; community-level resilience and inclusion; and integrated monitoring and climate-risk governance.

124. The **Fourth National Communication to the UNFCCC (2024)** highlights the Kyrgyz Republic's high vulnerability to climate change, particularly within its mountain ecosystems, forests, pastures, and water-dependent sectors. It underscores the accelerating impacts of glacier retreat, increasing frequency of extreme hydrometeorological events, and the heightened exposure of rural and high-mountain communities. It further details the country's adaptation strategy and its sector-specific implementation priorities, covering water resources, agriculture, forestry and other land uses,

disaster risk management, biodiversity conservation, and public health, as part of the broader process of advancing the NAP.

125. The **National Adaptation Plan (NAP)** of the Kyrgyz Republic was publicly discussed on 19 March 2025, during a roundtable organized under the UNDP-GCF project on advancing the NAP process in the Kyrgyz Republic. The plan is based on the national climate profile, six thematic adaptation plans (water, agriculture, energy, disaster risk reduction, transport infrastructure, and forest and biodiversity), including priorities to which ALATOO closely aligns. The NAP prioritizes measures to limit losses in areas facing significant risks to life and livelihoods. As of March 2026, the NAP had not been adopted.

126. The **Pasture Development Programme 2024-2029** provides the national strategic framework guiding the transition to a more coherent, climate-responsive and institutionally anchored pasture governance system in the Kyrgyz Republic. It emphasises strengthened municipal responsibility for planning, regulating and rehabilitating pasture resources, alongside the integration of climate information, modern monitoring tools, and cost-recovery mechanisms. The project is fully aligned with these priorities, directly supporting LSGBs and their municipal enterprises to prepare and implement high-quality, climate-informed Pasture and Livestock Management Plans (PLMPs); adopt rotational and seasonal grazing systems; rehabilitate degraded hotspots; and restore mobility essential for adaptive grazing. The project's goal will directly contribute to the Programme's objectives in terms of sustainable rangeland use, climate resilience, and improved livelihoods for agropastoral communities. ALATOO's focus on integrating forest-pasture management will further contribute to harmonising governance across interconnected landscapes.

127. To make the project's relevance to national and sectoral instruments explicit, the table below identifies the specific priorities/actions to which ALATOO is aligned and the corresponding project outcomes.

National / sectoral instrument	Relevant priority / action	ALATOO alignment and contribution	Project outcome
NDC 3.0 (2025)	Adaptation priorities for land, agriculture, water, forests, biodiversity, ecosystem resilience and climate-risk governance.	Supports sustainable pasture management, climate-resilient forest systems, water-related adaptation, community resilience and integrated monitoring.	Outcomes 1, 2 and 3
Fourth National Communication to the UNFCCC (2024)	High vulnerability of mountain ecosystems, forests, pastures, water-dependent sectors and rural communities.	Targets climate-vulnerable pasture and forest landscapes and communities exposed to droughts, floods, mudflows, landslides, water stress and land degradation.	Outcomes 1 and 2
National Adaptation Plan process / draft NAP	Thematic adaptation priorities for water, agriculture, disaster risk reduction, forests and biodiversity.	Integrates climate-risk diagnostics and adaptation priorities into SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs and supports monitoring for adaptive planning.	Outcomes 1 and 3
Pasture Development Programme 2024-2029	Municipal pasture planning, rehabilitation, monitoring, cost recovery and climate-responsive pasture governance.	Supports LSGBs and municipal enterprises to prepare and implement climate-informed PLMPs, rotational/seasonal grazing, rehabilitation and O&M arrangements.	Outcome 1
National Development Strategy 2018-2040 and National Development Program until 2030	Regional development, environmental sustainability, rational natural-resource use, climate resilience and disaster risk reduction.	Strengthens rural climate adaptation, ecosystem restoration, local planning and resilient agriculture-based livelihoods.	Outcomes 1, 2 and 3
National Gender Equality Strategy until 2030	Women's economic empowerment and participation in public life and decision-making.	Applies women- and youth-responsive targeting, GALS/BALI, participation in planning, and access to training, grants and value chains.	Outcome 2
Forest Sector Concept until 2040 and Forestry Sector Action Plan	Forest restoration, inventory and digital monitoring, joint forest management, fire/pest protection and sustainable forest livelihoods.	Supports NRMPs/PAMPs, assisted natural regeneration, fire-risk reduction, forest-pasture interface management and pest/disease surveillance.	Outcomes 1 and 3
National Biodiversity Conservation Programme / NBSAP	Ecosystem integration into sectoral planning, protection and monitoring of ecosystems and increased ecosystem-service benefits.	Restores and sustainably manages pasture, forest and protected-area ecosystems and strengthens biodiversity-relevant monitoring.	Outcomes 1 and 3
Mountain Five-Year Concept and Roadmap 2023-2027	Sustainable mountain development, ecosystem protection, reforestation, adaptation measures and climate finance.	Targets mountain pasture and forest landscapes with ecosystem-based adaptation and climate-resilient local planning.	Outcomes 1 and 2
Sustainable Food Systems and Food Security/Nutrition Programmes	Resilient food systems, improved domestic production, producer integration and access to food for vulnerable populations.	Supports climate-resilient agropastoral production, value-chain clustering, adaptive grants, market linkages and diversified rural income.	Outcome 2

E. National Standards and Environmental and Social Policy

128. ALATOO complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund, (see ESP risk assessment summary in section II. K) as well as with IFAD's SECAP, and has been designed to minimise any negative environmental and social impact, resulting in net environmental and social benefits. The project will respect and adhere to the relevant laws and codes as outlined below.

129. Environmental protection in the Kyrgyz Republic is governed by a comprehensive legal framework anchored in the Law “On Environmental Protection” (No. 53 of 16 June 1999), which establishes the general principles of environmental management, sustainable use of natural resources, and the right of citizens to a healthy environment. Environmental assessment requirements are further defined in the Law “On Ecological Expertise” (No. 54 of 16 June 1999), which mandates the conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and state ecological expertise for planned economic and other activities that may have adverse environmental effects. Detailed criteria, procedures, and institutional responsibilities for EIAs are set out in the Regulation on the Procedure for Conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, approved by Governmental Decree No. 60 of 13 February 2015. This Regulation defines screening, scoping, documentation, public participation, and disclosure requirements, and includes annexes specifying categories of activities subject to mandatory EIA. In addition, the Law “On General Technical Regulations for Ensuring Environmental Safety” (No. 151 of 8 May 2009) establishes overarching environmental safety requirements applicable to the design and implementation of economic activities. Based on the list of activities included under Appendix 1 of Governmental Decree No. 60 of 13 February 2015, and considering the nature and scope of activities supported by ALATOO, it is not expected that EIAs will need to be conducted during implementation.

130. The table below identifies the key national laws and technical standards that may apply to ALATOO activities, their objectives, the main compliance steps to be followed by the project, and the competent authorities responsible for oversight.

Table 5 – Compliance with national standards

National law / standard	Objective / standard applied	Main compliance steps for ALATOO	Competent authority / responsible institution
Law on Environmental Protection (No. 53, adopted on 16 June 1999; last amended on 4 February 2002)	Establishes national principles for environmental protection, sustainable use of natural resources, prevention of environmental harm and citizens' right to a healthy environment.	Screen all proposed activities for potential environmental impacts. Confirm whether EIA/SEE requirements are triggered. Where required, prepare documentation, consult/discard, obtain clearance before works, and integrate mitigation measures into contracts, grant agreements and monitoring.	MNRETS and relevant environmental protection authorities.
Law on Ecological Expertise (No. 54, adopted on 16 June 1999; last amended on 04 May 2015)	Establishes State Ecological Expertise requirements for activities that may affect the environment and defines review procedures before approval.	Submit activities requiring ecological review to the competent SEE authority before implementation. Ensure no activity subject to SEE is financed or started before the required review, clearance and mitigation conditions are completed.	MNRETS / State Ecological Expertise authorities.
Regulation on the Procedure for Conducting State Environmental Expertise (Governmental Decree No. 248 of 07 May 2014)	Defines the procedure for State Environmental Expertise, including submission, review, decision-making and approval processes.	Prepare and submit required documentation for activities screened as requiring SEE. Reflect SEE conclusions and conditions in technical designs, ESMP/ESCMP measures, procurement documents and implementation supervision.	MNRETS / State Ecological Expertise authorities.
Law “On General Technical Regulations for Ensuring Environmental Safety” No. 151 of 08 May 2009	Establishes environmental safety requirements for economic activities, including pollution prevention, environmental risk management and compliance with environmental safety standards.	Apply environmental safety screening to works, grants and value-chain investments. Include pollution prevention, safe technology use, resource efficiency and environmental safety clauses in technical specifications, contracts and grant agreements.	MNRETS and relevant technical/environmental control authorities.
Regulation on the Procedure for Conducting Environmental Impact Assessment (Governmental Decree No. 60 of 13 February 2015)	Defines national EIA procedures, screening rules, documentation, public consultation, disclosure and the list of activities requiring mandatory EIA.	Screen all activities against EIA regulation and annexes. If EIA is triggered, prepare EIA documentation, conduct required consultations/disclosure, submit for review and obtain approval before implementation. If not required, document the screening result and apply proportionate ESMP/ESCMP measures where needed.	MNRETS and competent EIA/SEE authorities, with public consultation requirements as applicable.

National law / standard	Objective / standard applied	Main compliance steps for ALATOO	Competent authority / responsible institution
Law on Pastures (No.53, 2009, amended in 2024)	Establishes the framework for pasture governance, rotational pasture use, grazing rights, pasture planning, use fees and LSGB/municipal pasture-management responsibilities.	Ensure pasture activities are consistent with PLMPs and local pasture-use rules. Support preparation/update of climate-informed PLMPs, participatory approval of priority measures, grazing calendars, O&M responsibilities and cost-recovery arrangements. Avoid financing activities that increase maladaptive grazing pressure.	MWRAPI, Aiyl Okmotu / LSGBs and municipal enterprises responsible for pasture management.
Forest Code (Adopted on 8 July 1999; last amended in 2024)	Regulates forest protection, use, regeneration, planning and management responsibilities for state forest lands, leskhozoes and relevant forest authorities.	Ensure forest activities are consistent with forest management requirements, NRMPs and relevant approvals. Use climate-suitable/native species where applicable, avoid unauthorized harvesting or forest conversion, integrate fire, pest/disease and regeneration measures, and include forest protection in technical designs and monitoring.	Forest Service, leskhozoes and relevant forest authorities.
Water Code (No. 8, adopted on 12 January 2005; last amended on 10 December 2021)	Regulates use, protection, allocation and management of water resources, including water for irrigation, livestock, rural supply and ecosystem functions.	Screen water-related investments for permits/approvals where required. Ensure sustainable abstraction, catchment and aquifer protection, safe siting of water points, erosion control and O&M arrangements for small-scale water infrastructure.	MWRAPI and relevant water resource authorities, with LSGBs/municipal entities for local schemes.
Law "On Especially Protected Natural Territories" No. 18 of 3 May 2011	Establishes the protection and management framework for protected areas, including zoning, conservation requirements and restrictions on activities.	Ensure interventions in or around protected areas comply with zoning rules, management plans and conservation restrictions. Obtain approval from protected-area administrations and competent authorities before activities. Exclude activities that could undermine protected-area objectives or critical habitats.	MNRETS / protected-area authorities and administrations of state nature parks or reserves.
Land Code of the Kyrgyz Republic (No 149 of 18 July 2025 – historical version: No 45 of 2 June 1999)	Regulates land allocation, tenure, land-use rights, restrictions, protection of land resources and prevention of land degradation.	Confirm land-use rights and permissions before land-based works, restoration, nurseries or infrastructure. Avoid unauthorized land conversion, involuntary resettlement or restriction of access. Apply soil protection, erosion control and site-restoration measures where relevant.	State land and cadastre authorities, LSGBs and relevant land-use approval bodies.
Law "On Production and Consumption Waste" No. 89 of 13 November 2001 (last amended 25 April 2024)	Regulates generation, handling, storage, transportation and disposal of waste, including municipal waste-management responsibilities.	Include waste-management requirements in works contracts, grant agreements and ESMP/ESCMP measures. Ensure safe handling and disposal of construction, processing, packaging and other project-related waste through approved local arrangements. Prohibit uncontrolled dumping or burning.	MNRETS, local self-government bodies and municipal waste-management authorities.
Law "On Atmospheric Air Protection" No. 51 of 12 June 1999	Establishes rules for air-quality protection, prevention of pollutant emissions and control of emissions from economic activities.	Apply dust, emissions and fuel-management measures for works, machinery and processing equipment. Require proper equipment maintenance and avoid technologies that generate avoidable air pollution. Include air-protection clauses in contracts and technical specifications where relevant.	MNRETS and relevant air protection/environmental control authorities.
Law "On Local Self Government" No. 101 of 15 July 2011	Defines the mandate of Aiyl Okmotu/LSGBs in local planning, service delivery, local environmental management and community-level governance.	Support LSGBs to integrate climate and environmental priorities into SEDPs, PLMPs and local planning processes. Ensure local consultations, public validation of priorities, assignment of O&M responsibilities and coordination with municipal enterprises.	State Agency for Civil Service and Local Self-Government, Aiyl Okmotu / LSGBs.
Labor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic No.7 of 23 January	Regulates employment relations, labour rights, non-discrimination,	Include labour, OHS, non-discrimination, no forced labour and no child labour	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and

National law / standard	Objective / standard applied	Main compliance steps for ALATOO	Competent authority / responsible institution
2025 (entered into force 28 January 2025)	occupational health and safety, working conditions and minimum-age requirements.	clauses in contracts, grant agreements and codes of conduct. Ensure safe working conditions, PPE and OHS instructions. Prohibit hazardous work for persons under 18 and monitor labour compliance.	Migration and labour inspection authorities.
Law "On Prevention and Protection against Domestic Violence" No. 63 of 27.04.2017 (as amended)	Establishes prevention and protection measures against domestic violence and is relevant to GBV/SEA/SH risk prevention in community and workplace settings.	Integrate GBV/SEA/SH prevention into codes of conduct, worker/community awareness, GRM arrangements and referral pathways. Ensure confidential reporting channels and link serious cases to competent protection and law-enforcement services.	Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration, local social protection bodies and referral/law-enforcement services.

F. Duplication

131. In-country consultations and project mapping indicate that ALATOO is complementary to relevant ongoing and recently completed initiatives and is not expected to duplicate their locations, beneficiaries, assets or activities. The analysis below explains complementarity by project, including differences in geography, target groups, intervention type and implementation period. Final geographic targeting will be coordinated during full proposal preparation to avoid overlap and to build on lessons and tools from related operations.

Table 6 – Complementarity and absence of duplication with relevant projects

Project title, timeline and specific location	Main interventions and target population	Implementing entity	Lessons learned and reflection in ALATOO design	Complementarity and absence of duplication with ALATOO
IFAD/AF Regional Resilient Pastoral Communities Project (RRPCP-ADAPT) USD 10 million AF grant 2024-2029 Location: 23 Aiyl Aymaks bordering leskhozoes	Capacity development on climate adaptation and gender; climate-adaptive forest and rangeland rehabilitation; climate-resilient alternative income development. Target population: vulnerable pastoral, forest and rural communities in selected Aiyl Aymaks.	IFAD as Implementing Entity; MWRAPI/APIU as Executing/implementation structure.	Lessons: GALS/BALI-informed engagement, community visioning, grant eligibility, safeguards screening and continued facilitation are critical for inclusion and quality. Reflected in ALATOO through phased rollout, standardized grant procedures, gender/youth targeting, technical service providers and APIU oversight.	No duplication expected: ALATOO has thematic continuity but will exclude Aiyl Aymaks already supported by RRPCP-Adapt. It scales lessons to about 70 Aiyl Aymaks and adds stronger focus on integrated pasture-forest planning, protected areas, value-chain clusters and climate-responsive monitoring at AA, district and national levels.
IFAD Livestock and Market Development Programme III (LMDP III) USD 21.5 million loan Under approval, tentative 2026-2031 Location: to be determined at start-up.	Pasture governance, animal health, fodder systems, resilient value chains and monitoring/GIS tools. Target population: livestock-dependent rural households, producer groups and value-chain actors.	IFAD with national executing/implementation structures.	Lessons: livestock productivity and value-chain interventions need to be linked to pasture governance, animal health services, market access and local institutional capacity. Reflected in ALATOO through complementary adaptive livelihood and value-chain support while avoiding conventional livestock expansion.	No duplication expected: ALATOO will coordinate Aiyl Aymak selection with LMDP III and apply complementary grant windows, with ALATOO focusing on adaptation, ecosystem resilience and climate-responsive planning.
IFAD Livestock and Market Development Programme II (LMDP II)	Community-based pasture management, private veterinary services, pasture	IFAD with national implementation through APIU/ARIS arrangements.	Lessons: pasture plans, fee-setting, O&M arrangements, mobility infrastructure	No duplication expected: The project is closed. ALATOO will use LMDP II

Project title, timeline and specific location	Main interventions and target population	Implementing entity	Lessons learned and reflection in ALATOO design	Complementarity and absence of duplication with ALATOO
USD 32 million, including USD 10 million ASAP grant 2014-2021, closed Location: Osh, Batken and Jalal-Abad.	infrastructure, mobility routes, watering points and fodder systems. Target population: livestock-dependent rural households and pasture users.		and gender mainstreaming are effective when combined with pro-poor targeting and strong local institutions. Reflected in ALATOO through climate-informed PLMPs, O&M rules, safeguards and inclusion measures.	lessons and records to avoid financing the same the same micro-projects and will adapt earlier community pasture experience to the current municipal enterprise governance model.
GCF/FAO Carbon Sequestration through Climate Investment in Forests and Rangelands (CS-FOR; FP116) USD 30 million GCF grant + USD 20 million co-financing 2019-2030 Location: Ak-Talaa district (Naryn), Toguz-Toro and Suzak districts (Jalal-Abad), Uzgen district (Osh).	Restoration of degraded forests and rangelands, afforestation/enrichment planting, rotational grazing, corridor protection, participatory forest-rangeland planning and green growth investments. Target population: communities in selected forest and rangeland landscapes.	FAO as Accredited Entity / implementing partner with national counterparts.	Lessons: integrated forest-rangeland and monitoring tools need common standards, local ownership and coordination across institutions. Reflected in ALATOO through harmonized monitoring, climate-informed planning and coordination with FAO-supported sites and methods.	No duplication expected: ALATOO will prioritize Aiyl Aymaks not covered by CS-FOR where possible and will coordinate approaches on resilient pasture and forest management, monitoring tools and restoration practices.
World Bank Integrated Forest Ecosystem Management Project (IFEMP) USD 16 million, including USD 4 million GEF6 grant 2016-2024, completed/closed Location: national forest-sector support with site pilots through leskhozoes across multiple oblasts.	Forest-sector reforms, National Forest Inventory, Forest Management Information System, integrated natural resource management plans, climate-smart silviculture, assisted regeneration, thinning, slope/erosion control, NTFPs and wildfire risk reduction. Target population: leskhozoes, forest users and communities around forest areas.	World Bank as implementing/financing partner with national forest authorities.	Lessons: forest planning and restoration investments require robust inventories, practical management plans, community engagement and wildfire/pest risk consideration. Reflected in ALATOO through NRMPs/PAMPs, species screening, forest-pasture interface planning and use of existing forest data systems.	No duplication expected: IFEMP is closed. ALATOO builds on its systems and lessons while targeting climate adaptation needs in new or complementary forest-pasture landscapes and protected areas.
UNDP/GEF Integrated Community-based Management of High Value Mountain Ecosystems in Southern Kyrgyz Republic USD 2.6 million GEF7 grant + USD 20 million co-financing 2023-2028 Location: Pamir-Alai landscape, southern Kyrgyz Republic.	Protected area and buffer-zone planning, restoration of degraded lands and forest-pasture edges, livelihood diversification, NTFPs, eco-tourism and policy support for corridors and quiet zones. Target population: communities around high-value mountain ecosystems and protected areas.	UNDP as GEF Agency with national partners.	Lessons: protected area and buffer-zone interventions require community benefit-sharing, clear spatial targeting and links between conservation and livelihoods. Reflected in ALATOO through PAMPs, protected area engagement, livelihood diversification and grant targeting.	No duplication expected: ALATOO will focus outside UNDP/GEF pilot areas where needed and coordinate to scale good practices for protected area planning and community-based ecosystem management.
World Bank RESILAND CA+ Program: Kyrgyz	Sustainable landscape management, mudflow/flood risk	World Bank with national counterparts, including relevant emergency,	Lessons: risk reduction and restoration require	No duplication expected: ALATOO will coordinate

Project title, timeline and specific location	Main interventions and target population	Implementing entity	Lessons learned and reflection in ALATOO design	Complementarity and absence of duplication with ALATOO
Resilient Landscape Restoration Project USD 52 million 2024-2029 Location: target valleys in Jalal-Abad/Osh and high-risk locations in Issyk-Kul and Naryn.	reduction, nature-based, grey and hybrid solutions, erosion control, river training, afforestation, slope stabilization, green jobs and climate-resilient livelihoods. Target population: communities in high-risk watersheds and vulnerable landscapes.	hydromet and environmental institutions.	watershed-scale prioritization, hazard data and maintenance of nature-based and engineered measures. Reflected in ALATOO through climate-risk diagnostics, EbA measures, slope stabilization and monitoring links.	geographic targeting during full proposal preparation, avoid overlap where necessary, and use RESILAND data and risk maps to guide pasture-forest adaptation investments.
UNDP/GCF Advancing medium- and long-term adaptation planning (NAP) in Kyrgyz Republic USD 2.4 million 2020-2025 Location: national, with subnational planning in Osh, Batken and Jalal-Abad.	National adaptation planning system, climate indicators/statistics, sectoral adaptation plans, subnational plans, institutional coordination and adaptation project pipeline. Target population: national and subnational institutions and climate-vulnerable sectors.	UNDP with GCF Readiness support and national counterparts.	Lessons: adaptation planning must be translated into sectoral and local plans, indicators and investment pipelines. Reflected in ALATOO through integration of climate risks into SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs and through Component 3 monitoring systems.	No duplication expected: ALATOO will follow final NAP deliverables, use available risk maps and indicators, and operationalize NAP priorities in pasture, forest, agriculture and local planning systems.

G. Learning and Knowledge Management

132. Effective knowledge management – including the collection, generation and dissemination of information – is an important component of climate change adaptation. Learning from adaptation activities and being able to transform knowledge into products that are targeted at various audiences is essential to effective climate change adaptation.

133. The proposed project places a strong emphasis on learning and knowledge management as a key dimension to achieving the transition towards resilient livelihoods, pasture and forest systems in the Kyrgyz Republic. As such, the project identifies and will continue to identify innovative technical and sociological solutions for the resilience of local landscapes and livelihoods, and to document their success in the context of its implementation. More broadly, the project aims to systemize and improve monitoring systems and data availability on pastures and forests at the local and national levels

134. Learning is mainstreamed in the project, which fully builds on documented practices from previous and ongoing experiences, while seeking to continuously document new solutions that can be upscaled. Indeed, it is expected that the project will provide valuable experiences to document, and the third component puts the emphasis on this KM process by integrating partnerships with academia and research institutions to implement five innovative research pilots aimed at producing concrete management products for LSGBs, leskhozoes, State Nature Parks and community users (in addition to documented research material). These pilots will focus on key dimensions of the project, such as threshold based grazing rules, forest-pasture interface management, identifying key drivers of mobility (transhumance) restoration, field surveillance data to pilot early detection approaches for climate related pests and diseases, sustainable income diversification options, etc. For each topic, the project will ensure: (i) documentation of pilots and lessons and development of knowledge products, (ii) assessing of effectiveness and improvements needed; (iii) monitoring and documentation, and (iv) dissemination through an array of adapted channels, and awareness raising on the knowledge produced. Training and capacity-development activities will incorporate continuous learning and adaptive management principles, drawing on participant feedback, implementation experience and periodic learning reviews to strengthen their effectiveness, relevance and long-term impact.

135. The project will document experiences and lessons learned on a continuous basis through monitoring activities, research pilots and implementation support missions. These will be synthesised during annual learning reviews and knowledge stocktakes, providing a structured mechanism to track progress, validate emerging practices, and feed lessons back into project implementation and dissemination activities. Lessons and knowledge generated by the project on climate-resilient pasture and forest management, climate-informed local planning, ecosystem-based adaptation, adaptive livelihood diversification, value-chain-based grant support, women and youth inclusion, and climate-responsive

monitoring and decision-support systems will also be shared through relevant national, regional and international channels, where appropriate. The project will not establish a new regional platform, but will use existing knowledge-sharing mechanisms, including IFAD regional learning channels, Adaptation Fund learning and dissemination opportunities, and cross-country exchanges with relevant IFAD-supported AF, GEF and GCF projects on pasture, forestry, landscape restoration and climate adaptation in Central Asia and neighbouring regions, including Tajikistan, Georgia and Türkiye. Specific platforms and events will be identified during implementation based on relevance, timing and opportunities for practical learning exchange.

136. The overall responsibility for Knowledge Management (KM) and communication will rest with the project M&E Officer, who will coordinate with other members of the APIU, local institutions (LSGBs, leskhozoes, protected areas administration, etc.) and other project stakeholders to identify case studies that illustrate the impact that the project has had on improving rural livelihoods and centralize key information generated. More generally the M&E Officer together with the rest of the APIU will process the knowledge generated into an appropriate format for the general public and disseminate it. This will be done through workshops and seminars, exchange visits, electronic/digital media (radio, television, and internet – emails and websites); social media (YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, etc.), and print media (flyers, brochures, reports, working papers, monographs, manuals).

137. The project will also document lessons learned and disseminate knowledge products through, briefing notes, infographics & flyers, knowledge platforms, annual project performance reports (PPRs), the mid-term evaluation report (MTR) and terminal evaluation report, project stories and project videos.

138. To support long-term sustainability, knowledge products, methodologies and lessons generated by the project will be embedded within the information, planning and capacity-development systems of relevant national and local institutions. The project will strengthen institutional capacities for knowledge management and ensure that key resources remain accessible for future planning, policy development and replication efforts beyond project completion.

139. After project completion, knowledge products, monitoring tools, training materials and operational guidance will be maintained through MWRAPI/APIU systems and shared with LSGBs, leskhozoes, protected-area administrations and relevant national institutions for continued use in SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs, PAMPs and future climate-adaptation programming.

H. Consultative Process

140. A joint mission involving the MWRAPI/APIU and IFAD took place in the Kyrgyz Republic in February 2026. The mission visited the Kemin district in the Chuy region, and the Balykchy city, Issyk Kul and Ton districts in the Issyk Kul region. It successfully met and consulted with representatives of all stakeholders at national and local levels, following a participatory process. Stakeholders consulted included: Ministries and other Government services (Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry; Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision; Ministry of Labor, Social Security and Migration; Ministry of Economy and Commerce; State Agency for Civil Service and Local Self-Government under the Cabinet of Ministers, Forestry Service, etc.); districts and their technical services (RUARs); Local Self-Government Bodies; State Nature Parks and Leskhozoes administrations; RRPCP-ADAPT's recipients; community members represented by both pasture users and forest user groups (FUGs); Association of Pasture Users; women and youth groups; local stakeholders from visited Aiyl Aymaks; technical and financial partners, including UN organizations and local NGOs; etc.

141. Particular attention was paid to ensuring a gender- and youth-responsive approach throughout these consultations. In this regard, consultations were also held with institutions working on gender and youth issues, both governmental (including the Ministry of Labor, Social Security, and Migration) and civil society organizations. In addition, specific consultations were conducted with rural areas stakeholders who received funding under the state program "Social Contract". Male and female individuals from potential target groups were consulted both separately and in mixed groups. Special attention was given to consulting vulnerable groups, women, and youth (preliminary findings are included in annex 1). Moreover, the appropriateness of time and location of consultation meetings, especially for women, was taken into account. Further information on the consultative process is included in Annex 1: Stakeholder consultation process. The consultation process will continue at the full proposal and project implementation stages, including with further engagement of the Ministry of Labor, Social Security, and Migration. Particular attention will be given to consultations with under-represented groups including women, youth, and returnees where their specific interests will be integrated in the full-design document.

142. It should also be noted that ALATOO CN preparation was conducted in constant and close coordination with the MWRAPI Agriculture Projects Implementation Unit (APIU) in charge of implementing RRPCP-ADAPT and previously charged with the implementation of recently closed IFAD projects (ATMP, LMDP I and LMDP II), ensuring that successful experience and detailed knowledge of the national and local context are well reflected into proposed interventions, further guaranteeing their tailoring and relevance.

143. Key feedback and inputs from consultations conducted include:

- a) The country has undergone administrative-territorial reforms, with the pilot phase launched in December 2023 pursuant to a Presidential Decree, and the main phase of the reform implemented during 2024-2025. As a result of the reform, the number of rural Aiyl Aymaks was significantly reduced from 452 to 235. The revision of territorial boundaries and administrative borders was accompanied by changes in governance functions, budget allocations, infrastructure arrangements, and a reduction of more than 4,000 municipal civil servants. These reforms have had a direct impact on the pasture management system.
- b) Proposed approaches are relevant and well aligned with needs to increase climate resilience of pasture and forest systems, and the livelihoods that depend on them. They reflect local situations and priorities expressed.
- c) Local stakeholders are well aware of climate impacts and their accelerated occurrence which they are directly exposed to. They feel powerless in the face of these impacts but do identify relevant adaptive strategies (e.g. more balanced use of pastoral resources with support to mobility, climate resilient fodder production, etc.)
- d) National and regional authorities recognize the importance of strengthening the capacity of local self-government specialists responsible for pasture management. Issues related to the allocation and use of LSGB budget resources have also raised concerns among herders, particularly in areas with high livestock densities.
- e) Despite the achieved social and human development in the country. Future projects need to comprehensively address that persisting challenges that women and youth face in agriculture, pasture, and forestry value chains, the cultural norms hindering their economic empowerment, representation, and full participation in decision making, directly affecting their climate resilience.
- f) RRPCP-ADAPT target groups confirm that tailoring contextualised interventions to meet women needs and challenges, implement set quotas for women, engaging men in household dialogues, and provide opportunities for new income generating have promoted women engagement in economic empowerment activities, paving the road to their increased climate resilience.

I. Justification for funding

144. The justification for the requested funding is based on the cost of the adaptation measures required to strengthen the climate resilience of highly vulnerable populations and of the Kyrgyz Republic's pasture and forest systems. All stated outcomes and outputs can be delivered with the requested Adaptation Fund financing and identified beneficiary contributions, without depending on the approval or implementation of other donor projects. By financing these adaptation measures, the Adaptation Fund will enable ALATOO to promote more integrated approaches to strengthening the resilience of pasture and forest systems and the communities that depend on them. Through project support and demonstrated good practices, the Kyrgyz Republic will be better equipped with the tools, capacities, and models needed to mainstream adaptive management of pasture and forest systems into operational processes from the local to the national level. The table below presents the full-cost adaptation rationale by comparing the business-as-usual scenario with the Adaptation Fund scenario. It explains how, without AF financing, climate-vulnerable pasture and forest systems, agropastoral livelihoods and decision-support systems would remain exposed to accelerating climate risks, fragmented planning, limited investment and weak institutional capacity. It also shows how the proposed AF-financed activities directly contribute to the project's adaptation objective by shifting the baseline pathway toward climate-resilient ecosystem management, diversified adaptive livelihoods and climate-informed decision-making.

145. It should also be noted that national and local budgets, including revenues generated through pasture-use fees, remain insufficient to finance the scale of climate adaptation investments required to address accelerating pasture and forest degradation, increasing climate hazards, and the ongoing institutional transition in natural resource governance. Existing public resources are primarily allocated to routine operations and basic service delivery, while commercial finance is largely inaccessible or unsuitable for many vulnerable households, producer groups, and local institutions due to high collateral requirements, short repayment periods, and the limited bankability of adaptation investments whose benefits accrue over the longer term. Existing programmes provide important support in specific sectors or locations but do not offer the nationwide, integrated package of ecosystem restoration, resilient livelihoods, and climate-responsive monitoring systems proposed under ALATOO.

146. As such, grant financing is required because many of the proposed investments generate adaptation benefits that are not fully captured through private financial returns, particularly in the early stages of adoption. Climate-resilient production systems, adaptive technologies, forest and pasture restoration measures, and innovative business models often involve higher upfront costs, uncertain payback periods, and significant demonstration costs, discouraging investment by households and MSMEs. In addition, many rural enterprises face affordability constraints, limited collateral, and restricted access to long-term financing, while commercial lenders typically perceive climate-sensitive sectors as high risk. The project's matching grants will specifically help address these market failures by sharing initial

investment risks, incentivising the uptake of climate-resilient practices, and demonstrating the technical and economic viability of adaptation investments that can subsequently be replicated and scaled through private resources.

Table 6 – Baseline and alternative adaptation scenario the Adaptation Fund will help materialize

Business-as-usual scenario	Adaptation Fund scenario and adaptation rationale
Component 1. Climate-resilient pasture and forest systems	
Climate variability, rising temperatures, droughts, floods, landslides and changing precipitation patterns continue to accelerate degradation of pasture and forest systems. Local planning instruments remain weakly climate-informed, pasture and forest planning continue to be fragmented, and Aiyl Aymaks, leskhozoes and protected area administrations lack sufficient tools, capacity and resources to prioritize and finance adaptation measures. As a result, overgrazing, forest degradation, erosion, reduced water retention and disaster risks continue to undermine the resilience of ecosystems and the rural communities depending on them.	- AF financing enables the project to integrate climate-risk diagnostics and adaptation priorities into SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs, and to finance priority ecosystem-based adaptation measures in approximately 70 Aiyl Aymaks, 36 leskhozoes and 6 protected areas. These activities are included because climate-informed planning alone would not reduce vulnerability unless linked to concrete investments in pasture, forest and protected area resilience. The measures will help reduce climate-driven degradation, improve vegetative cover, water retention and slope stability, support more adaptive grazing and forest management, and strengthen the capacity of local institutions to manage climate risks over time.
Component 2. Climate-resilient rural livelihoods	
Rural households, producer groups and MSMEs remain highly dependent on climate-sensitive livestock and pasture-based livelihoods. Limited access to finance, advisory services, market linkages and climate-resilient technologies constrains diversification and keeps vulnerable households exposed to pasture degradation, drought, feed shortages, productivity losses and income shocks. Commercial finance is not well suited to these investments because many adaptation benefits are long-term, uncertain or partly public in nature. Without targeted support, households may continue to rely on maladaptive coping strategies, including increasing herd pressure on already degraded pastures.	- AF financing supports value-chain assessment, technical assistance and adaptive grant packages that enable households, groups and MSME/off-takers to adopt climate-resilient production, processing, storage, aggregation and marketing practices. These activities are included because livelihood diversification and market access are necessary to reduce pressure on degraded pasture systems and strengthen household adaptive capacity. The grant mechanism addresses affordability constraints, demonstration costs and climate-related investment risks, while focusing support on adaptive activities that benefit vulnerable households, women, youth and smallholders in targeted value chains.
Component 3. Climate-responsive monitoring and decision support systems	
Climate, pasture, forest and livelihood data remain fragmented across institutions, with limited capacity to translate monitoring information into local planning, investment decisions and adaptive management. Decision-makers at Aiyl Aymak, district and national levels continue to lack harmonized tools to identify climate-vulnerable areas, track ecosystem change, assess adaptation results and adjust management responses. As a result, adaptation practices remain localized, pilot-dependent and insufficiently connected to policy and investment decisions.	- AF financing supports harmonized monitoring frameworks, decision-support tools, applied learning and institutional capacities that enable climate risks and ecosystem trends to inform planning and investment decisions. These activities are included because adaptation requires continuous adjustment to changing climate conditions, rather than one-off investments. Improved monitoring and decision-support systems will help target resources more effectively, support adaptive management of pasture and forest systems, and create a basis for replication and scaling beyond the project.

147. The activities included under the AF scenario are therefore not stand-alone development interventions, but mutually reinforcing adaptation measures that address the climate-related drivers of ecosystem degradation, livelihood vulnerability and weak adaptive decision-making. The requested AF financing is required to shift the business-as-usual pathway toward a more resilient pasture-forest-livelihood system and to enable the project to deliver its stated outcomes without reliance on the approval or implementation of other donor-financed projects.

J. Sustainability

148. The sustainability of ALATOO will be ensured by anchoring project-supported activities in existing national and local institutions, planning instruments, financing mechanisms and community-level management arrangements. The project will not create parallel structures, but will strengthen the institutions already mandated to manage pasture, forest, protected-area and local development systems, including MWRAPI and its relevant pasture/agriculture units, APIU, Aiyl Okmotu/LSGBs, municipal enterprises, the Forest Service, leskhozoes, protected-area administrations, beneficiary groups, cooperatives, MSMEs and relevant technical and research partners. Roles and responsibilities for continuation of activities will be reflected in the PIM, grant agreements, local plans, asset handover records, O&M arrangements and,

where required, MoUs or partnership agreements. Detailed recurrent cost estimates and formal commitments will be confirmed during full proposal preparation once the final investment packages and target areas are defined.

149. Environmental sustainability. The project will restore and strengthen climate-resilient management of pasture, forest and protected-area systems through SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs. Ecosystem-based adaptation measures, including sustainable grazing, assisted natural regeneration, restoration of degraded hotspots, water-retention measures, fire-risk reduction and forest-pasture interface management, are expected to reduce degradation and strengthen ecosystem services beyond project closure.

150. Operation and maintenance. O&M arrangements will be defined before financing each relevant investment and will be proportionate to the type of asset supported. For local public and community-based pasture investments, O&M responsibilities will rest with the relevant Aiyl Okmotu/LSGB, municipal enterprise, pasture user group or beneficiary organisation, and will be financed through local budget allocations, pasture fees, user contributions and agreed cost-recovery arrangements where applicable. For forest and protected-area investments, responsibilities will rest with the Forest Service, leskhozoes and protected-area administrations and will be integrated into NRMPs, PAMPs and annual workplans. For private or collective livelihood and value-chain assets supported through grants, maintenance will be the responsibility of beneficiary households, producer groups, cooperatives or MSMEs and will be financed through their own contributions, operating revenues and business plans. For monitoring systems and decision-support tools, post-project maintenance will be anchored in the relevant host institutions, with recurrent costs aligned to their staffing and operating capacity.

151. Institutional sustainability. Institutional sustainability will be supported through the integration of project approaches into SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs, PAMPs and relevant monitoring systems. MWRAPI/APIU and relevant pasture units will continue to use project-supported pasture planning, monitoring and policy feedback tools. Aiyl Okmotu/LSGBs and municipal enterprises will be responsible for integrating climate-resilient pasture priorities into local planning and financing processes. The Forest Service, leskhozoes and protected-area administrations will continue forest restoration, forest-pasture interface management, pest and disease surveillance and protected-area planning through their regular mandates and workplans. Technical partners will support applied research, monitoring protocols and guidance products where formalised through partnership arrangements.

152. Social sustainability. Communities, women, youth and vulnerable groups will participate not only in consultations, but also in decision-making processes related to local climate-risk diagnostics, prioritisation of adaptation measures, validation of SEDP/PLMP/NRMP/PAMP priorities, grant selection processes, community oversight and monitoring of benefit distribution. Women and youth participation thresholds, transparent eligibility criteria, GALS/BALI processes, sex- and age-disaggregated monitoring and the project GRM will help ensure that vulnerable groups can influence decisions and raise concerns during implementation.

153. Economic sustainability. Livelihood diversification will contribute to economic sustainability by reducing dependence on climate-vulnerable pasture and forest resources, improving income stability and supporting more viable climate-resilient production and value-chain models. Matching grants will be linked to technical assistance, business planning, market opportunities and beneficiary/MSME contributions to increase the likelihood that supported activities remain operational after project completion.

154. Financial sustainability. Financial sustainability will be supported through a combination of public, local and beneficiary-level financing sources. Government institutions will be expected to continue core recurrent functions linked to pasture, forest, protected-area and monitoring systems within their mandates and budgets. LSGBs, Aiyl Okmotu and municipal enterprises will support local public assets through local budgets, pasture fees and user-based O&M arrangements where applicable. Beneficiaries, producer groups, cooperatives and MSMEs will maintain private and collective productive assets through their own contributions and operating revenues. Additional commitments from municipalities, beneficiaries, sponsors or partners will be identified and formalised during full proposal preparation.

155. Replication and scaling-up. Replication after project completion will occur through five pathways. First, climate-risk diagnostics, planning templates and O&M requirements tested under ALATOO will be integrated into SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs, allowing Aiyl Okmotu/LSGBs, leskhozoes and protected-area administrations to apply the same approach in additional sites. Second, pasture and forest monitoring tools, protocols and decision-support products developed under Component 3 will remain with the relevant institutions and guide future targeting, planning and investment decisions. Third, grant manuals, eligibility criteria, business-planning tools and climate-resilient value-chain models developed under Component 2 will provide a replicable package for future government, IFAD and partner-financed livelihood programmes. Fourth, training modules, guidance notes, case studies and policy briefs will be disseminated through MWRAPI/APIU, technical partners and IFAD/Adaptation Fund learning channels. Fifth, demonstrated O&M and cost-recovery arrangements, including pasture fees, local budget allocations, user contributions and beneficiary/MSME revenues, will provide practical financing models for maintaining and expanding successful measures. Detailed replication responsibilities, products and financing channels will be confirmed during full proposal preparation.

K. Environmental and Social Impacts and Risks

156. The environmental and social screening presented below covers potential direct, indirect, cumulative and transboundary risks that may arise from the proposed project. It will be further refined during full proposal preparation in line with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy, the Adaptation Fund Gender Policy and IFAD SECAP. The project is preliminarily classified as Category B because potential risks are moderate, site-specific and manageable through standard mitigation measures and site-specific ESMP/ESCMP instruments where required.

157. During full proposal preparation, ALATOO will undergo detailed assessment in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy, the Adaptation Fund Gender Policy and IFAD SECAP. Further consultations will be conducted at ministerial, district and Ayl Aymak levels with beneficiaries, local authorities, institutions, civil society, academia, women and youth groups, and partner organizations. Consultation records will be maintained as evidence.

158. Safeguards management of partially unspecified subprojects. Any activities treated as partially unspecified subprojects will be subject to the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy, IFAD SECAP, and the project ESMP/ESMS. No subproject will be financed or implemented before eligibility, location, beneficiaries, technical design, safeguards category, mitigation measures and institutional responsibilities have been confirmed. The project will apply exclusion criteria, environmental and social screening, categorization, stakeholder consultation, disclosure, GRM procedures, and site-specific ESMP/ESCMP measures where required. These requirements will be reflected in the PIM, grant manuals, procurement documents, contracts and grant agreements, and will be monitored by APIU and IFAD during implementation.

Table 7 – Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Checklist

Checklist of Environmental and Social Principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
ESP 1 <i>Compliance with the Law</i>		Low risk. Potential impacts and risks: Risk of non-compliance with national environmental, social, labour, land, water, pasture, forest, protected-area or permitting requirements by project contractors, service providers, grantees or local implementing partners. Mitigation measures: All activities will be screened against applicable national laws and AF ESP requirements. Required permits, clearances and approvals will be obtained before works. Legal compliance clauses will be included in contracts, grant agreements and technical specifications. APIU will monitor compliance during implementation.
ESP 2 <i>Access and Equity</i>		Medium risk. Potential impacts and risks: Benefits could be captured by better-off or more influential groups, while poorer households, women, youth, smallholders, pasture users, forest users or remote communities face barriers to participation and access to grants, services or decision-making. Mitigation measures: Apply transparent targeting, eligibility and scoring criteria; women/youth/vulnerability quotas; public communication of benefits and selection rules; community validation; sex- and age-disaggregated monitoring; field spot checks; and GRM channels to address exclusion, discrimination or elite capture.
ESP 3 <i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i>		Low/Medium risk. Potential impacts and risks: Vulnerable groups may be insufficiently reached due to poverty, remoteness, limited mobility, weak representation, social norms, disability, age, gender roles, or limited access to information and productive groups. Mitigation measures: Use inclusive outreach, women-only and youth-sensitive consultations where needed, accessible meeting arrangements, GALS/BALI approaches, vulnerability criteria in grant selection, support from regional coordinators, and monitoring of participation and benefits by vulnerability category where feasible.
ESP 4 <i>Human Rights</i>		Low risk. Potential impacts and risks: Risk of inadequate participation, discrimination, exclusion, or insufficient access to information and grievance channels. No activity is expected to violate human rights, but the principle applies throughout the project. Mitigation measures: Participation will be voluntary and based on informed consultations. The project will apply non-discrimination principles, transparent eligibility criteria, accessible disclosure, confidential grievance channels, and safeguards screening during full proposal preparation and implementation.
ESP 5 <i>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>		Medium risk. Potential impacts and risks: Women may face barriers to meaningful participation and access to benefits due to social norms, household responsibilities, weaker access to land/property, finance and productive groups, lower representation in pasture/forest decision-making, and possible backlash or increased workload. Mitigation measures: Prepare a Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan at full proposal stage. Apply women-responsive consultations, GALS/BALI, women/youth participation thresholds, gender-sensitive eligibility criteria, sex-disaggregated monitoring, GRM/GBV-sensitive referral arrangements, and screening to avoid increasing women's workload or exposure to GBV/SEA/SH risks.
ESP 6 <i>Core Labour Rights</i>		Medium risk. Potential impacts and risks: Weak labour compliance by contractors, service providers, MSMEs or grantees, including informal labour, inadequate OHS, insufficient PPE, poor working conditions, non-compliance with minimum-age requirements, or unsafe use of tools and machinery. Mitigation measures: Include labour, OHS, no forced labour, no child labour, non-discrimination, minimum-age and safe-work clauses in contracts and grant agreements. Provide OHS guidance, PPE where relevant, worker awareness, contractor supervision and labour-compliance monitoring. Further labour-risk assessment will be completed at full proposal/design stage.

ESP 7	Indigenous Peoples	X	No risk. Potential impacts and risks: No Indigenous Peoples, as defined under AF/IFAD standards, have been identified in the Kyrgyz Republic or in the expected project context. Mitigation measures: No Indigenous Peoples-specific measures are required at concept stage. This finding will be reconfirmed during full proposal preparation and stakeholder consultations.
ESP 8	Involuntary Resettlement		Medium risk. Potential impacts and risks: No physical displacement is expected. Temporary economic displacement or restriction of access may occur if restoration, afforestation, rotational grazing, resting of degraded land, or protected-area measures temporarily limit access to pasture, forest land or natural resources. Mitigation measures: Exclude activities causing physical displacement. Identify access restrictions through participatory planning, disclose them in advance, and manage them through agreed mitigation measures, alternative access arrangements, livelihood support where required, documented community agreements and GRM. Site-specific safeguards instruments will be prepared where needed.
ESP 9	Protection of Natural Habitats		Medium risk. Potential impacts and risks: Activities in forests, pasture landscapes and protected areas could affect natural habitats if poorly sited or implemented, including through disturbance, inappropriate species selection, unsustainable resource use, or works inconsistent with protected-area zoning. Mitigation measures: Screen all activities for habitat risks. Avoid conversion or degradation of critical habitats. Ensure consistency with NRMPs, PAMPs and protected-area zoning. Use low-impact ecosystem-based measures, native and climate-suitable species, seasonal restrictions where needed, and site-specific ESMP/ESCMP measures.
ESP 10	Conservation of Biological Diversity		Medium risk. Potential impacts and risks: Biodiversity risks may arise from inappropriate restoration practices, introduction of unsuitable or invasive species, disturbance to sensitive habitats, unsustainable harvesting of forest products, or procurement from suppliers linked to unsustainable natural-resource extraction. Mitigation measures: Use native, locally adapted and climate-suitable species; prohibit invasive or ecologically unsuitable species; apply biodiversity screening; align activities with forest/protected-area management plans; manage supplier risks; and include biodiversity protection measures in technical designs and ESMP/ESCMPs.
ESP 11	Climate Change		Low risk. Potential impacts and risks: Project activities are expected to generate adaptation benefits and no significant GHG emissions. Maladaptation risks could arise if livelihood or livestock-related support increases herd pressure, water stress, land degradation or vulnerability to future climate conditions. Mitigation measures: Screen all investments for climate resilience and maladaptation. Prioritise productivity, pasture recovery, water efficiency, diversified livelihoods and reduced pressure on degraded resources rather than herd expansion. Apply climate-risk diagnostics and exclude investments inconsistent with projected climate risks.
ESP 12	Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		Medium risk. Potential impacts and risks: Localised risks may include construction waste, packaging waste, fuel/oil leakage, manure and effluents from livestock-related activities, dust, water contamination, inefficient resource use, or unsafe handling of inputs under livelihood/value-chain activities. Mitigation measures: Include waste-management, pollution-prevention and resource-efficiency requirements in contracts, grant agreements and ESMP/ESCMPs. Require safe storage/disposal of waste and inputs, manure/effluent management where relevant, dust and spill control, water-protection measures, and exclusion of hazardous or banned substances.
ESP 13	Public Health		Moderate risk. Potential impacts and risks: Risks may include occupational health and safety hazards, accidents from machinery/tools, zoonotic and livestock-related disease risks, unsafe processing practices, and community exposure to construction or small infrastructure works. Mitigation measures: Apply OHS measures, PPE, safe-work procedures, contractor supervision, community safety measures, veterinary/biosecurity guidance where relevant, food-safety considerations for value-chain activities, and accessible GRM channels, including confidential reporting of GBV/SEA/SH-related concerns.
ESP 14	Physical and Cultural Heritage		Low risk. Potential impacts and risks: No significant impacts on physical or cultural heritage are expected. Chance finds or unintended impacts could occur if small works are located near sites of historical, cultural, religious or traditional value. Mitigation measures: Screen sites during planning, avoid known cultural heritage sites including UNESCO-recognised sites, consult local communities where relevant, include chance-find procedures in works contracts, and stop works/notify competent authorities if cultural heritage is encountered.
ESP 15	Lands and Soil Conservation		Low risk. Potential impacts and risks: Minor risks may include localised soil disturbance, erosion, compaction or vegetation damage from small-scale works, access improvements, water points, restoration activities or grazing-management changes. Mitigation measures: Apply site screening, erosion-control measures, slope-sensitive designs, revegetation/restoration of disturbed areas, sustainable grazing plans, avoidance of fragile sites where needed, and supervision of works. Overall, project activities are expected to improve land and soil conservation through restoration and sustainable pasture/forest management.

Part III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

A. Alignment with Adaptation Fund Strategic Results Framework

Table 9 – Alignment with Adaptation Fund Strategic Results Framework

The grant amounts presented in Table 9 refer to project activity costs only and exclude project execution costs and the Implementing Entity fee, in line with Adaptation Fund results framework guidance.

Project Objective	Project Objective Indicators	Adaptation Fund Outcome	Fund Outcome Indicator	AF Grant Amount (USD, excluding execution cost and IE fee)
Enhance the climate resilience of forests, pasture ecosystems and agropastoral communities in the Kyrgyz Republic.	Number of direct and indirect beneficiaries reached; hectares of pasture, forest and agricultural land under climate-resilient management, restoration or protection; number of households adopting climate-resilient livelihood practices.	Outcome 5: Increased ecosystem resilience in response to climate change and variability-induced stress	5. Ecosystem services and natural resource assets maintained or improved under climate change and variability-induced stress	Total objective-level grant amount: USD16,682,028
		Outcome 6: Diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in targeted areas	6.2. Percentage of targeted population with sustained climate-resilient alternative livelihoods	
		Outcome 8: Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies	8. Innovative adaptation practices are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated at regional, national and/or subnational level	
Project Outcomes	Project Outcomes Indicators	Fund Output	Fund Output Indicator	Total outcome-level grant amount (USD, excluding execution cost and IE fee)
Component 1. Climate-resilient pasture and forest systems				
Outcome 1. Enhanced resilience of pasture and forest systems	Hectares of pasture and forest ecosystems under climate-resilient management, restoration or protection.	Output 5: Vulnerable ecosystem services and natural resource assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	5.1. No. of natural resource assets created, maintained or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type and scale)	Total outcome-level grant amount: US\$11,400,000
Component 2. Climate-resilient rural livelihoods				
Outcome 2. Enhanced resilience of agropastoral livelihoods to climate change	Number of households adopting climate-resilient livelihood practices and technologies.	Output 6: Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	6.2.1. Type of income sources for households generated under climate change scenario	Total outcome-level grant amount: US\$4,200,000
Component 3. Climate-responsive monitoring and decision support systems				
Outcome 3. Climate adaptive approaches for livelihoods, pasture and forest systems mainstreamed at Aiyl Aymak, district and national level	Number of climate-adaptive monitoring systems and management tools operational and formally adopted or used by relevant institutions.	Output 8: Viable innovations are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated.	8.1. No. of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies accelerated, scaled-up and/or replicated	Total outcome-level grant amount: US\$1,082,028

Part IV: ENDORSEMENT

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the Government⁷⁵

Mr. Akyl Toktobaev, Minister of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic Designated Authority to the Adaptation Fund	Date: 1 June 2026
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КЫРГЫЗ РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН
ЖАРАТЫЛЫШ РЕСУРСТАРЫ,
ЭКОЛОГИЯ ЖАНА ТЕХНИКАЛЫК
КӨЗӨМӨЛ МИНИСТРЛИГИ

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СИН 00306202110080
ИУРК 30968288
Кр Фм карагзуу БК БИК 440201
э/с 4402011000102181



МИНИСТЕРСТВО ПРИРОДНЫХ
РЕСУРСОВ, ЭКОЛОГИИ И
ТЕХНИЧЕСКОГО НАДЗОРА
КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ

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01.06. 2026 № 07-01-10/4666

На № _____

The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board
Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for the Adaptive Landscapes & Agropastoral Transformation for Opportunities & Outcomes" (ALATOO) Project

Your Excellencies,

In my capacity as the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Kyrgyz Republic, I confirm that the above national project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities for implementing adaptation activities to reduce the adverse impacts and risks posed by climate change in the country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and executed by the Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture, and Processing Industry (MWRAPI).

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Minister
of Natural Resources,
Ecology and Technical Supervision
of the Kyrgyz Republic

international@mnr.gov.kg

Akyl Toktobaev

⁷⁵ Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

B. Implementing Entity Certification

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project.

Implementing Entity Coordinator

Mr Pierre-Yves Guedez

Lead Climate and Environmental Funds

Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division



Date: 12 June 2026

email: p.guedez@ifad.org
ecgmailbox@ifad.org

Project Contact Person:

Mr Walid Nasr, Regional Lead Climate and Environment Specialist

email: w.nasr@ifad.org

Ms Laura Mattioli, IFAD Country Director in the Kyrgyz Republic

email: l.mattioli@ifad.org

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МИНИСТЕРСТВО ПРИРОДНЫХ
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На № _____

**The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board
Secretariat**

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Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

**Minister
of Natural Resources,
Ecology and Technical Supervision
of the Kyrgyz Republic**

Akyl Toktobaev

international@mnr.gov.kg

Annex 1: Stakeholder consultation process

Date / location	Stakeholders consulted: names and institutions represented	Participants	F	M	Participants background	Subjects/issues discussed	Agreements reached / preferred interventions	How inputs were incorporated in project design
2-10 February 2026 and remote thematic meetings	APIU; Project director; project coordinator; pasture expert; forestry expert; gender and social inclusion expert	7	2	5	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records.	- Briefings on AF project design cycle and requirements - Joint framing of project activities based on best practices/lessons learned and current context - Thematic technical discussions on governance, current state of resources, main stakes and climate impacts on pasture systems and forest systems - Thematic discussions on best practices for resilient livelihoods, value chain prioritization and clustering processes, etc.	- Tailoring of project approaches and activities to the reality of the local context - Replication of best practices from recently closed and ongoing projects (particularly RRPCP-ADAPT and LMDP I/II)	- Tailoring of project approaches and activities to the reality of the local context - Replication of best practices from recently closed and ongoing projects (particularly RRPCP-ADAPT and LMDP I/II)
Monday-Friday, 26-30 January 2026	Training of Trainers on Business Action Learning for Innovation (BALI) programme under the on-going RRPCP-Adapt project; Bilateral interviews with 7 regional facilitators of the RRPCP-Adapt project Belekova Nurbubu, Alymbaev Timur, Mamatkulov Mavlyan, Alybaev Jenishbek, Omurbekov Urmat, Sattarov Bakyt, Usubaliyev Ishezbek, Jolborsov Ulukbek, Abdullaev D., Bayalieva E., AlymbaevaZ h., Zhusupbekova S., Yrsaliyev B., Ashiraliev D., Mamadlieva G, Isakulova D, Dosuev M., Karagulov A., Ismailbekov M., Sydykova G., Kulubaev B., Baitanaeva I., Usupova E.	22	9	13	Participants include RRPCP-ADAPT Regional Coordinators, and APIU staff	- Experience and lessons learned from GALS and BALI - Positive behavioural change and male engagement observed during the delivery of GALS modules - Quota for women and youth significantly ensured their proper representation in groups applying for GALS and BALI - Key lessons: 1) community mobilisation timing is vital in achieving effective outreach (e.g avoiding summer and harvesting season); 2) Including physical visits for regional coordinators to villages for the outreach activities - Importance of ensuring ongoing mentoring between modules and after cooperatives receive BALI grant - About 30% of cooperatives have updated their application for BALI after receiving GALS reflecting a change in their vision. These updates are expected to take place again after receiving BALI training. - Village heads and Women Community group at village level are key assets in community mobilisation - Youth engagement is getting better due to the slow flow of outmigration. The focus should be on innovation and modern technology.	- Women participation varies between regions depending on cultural acceptance and building on previous donor programmes. - Land rent challenge is the main reasons behind their limited participation in forest groups. - Land rent challenge is the main reasons behind their limited participation in forest groups. - AOs are the entry point for community outreach, and their interest and capacity vary between regions which explains discrepancies between regions in GALS participants and submitted letters of interest - Lower amount of grants has limited elite capture. However, it is advisable to raise the grant amount/ top-up grants to support new cooperatives. - Husbands get supportive when women economic activity is home based and/or close to home with extra household income.	- Women participation varies between regions depending on cultural acceptance and building on previous donor programmes. - Land rent challenge is the main reasons behind their limited participation in forest groups. - AOs are the entry point for community outreach, and their interest and capacity vary between regions which explains discrepancies between regions in GALS participants and submitted letters of interest - Lower amount of grants has limited elite capture. However, it is advisable to raise the grant amount/ top-up grants to support new cooperatives. - Husbands get supportive when women economic activity is home based and/or close to home with extra household income.
26 January 2026	GALS and BALI International Consultant and Master Trainer Kuttubaeva Asel, International Consultant	1	1	0	Participant names/institutions are listed in the technical partner relevant to project design.	- Background of the gender empowerment context - Experience of GALS training in RRPCP ADAPT - Lessons learned and recommendations for integrating GALS and BALI in future projects	- Applying lessons learned from RRPCP-ADAPT for optimum results - Integrating mentoring visits and coaching in BALI planning	- Applying lessons learned from RRPCP-ADAPT for optimum results - Integrating mentoring visits and coaching in BALI planning
Tuesday, 27 January 2026	Minister of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry; Minister and First Deputy Minister	2		2	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- Commendable progress under the on-going RRPCP-Adapt. - Pastures were re-confirmed as the top priority for the MWRAP. - Infrastructure needs on pastures are still high and require more investments, especially in the context of climate change. - MWRAP plans for allocating unproductive pastures for other agricultural activities around the villages including agroforestry. - Required support in transitioning "from quantity to quality" in livestock inventories.	- Pastures remain the main topic under the new ALATOO project and IFAD continues working on them applying a programmatic approach through its RRPCP-Adapt, upcoming LMDP III and ALATOO under design, avoiding duplication and reinforcing complementarity where possible.	- Pastures remain the main topic under the new ALATOO project and IFAD continues working on them applying a programmatic approach through its RRPCP-Adapt, upcoming LMDP III and ALATOO under design, avoiding duplication and reinforcing complementarity where possible.
Tuesday, 27 January 2026	Forest Service under the Ministry of Emergency Situations; Deputy Director and Chief Specialists	5	2	3	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design..	- The Forestry Service proposed updated grant conditions compared to ones under the ongoing RRPCP-Adapt for forest users, as their land plots are scattered geographically and creating groups of 10 users may be challenging. - It was recommended to include forest protection activities in the new project and to ensure feedback mechanisms from forest users regarding project implementation, including accessible contact points for inquiries or complaints.	- The new project will mainly focus on sustainable forest management practices including improved monitoring, fire protection and early treatment of forest diseases. - The full design will address the issue of organizing forest users into large groups, while the formulators will keep an eye on the on-going RRPCP-Adapt's progress and measures taken.	- The new project will mainly focus on sustainable forest management practices including improved monitoring, fire protection and early treatment of forest diseases. - The full design will address the issue of organizing forest users into large groups, while the formulators will keep an eye on the on-going RRPCP-Adapt's progress and measures taken.
Tuesday, 27 January 2026	Kyrgyz National Agrarian University, Rector of the University				Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- KNAU is an implementing partner for the ongoing RRPCP-Adapt, as it is selected as one of four sites for nurseries establishment. - KNAU has the only in the country in-situ laboratory and works in close cooperation with other nurseries by providing young seedlings. - The capacity can be still increased as well as the volume of production.	- KNAU engagement foreseen under Component 3, to document project activities through innovative research grants, and possibly support the enhancement of national monitoring systems	- KNAU engagement foreseen under Component 3, to document project activities through innovative research grants, and possibly support the enhancement of national monitoring systems

Date / location	Stakeholders consulted: names and institutions represented	Participants	F	M	Participants background	Subjects/issues discussed	Agreements reached / preferred interventions	How inputs were incorporated in project design
						- There is a need in support with research grants for people in academia.		
Thursday, 29 January 2026	Ministry of Economy and Commerce; Deputy Minister; Head of the External Assistance Department; Head of the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit for External Assistance, External Assistance Department; Chief Specialist, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit for External Assistance, External Assistance Department	4	2	2	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- Information on national commission charged with reviewing grant assistance projects. - Regarding the conditions for consulting services and operational costs, the need to adhere to the same terms and conditions as applied under the Public Investment Projects was emphasized.	- Agreed on the way forward regarding taking into consideration all ministries, including the Ministry of Economy's proposals and comments on the draft Concept Note before submitting it to the Adaptation Fund for review.	- Agreed on the way forward regarding taking into consideration all ministries, including the Ministry of Economy's proposals and comments on the draft Concept Note before submitting it to the Adaptation Fund for review.
Monday, February 2, 2026	Minister of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision; Deputy Minister				Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- Priority needs for protected areas emphasized (strong scientific approach, capacity building of staff, and assessment of park carrying capacity and visitor management) - Briefing on key national documents of which NAP and NB-SAP - Transitioning from a quantity- to quality-approach is a priority for agriculture.	- Inclusion of 6 State Nature Parks among direct project targets - Relevant documents included in Strategic Alignment Section - Project approach focused on diversification and quality, with no increase of herds size	- Inclusion of 6 State Nature Parks among direct project targets - Relevant documents included in Strategic Alignment Section - Project approach focused on diversification and quality, with no increase of herds size
Monday, February 2, 2026	State Agency for Civil Service and Local Self-Government under the Cabinet of Ministers; Deputy Head and specialists of the departments	6	4	2	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- In light of the administrative and territorial reforms carried out, the limited capacity of local self-government bodies to manage pastures was highlighted, along with the need for further capacity building.	- Direct support to LSGBs capacities (technical and financial) for planning, integration of climate adaptation priorities and resilient pasture management at the core of project approaches under Component 1	- Direct support to LSGBs capacities (technical and financial) for planning, integration of climate adaptation priorities and resilient pasture management at the core of project approaches under Component 1
Tuesday, February 3, 2026	Association of PUU (Kyrgyz Zhaiyty); Director	2	0	2	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- Updates on evolution of pasture governance in the context of ongoing reforms, and involvement of the association in introducing amendments to the legislation, particularly in the area of pasture management - Importance of consolidating/building capacities in transition period to avoid losing resilient practices - Key issues for resilient pasture management, including setting, collection and management of fees - Role of Gyprozem in pasture monitoring	- Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Consolidation of pasture monitoring building on existing data, systems and stakeholders included under Component 3	- Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Consolidation of pasture monitoring building on existing data, systems and stakeholders included under Component 3
Tuesday, February 3, 2026	Department of Phytosanitary of the Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry; Head of Department	3	2	1	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- Role of the department in terms of monitoring risks of pests and diseases, particularly controlling all imported planting material and delivering certificates - No monitoring or alert system at the level of the department	- The project will comply with verifications in case any planting material is imported	- The project will comply with verifications in case any planting material is imported
Tuesday, February 3, 2026 & Wednesday, February 4, 2026	Veterinary Service, Livestock Development, Pastures and Forage of the Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry; Veterinarian; Animal Husbandry Specialist	2	0	2	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- Major reform in 2025 merged pasture management into the veterinary service at central level, putting a strain on the unit (new responsibilities with limited expertise); new responsibilities include pasture fertility/reseeding, implemented by district veterinary specialists with no expertise/capacity - The merging of pasture management into the veterinary service also resulted in loss of the GIS unit for pastures (and 70 staff at regional level) - Overall governance reform is still confusing for many stakeholders who are not aware of their roles or lack sufficient capacities to endorse it: importance of building trust and sense of ownership at every level - New process for the development of PLMPs associated with lack of ownership and limited implementation capacity (of LSGBs): RUARs should approve the plans but lack capacities. Focus groups should be planned at local level to ensure communities express their needs. - Previous good practices for pasture management included rotational grazing and resting but those are being lost in the current governance transition. AOs are responsible for maintenance and protection of pastures (including enforcement of resting through enclosures/g)	- Context sections reflect information collected on current situation and pasture governance - Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Good practices for pasture resilience supported under Component 1 - Good practices for livestock and fodder production resilience embedded in Output 2.1	- Context sections reflect information collected on current situation and pasture governance - Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Good practices for pasture resilience supported under Component 1 - Good practices for livestock and fodder production resilience embedded in Output 2.1
Tuesday, February 3, 2026	Association of Forest and Land Users (KAFLU); Head of association; Project coordinator; Financial manager; M&E specialist; Communications specialist - Sairagul Tajibaeva	4	2	2	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Includes local/community	- Association's work areas and collaboration with the Forestry Department, including current experience with vulnerable populations and project-provided support (success stories professionalizing women groups engaged in high quality transformed products)	- Support to forest users and structuring/professionalization of corresponding value chains included under Component 2	- Support to forest users and structuring/professionalization of corresponding value chains included under Component 2

Date / location	Stakeholders consulted: names and institutions represented	Participants	F	M	Participants background	Subjects/issues discussed	Agreements reached / preferred interventions	How inputs were incorporated in project design
	- Madina Karmysheva - Konurbaev Erkin - Bostonbaev Toolos				relevant to project targeting, including.			
Wednesday, February 4	Ministry of Labor, Social Security, and Migration; Head of the Department for Employment Promotion Policy and Decision Preparation and specialists of the Department - Turkebokova Nargiza - Djumagulova Zuura - Kozhomkulova Munara	3	3	0	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- Information on new Social Contract Programme, selection, implementation, and impacts on vulnerable groups - Possibility to deliver financial literacy training as part of the Social Contract Program - Possibility of project providing grants to vulnerable population groups included in the lists of LSGBs discussed	- Identification of target groups takes information received into account - Project aligns with approaches promoted by Social Contract Programme to support vulnerable groups' entrepreneurship	- Identification of target groups takes information received into account - Project aligns with approaches promoted by Social Contract Programme to support vulnerable groups' entrepreneurship
Thursday, February 5, 2026	FAO; FAO representative and specialists	5	1	4	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. UN agency.	- FAO GCF project launched in December 2025 at national level - Discussion around key thematic areas: access to pastures, forest, and monitoring based on FAO's work at community and village levels.	- FAO/GCF CS-FOR taken into account for geographic targeting and duplication section - Good practices from FAO experience integrated in the project	- FAO/GCF CS-FOR taken into account for geographic targeting and duplication section - Good practices from FAO experience integrated in the project
Thursday, February 5	UN Women Representative; Representative and programme assistant - Sadiq Syed - Dinara Dzhamakova	2	1	1	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. UN agency.	- UN Women's role in supporting Gender Equality agenda in the Kyrgyz Republic - Current projects and initiatives aimed at promoting women economic empowerment, promote exports and open market linkages, and eliminating GBV	Information reflected in the Preliminary Gender Assessment	Information reflected in the Preliminary Gender Assessment
Thursday, February 5, 2026	Kyrgyz-Gyprozem; Deputy Director, Pasture Management Specialist; Team Leader	3	1	2	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- Role and experience of Gyprozem in pasture monitoring, including geobotanic studies and 2021/2022 study on the productivity of pastures (plots mapped and checked regularly for yield measurement) - Lack of capacities, budget and staff due to successive downsizing - Role of Gyprozem in verifying/approving delineation of maps (rejection of products developed by service providers with no involvement of Gyprozem)	Foreseen involvement of Gyprozem under Component 3	Foreseen involvement of Gyprozem under Component 3
Thursday, February 5, 2026	Camp ALATOO NGO; Forestry expert	14	6	8	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Public institution and technical partner relevant to project design.	Camp ALATOO's previous collaboration with Gyprozem to develop the digital system of pastures for the Department of Pastures of the MWRAP: the knowledge and materials are still there, but require update and ownership.	ALATOO will have a dedicated sub-component (under Component 3) on pasture monitoring system for the Veterinary Department, which now also includes the unit on pastures (ex-department).	ALATOO will have a dedicated sub-component (under Component 3) on pasture monitoring system for the Veterinary Department, which now also includes the unit on pastures (ex-department).
Friday, February 6, 2026	Chon-Kemin State Nature Park; Deputy director, Head of territory, Head of village, Pasture Specialist, Forest Ranger, Entrepreneur	14	0	14	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	- Discussion around the key objectives of the park: protection and restoration, establishment, capacity, zones, and operations - Climate impacts on the park (specifically forest resources) and current adaptive strategies: visit of forest nursery, new practices adopted for climate adaptation - Beyond enhanced resilience of tree seedlings production, climate challenges include firefighting, water storage and management	Activities for resilient forest management (leskhoz and state nature parks) under Component 1 reflect the discussions and observations	Activities for resilient forest management (leskhoz and state nature parks) under Component 1 reflect the discussions and observations
Friday, February 6, 2026	Chon-Kemin Ayl Aymak; - Representatives of LSGB; - Pasture users;	24	0	24	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Includes local/community stakeholders and vulnerable groups relevant to project targeting, including women/youth.	- Discussions with local authorities and community members (pasture users) - Characterization of family farms and climate impacts on local agropastoral systems (early spring, snow deficit, water deficit in summer for irrigation, fast melting of glaciers and rapid runoff causing erosion, decrease in fodder yields, siltation of irrigated land, etc.), and adaptation measures (late autumn irrigation, increased fodder production, etc.) - Pathways to restore traditional mobility (infrastructure including roads, internet access, bridges, pits/crematorium for dead livestock; economic solutions for dairy in summer pastures) - LSGB needs in pastures governance transition: support to resources, capacity building, enforcement, sustainability of municipal enterprises, etc.	- Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Good practices for pasture resilience supported under Component 1 - Good practices for livestock resilience embedded in Output 2.1	- Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Good practices for pasture resilience supported under Component 1 - Good practices for livestock resilience embedded in Output 2.1
Friday, February 6, 2026	Chon-Kemin Ayl Aymak; - Representatives of LSGB; - Pasture users; - Women group Tilepbergenova K., Djaparova N., Omuralieva R., Satarova N., Samidinova B., Orozalieva K., Alybaeva A., Sultanova	12	12	0	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Includes local/community stakeholders and vulnerable groups relevant to project	- Focus Group discussion with women (small-scale producers, employees, members of the council) on: - Women economic activities, workload, challenges around livestock production, income diversification, and women leadership - Key challenges to their agriculture and livestock production - Workload and balance between housework and economic activities	Information reflected in Preliminary Gender Assessment and in tailoring activities to women's needs (particularly under Component 2)	Information reflected in Preliminary Gender Assessment and in tailoring activities to women's needs (particularly under Component 2)

Date / location	Stakeholders consulted: names and institutions represented	Participants	F	M	Participants background	Subjects/issues discussed	Agreements reached / preferred interventions	How inputs were incorporated in project design
	K., Isakova A., Isakova Ch., Sattarova Sh., Zhantaeva S.				targeting, including women/youth. Focus Group discussion with women (small-scale producers, employees, members of the council)	- Aspiration for new opportunities for income diversification such as green-houses and eco-tourism - Spouse's support to women new economic activity activities		
Saturday, February 7, 2026	Tamchy Aiy! Aimak; - Representatives of LSGB; - Pasture users, livestock farmers, beekeeper	14	0	14	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Includes local/community stakeholders and vulnerable groups relevant to project targeting, including women/youth.	- Experience in receiving RRPCP-ADAPT trainings - Climate change effects and impacts, including water shortage & feed production deficit - Current pasture management practices (village gathering, agreement on pasture fee, centralization by shepherds) - Community vision on improving infrastructure for pasture in remote areas (and restoring mobility); livestock "summer camps" for parking herds - Need for: shared understanding that pastures are a common resource & to subsidize pastures resilience - Pasture management fees and users (finding balance between increasing fees and managing social tensions); flow of funds - Resources are thin stretched and productivity-oriented approaches are not sustainable	- Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Good practices for pasture resilience supported under Component 1 - Good practices for livestock and fodder production resilience embedded in Output 2.1	- Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Good practices for pasture resilience supported under Component 1 - Good practices for livestock and fodder production resilience embedded in Output 2.1
Saturday, February 7, 2026	Balykchy Leskhoz (Forest Enterprise); - Leskhoz administration; - Forest Users Groups	8	2	6	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Includes local/community stakeholders and vulnerable groups relevant to project targeting, including women/youth.	- Climate impacts on land, water scarcity and disasters (floods), late frost and hail, etc. - Current challenges (technology, markets, storage) - Common issues affecting Forest User Groups (climate change, invasive species, management, etc.) - Experience with GALIS/BALI training - Experience with the Social Contract Programme - Recommendations for ALATOO design	- Activities for forest management (leskhoz and state nature parks) under Component 1 reflect the discussions and observations - Support to value chains related to forest products under Component 2 reflect discussions and observations	- Activities for forest management (leskhoz and state nature parks) under Component 1 reflect the discussions and observations - Support to value chains related to forest products under Component 2 reflect discussions and observations
Saturday, February 7, 2026	Pasture users of the Ulakhoh; - Representatives of LSGB; - Former PUU members; - Pasture users	11	2	9	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Includes local/community stakeholders and vulnerable groups relevant to project targeting, including women/youth.	- Sustainable practices from IFAD past investments (LMDP II) - Experience from local producers on their engagement in RRPCP-ADAPT - Barriers to restoring mobility - Climate impacts on agriculture, fodder production, and water management	- Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Good practices for pasture resilience supported under Component 1 - Good practices for livestock/ fodder production resilience in Output 2.1	- Support to the transition in governance, building capacities and maintaining involvement of key stakeholders reflected in Component 1 - Good practices for pasture resilience supported under Component 1 - Good practices for livestock/ fodder production resilience in Output 2.1
Saturday, February 7, 2026	Pasture users of the Ulakhoh; - Representatives of LSGB; - Former PUU members; - Pasture users	1	1	0	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Includes local/community stakeholders and vulnerable groups relevant to project targeting, including women/youth.	Discussion with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development's local representative on the impact of the Social Contract grants on beneficiaries: - Significant increase in the household income - Importance of ongoing mentoring and coaching - Crucial role of technical and financial capacity building prior to approving grants - The limited grant amount may hinder sustainability of these micro-businesses	Information reflected in Preliminary Gender Assessment and in tailoring activities to women's needs (particularly under Component 2)	Information reflected in Preliminary Gender Assessment and in tailoring activities to women's needs (particularly under Component 2)
Monday, February 9, 2026	Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry; First deputy Minister	1	0	1	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. Government, public institution relevant to project design.	Presentation and validation ALATOO structure, objectives, components, and feedback	- Approaches and activities confirmed as valid and highly relevant	- Approaches and activities confirmed as valid and highly relevant
Tuesday 3 March (virtual)	FAO/GCF CS-FOR; Chief Technical Advisor and Lead Technical Officer	2	0	2	Participant names/institutions are listed in the consultation/attendance records. UN agency.	- Briefing on CS-FOR activities and approaches, area of intervention, key challenges and best practices - Approaches foreseen seek to address similar issues with different tools - Discussion on support needed for enhanced monitoring of pastures and forests	- CS-FOR included in section on duplication - Complementarity and possible synergies identified	- CS-FOR included in section on duplication - Complementarity and possible synergies identified



Revised PFG Submission Form¹ (additions in red)

Project Formulation Grant (PFG)

Submission Date: TBC

Adaptation Fund Project ID: TBC

Country/ies: Kyrgyz Republic

Title of Project/Programme: Adaptive Landscapes & Agropastoral Transformation for Opportunities & Outcomes (ALATOO) Project

Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE): Multilateral Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)

Executing Entity/ies: International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)

A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	January 2027
Completion date of PFG	November 2027

B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	Budget note²
Gender, environmental and social risk analyses and preparation of required safeguards instruments, including the Environmental and Social and Climate Management Plan, Gender Action Plan, and USP screening approach	· Detailed environmental and social risk assessment completed · Environmental and Social and Climate Management Plan formulated · Stakeholder Engagement Plan formulated · Grievance Redress Mechanism developed · Literature Review of Climate Assessments completed · Solid/Liquid Waste Management Plan developed, if required · Gender Action Plan formulated · USP screening approach developed	17,000	· Consultancy fees: US\$10,000 · Field consultations and logistics: US\$7,000

¹ As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.

² The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break-down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

Integrated climate vulnerability, GIS and remote-sensing assessment to support geographic targeting, selection criteria and prioritization of target Aiyl Aymaks during project design	· Vulnerability assessment completed · Selection criteria, indicators and prioritization methodology for target Aiyl Aymaks finalized · Screening-level spatial analysis prepared to support geographic targeting and full proposal design	30,000	· Consultancy fees: US\$25,000 · Field verifications and logistics: US\$5,000
Technical, ecological and institutional design studies for climate-resilient pasture and forest systems	· Technical feasibility inputs for pasture and forest adaptation investments prepared · Recommendations for integration into SEDPs, PLMPs, NRMPs and PAMPs developed	20,000	· Consultancy fees: US\$20,000
Economic and financial analysis, including matching grant design parameters	· Economic and financial analysis completed · Cost-effectiveness and adaptation rationale for priority investments refined · Proposed design parameters for adaptive matching grants and value chain support prepared	18,000	· Consultancy fees: US\$13,000 · Logistics costs: US\$5,000
Value chain assessment for climate-resilient products and clusters	· Value chain assessment completed for priority climate-resilient products · Main eligible value chains and indicative activities identified for full proposal design · Pro-poor and climate-relevant selection parameters for value chain support defined	15,000	· Consultancy fees: US\$12,000 · Logistics costs: US\$3,000
Full proposal development, local consultations and workshops, results framework, indicators and M&E plan, implementation arrangements, translation, knowledge management and submission package preparation	· Full proposal package prepared · Consultations conducted, , workshop outputs and reports completed · Updated results framework, project-level indicators and M&E plan finalized · Interpretation and translation of project materials completed	37,250	· Consultancy fees: 20,000 · Workshops, translation and logistics costs: 17,250 USD
IE Fees (8.5% of total project preparation activity costs)		11,666	Calculated as 8.5% of total project preparation activity costs (US\$137,250).
Total Project Formulation Grant		148,916	

The PFG activities requested for the ALATOO project will support the preparation of the full proposal, enabling the Executing Entity to undertake all the analytical, safeguard, design and consultation inputs required to finalize a technically sound, socially inclusive and Adaptation Fund-compliant full proposal. The activities proposed are detailed below.

All activities financed under this PFG are formulation activities to be completed before submission of the full proposal. They will not finance project implementation or project inception activities. During PFG-supported formulation, the project will complete the analytical work required to refine geographic targeting, selection criteria and prioritization of target Aiyl Aymaks for the full proposal. Project inception activities, including validation of workplans, operational manuals, procurement planning and start-up arrangements, will be financed under the approved project grant after project approval. Implementation activities, including investments, grant delivery, local plan implementation, technical assistance and monitoring in the selected intervention areas, will only be undertaken after approval and effectiveness of the full project.

1. Gender, environmental and social risk analyses and formulation of Environmental and Social Management Plan, Gender Action Plan, and USPs screening approach

A comprehensive environmental and social risk analysis and gender assessment will be undertaken during project formulation to ensure that the full proposal is supported by robust safeguard and inclusion measures from the outset. This activity will finance the preparation of the Gender Action Plan and the development of an appropriate screening approach for any activities that remain unidentified at full proposal stage. Based on the detailed risk assessment carried out during full proposal preparation, it will also support the preparation of the specific safeguards instruments required for the project, including the Environmental and Social and Climate Management Plan, Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Grievance Redress Mechanism, Literature Review of Climate Assessments, and, if needed, a Solid/Liquid Waste Management Plan. This will ensure that the project design is fully prepared to meet Adaptation Fund requirements as well as IFAD SECAP provisions at submission and implementation stages.

2. Integrated climate vulnerability, GIS and remote-sensing assessment to support geographic targeting, selection criteria and prioritization of target Aiyl Aymaks during project design

A focused climate vulnerability and spatial assessment will be carried out during project formulation to support geographic targeting and the selection of target Aiyl Aymaks. This activity will finance the development of selection criteria, indicators and a prioritization methodology based on climate hazard exposure, degree of pasture and forest degradation, presence of forest-pasture interfaces, dependence on climate-sensitive livelihoods, socio-economic and demographic indicators, socio-economic vulnerability, remoteness, and complementarity with other interventions. The work will draw on available geospatial, administrative, socio-economic and demographic information, including GIS and remote-sensing analysis, and will provide the screening-level evidence needed to support the full proposal design.

3. Technical, ecological and institutional design studies for climate-resilient pasture and forest systems

Technical, ecological and institutional design work will be undertaken to ensure that the proposed investments in climate-resilient pasture and forest systems are well defined and ready for full proposal stage. This activity will support the studies needed to refine priority interventions, including land restoration, anti-erosion and slope stabilization measures, small-scale water mobilization and conservation, infrastructure facilitating access to summer pastures, forest restoration and fire prevention measures, as well as other productive public investments with a clear adaptation function. It will also assess the relevant institutional and implementation arrangements required to support these investments, including roles and responsibilities of local actors, planning and coordination mechanisms, and entry points for integrating climate adaptation priorities into the relevant local planning instruments, including Socio-Economic Development Plans (SEDPs), Pasture and Livestock Management Plans (PLMPs), Natural Resources Management Plans (NRMPs) and Protected Areas Management Plans (PAMPs).

4. Economic and financial analysis, including matching grant design parameters

Economic and financial analysis will be undertaken to strengthen the justification and design of the proposed investments under the full proposal. This activity will support the refinement of cost-effectiveness analysis, confirm the adaptation rationale of priority interventions, and develop the main design parameters for adaptive matching grants and associated value chain support. It will help ensure that proposed financing modalities are technically sound, economically justified and well aligned with the resilience objectives of the project.

5. Value chain assessment for climate-resilient products and clusters

A value chain assessment will be undertaken during project formulation as a design and diagnostic exercise to strengthen the technical basis of the full proposal. This activity will support the identification and assessment of priority climate-resilient value chains and clusters, including analysis of key actors and linkages, value addition opportunities, buyer demand, climate risks, and the attractiveness of proposed opportunities for smallholders, especially women and youth. It will help identify the main eligible value chains and indicative activities to be supported under the full proposal, so that these can be appropriately designed and assessed from both technical and environmental and social perspectives. The assessment will also help define pro-poor and climate-relevant parameters for value chain support, in line with the project's resilience and inclusion objectives.

6. Full proposal development, local consultations and workshops, results framework, indicators and M&E plan, implementation arrangements, translation, knowledge management and submission package preparation

Full proposal preparation will be supported through a combination of technical analysis, local consultations and workshops, and consolidation of the project design package. This activity will finance the refinement of the results framework, identification of project-level indicators, preparation of the monitoring and evaluation plan, setting the implementation arrangements, and completion of the documentation required for submission. It will also cover translation and interpretation needs during the design mission, consultation records, and the final packaging of the proposal to ensure a complete, coherent and submission-ready document.

C. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund's criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Pierre Yves Guedez			Walid Nasr		w.nasr@ifad.org