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IMPLEMENTING THE ACTION PLAN ON LAND DEGRADATION

CONTENTS

I.	Introduction.....	1
II.	Actions by the GEF Secretariat.....	1
III.	Actions by the Implementing Agencies.....	2
Annex A	Reports on Implementing Agencies	
Annex B	Updated List of GEF Financed Projects Approved in 1999 with Land Degradation Components	

I INTRODUCTION

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.14/4, *Clarifying Linkages between Land Degradation and the GEF Focal Areas: An Action Plan for Enhancing GEF Support*, approved the proposed action plan subject to the comments made by the Council. The Council requested the Secretariat and the Implementing Agencies to help countries prepare project proposals in the GEF focal areas that include land degradation measures, consistent with the action plan. The Council also requested the GEF Secretariat, in cooperation with the Implementing Agencies, to report regularly on the implementation of the action plan at each Council meeting. This report is presented in response to that request. Although the period under review covers only three months, this report gives a good indication of actions being undertaken to accelerate activities already started, development of additional capacity to implement the action plan, mainstreaming land degradation issues within the Implementing Agencies' programs and developing new partnerships to more effectively address issues related to land degradation.

II ACTIONS BY THE GEF SECRETARIAT

2. Following the adoption of the action plan in December 1999, the GEF Secretariat has undertaken a number of activities to ensure timely compliance with the Council decision. Presentation of the Action plan was made to the Inter-agency Working Group on the Africa Land and Water Initiative convened by the World Bank in Washington in January 2000. In February 2000, the GEF Secretariat also made a presentation of the action plan to the World Bank Operations Division for Latin America on how to incorporate elements of the action plan in project design and development. The Secretariat is currently actively involved in dialogue with the Global Mechanism of the Convention to Combat Desertification and UNEP in developing land degradation activities, as they relate to GEF focal areas in West Africa.

3. The GEF Secretariat has established a new program management team on land and water that will, among other things, oversee the development of activities related to land degradation. The new operational programs on Integrated Ecosystem Management and the proposed Operational Program on the Conservation of Biodiversity Important to Agriculture will also expand the opportunities for countries to better address issues related to land degradation.

4. The World Bank is currently organizing an interagency coordinating meeting on the Africa Land and Water Initiative during the meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Biodiversity Convention in Nairobi in May 2000.

III ACTION BY THE IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

5. Reports by each Implementing Agency on their individual activities in implementing the action plan are appended in Annex A; an updated list of project activities is given in Annex B. Activities of the Implementing Agencies have generally included a focus on operationalizing the linkages between land degradation and the GEF focal areas, strengthening public policy and enabling environment for addressing land degradation and engaging key stakeholders, and enhancing GEF's catalytic role in mobilizing additional resources for land degradation activities through substantive partnerships.

6. In operationalizing the linkages between land degradation and the GEF focal areas, the Implementing Agencies have concentrated on building in-house capacity to assist the countries in developing project proposals. UNDP and UNEP have enlisted the services of additional land degradation experts on their teams to strengthen their capacity in this area. UNEP has launched an internet based interactive forum on the Africa Land and Water Initiative. To assist in filling the information gap on land degradation, UNEP has also initiated several targeted research activities. The primary objective of these activities is to define more clearly the root causes of land degradation, which leads to loss of biodiversity. Another thrust of these activities is the development of participatory approaches for assessment of land degradation and its impact on agrobiodiversity and soil carbon stocks in farmers' fields

7. Activities aimed at engaging stakeholders include a wide range of activities by the Implementing Agencies. The World Bank convened two meetings of the interagency Working Group on the Africa Land and Water Initiative in the Bank. UNEP has made considerable progress in establishing collaborative working arrangements with the Global Mechanism of the Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD/GM), IPGRI, FAO and the African Academy of Sciences. The Africa Land and Water Initiative has formed the focus of collaborative activities between the Implementing Agencies and a number of projects have now been identified which will pilot the concept of integrated ecosystem management

8. Strengthening public policy and enabling environment for addressing land degradation issues is perhaps the most challenging task in developing activities related to land degradation in the GEF portfolio. The GEF country dialogue workshops, which are being implemented jointly by the three GEF Implementing Agencies and the GEF Secretariat, are an important tool for contributing to an enabling environment for addressing land degradation issues at the country level. A UNEP project on development of a desertification indicator model integrating complex interactions of demographic, social, physical, ecological, economic and cultural factors is an example of the type of activity that generates information needed to develop appropriate policies. Collaboration is now being established with the CCD, which will involve contributing to the development of the national action plans. It is hoped that such plans will be integrated with the national biodiversity action plan and will lead to better planning at the national level. The GEF programmatic approach, which recognises the need for a comprehensive environmental planning and management at the national level, is another development, which will help focus on land degradation problems and their treatment.

ANNEX A
REPORTS BY IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

A. ACTIONS BY UNDP

12. Since the adoption by the GEF Council of the action plan on Interlinkages of Focal Areas with Land Degradation three months ago, UNDP has actively pursued the goals of this action plan. UNDP is fully committed to implementing this action plan.

1. Operationalizing linkages between GEF Focal Areas and Land Degradation

13. UNDP has taken steps to put land degradation related issues on the fast track. Discussions have been held within UNDP (particularly UNSO, UNCDF, GEF) in ways to mainstream the action plan in order to achieve a larger portfolio of projects, and meet the growing needs of countries affected by land degradation.

14. UNDP-GEF is conducting a major review of its portfolio of projects all over the world in regards to their coverage of land degradation issues (projects that are both under implementation and under development will be included). This review will be entered in a database that will be updated periodically to reflect the evolution and expected progress of the portfolio of land degradation projects. The first report will be ready in time for the May 2000 Council and the CBD COP 5.

15. In the last four months, UNDP-GEF's portfolio included at least 30 new projects worldwide (ranging from idea stage to PDF-A) that incorporate land degradation related issues. For example, there is a medium-sized project under development for eastern Mali where land degradation is identified as the main threat to the protection of an internationally recognized biosphere reserve; a multi-country effort in southern Africa through a Pan-African NGO to strengthen capacity at the local and district levels for land use planning as it relates to natural resource management and land degradation; an energy efficiency proposal for Uganda through the Climate Change Focal Area that has beneficial impacts on controlling land degradation; and a proposal to fine-tune participatory methods for community based conservation in agrolandscapes in Mali, Cameroon and Madagascar where land degradation is the major threat. Especially worth mentioning is the approval of an \$18 M project to avoid land degradation produced by invasive species in the Galapagos Islands. UNDP-GEF is also working jointly with UNEP on developing new transboundary projects in Djibouti/Ethiopia, and Niger/Nigeria, in its joint portfolio on land degradation.

16. UNDP is contributing to the development of the new operational programs 12 (Integrated Ecosystem Management) and the proposed operational program 13 (Agrobiodiversity), both of which have elements relevant to land degradation. UNDP-GEF has also participated in the internet-based interactive forum on the Africa Land and Water Initiative hosted by UNEP.

17. The GEF Small Grants Program is actively promoting the integration of land degradation related issues into its portfolio. A total of 42 Country Program Strategies have been revised in the last few months to incorporate land degradation, among other issues. Some examples of the kinds of activities that the SGP will fund are: (1) protect biodiversity and promote sustainable use in arid, semi-arid and Mediterranean systems; (2) prevent deforestation, and promote sustainable use/management of forests; (3) stop deforestation through rural renewable energy projects; (4) promote energy efficiency projects; (5) produce, harvest and use biomass in sustainable ways; (6) rehabilitate degraded areas in mountain ecosystems; (7) preserve indigenous technical knowledge as it relates to land degradation through one of the focal areas; (8) promote land use practices to prevent land degradation.

18. UNDP launched the new Strategic Initiative for Africa at the UNCCD COP 3 in Brazil. This initiative builds upon UNSO's technical support projects in Kenya and Burkina. In addition, UNDP/UNSO has launched its West Asia program, which provides support to 7 countries for the implementation of the UNCCD (Algeria, Morocco, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Jordan and Palestinian Authority) with funding support from Finland and Japan. A technical coordination unit will be established in Beirut, which will work closely with the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD to support the development of the SRAP.

2. Strengthening public policy and enabling environment for addressing land degradation

19. Through its portfolio of NBSAP projects particularly in Africa, UNDP-GEF is ensuring that land degradation issues are adequately taken into account. Where relevant, the NBSAP process can be coordinated with the CCD NAP process.

20. UNDP through UNSO is implementing the recommendation of a workshop that established the collaborative framework between UNDP and UNCCD Secretariat. UNDP/UNSO is working to facilitate the integration of dryland issues into national policy frameworks. For example, in Kenya, this initiative is being used as a pilot program for implementing the objectives of UNDAF for enhanced partnerships within the UN family.

3. Engaging key stakeholders and enhancing GEF catalytic role in mobilizing resources to address land degradation

21. The UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa has taken the lead in coordinating the participation of UNDP in the Africa Land and Water Initiative. Through its collaboration with CILSS, IGAD, and SADC, UNSO is working to ensure that the priorities established by the SRAP process are built into this Initiative.

22. UNDP's commitment to ensuring that the Action Plan on Land Degradation is integrated into its ongoing programs touches not only the different partners at Headquarters, but also the UNDP Country offices. Several UNDP Country Offices (including Kenya, Chad, Iran, and Syria) have recently integrated the concerns of the UNCCD into their new Country Cooperation

Frameworks, and are actively using UNDP core resources for activities related to land degradation and desertification.

B. ACTIONS BY UNEP

23. Following the adoption by the GEF Council of the action plan, UNEP has initiated a number of activities and actions in support of this action plan. These include project-related activities and preparatory actions, including the establishment of an interactive forum for discussions of linkages between land and water degradation in the African context. Bilateral discussions have also been initiated with potential co-financiers and executing agencies on future collaboration on actions designed to address land degradation issues.

1. Operationalizing the linkages

Activities in land degradation that fall under the Africa Land and Water Initiative

24. Three PDF-A grants are being used to develop concepts presented by the governments of Niger and Nigeria, by Ethiopia and Djibouti, and by OAU's Regional Coordination Office in Guinea on behalf of the eight member states in the Fouta Djallon Integrated Regional Development Programme. These concepts involve development of integrated approaches to land and water management in shared watersheds. The grants are being used to convene stakeholder workshops to define the scope of the issues and problems to be addressed to help ensure strong participation of key stakeholders in government and civil society in design of the proposed interventions. PDF-B grant proposals will be developed during these workshops and submitted to the GEF in FY2001 to define proposed projects and other activities, secure commitment of stakeholders in execution of the projects and mobilize co-financing.

25. In December 1999 UNEP launched, an internet-based interactive forum on the Africa Land and Water Initiative. The forum addresses, in an integrated manner, land and water related environmental challenges facing African countries and is centered on four themes:

- (i) Approaches to deal with land and water degradation in Africa
- (ii) Examples of good practice
- (iii) Implications of sustainable/good practice
- (iv) Ensuring programmatic impact of the land and water initiative for Africa

26. It is anticipated that the outcome of the forum will provide a framework for the co-ordination of bilateral and multilateral donors, while also generating new ideas for enhancing support to projects and programs addressing land degradation problems in Africa.

Targeted research

27. As noted in the action plan (paragraph 39) there is need to clarify the linkages between land degradation and the global environment. Accordingly, two targeted research

projects/concepts in land degradation are under development by UNEP. The first project with sites in East Africa (Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania), is entitled Land Use Change Analysis as an Approach for Investigating Biodiversity Loss and Land Degradation and an MSP will be ready for submission in FY2001. The primary objective is to identify the root causes of land use change leading to loss of biodiversity and land degradation as well as to identify the linkages between biodiversity loss and land degradation. The main output is expected to be a tool in the form of a replicable methodological and analytical framework that will assist the GEF in future design of land degradation projects.

28. The second targeted research activity is so far only at the concept stage with field activities planned for West Africa (Ghana, Guinea and the Gambia). It will focus on the development of a participatory methodology for assessment of land degradation and its impact on agrobiodiversity and soil carbon stocks in farmers' fields, using action research and indicators that can be used by farmers -- the primary stakeholders. The resultant indicators will be applied in other GEF interventions focussed on assisting farmers and local communities in addressing issues of land degradation.

2. Strengthening public policy and enabling environment for addressing land degradation

29. UNEP has developed a presentation that focuses on a project in Latin America to design a desertification indicator model. The model will integrate complex interactions of demographic, social, physical, ecological, economic, and cultural factors, which contribute to land degradation and biodiversity loss in dryland areas. The model will be used to facilitate decision-making in relation to land use planning and to monitor biodiversity changes following land degradation.

30. UNEP's planned interventions involve activities designed to strengthen the policy environment for sound decision making in addressing land degradation issues whilst those which focus on integrated land and watershed management will of necessity involve strengthening the policy environment within which the responsible organizations and agencies work.

3. Engaging key stakeholders and enhancing GEF catalytic role in mobilizing resources to address land degradation.

Collaboration with the Global Mechanism of the Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD)

31. Collaboration has been established between UNEP/GEF and the Global Mechanism of the CCD in the case of the Action Plan for the Fouta Djallon Highlands; and the proposed land degradation project for the transboundary area between Niger and Nigeria. The Global Mechanism is co-financing the PDF A activities with US\$10,000 each and will assist in mobilising co-financing for the projects and in co-ordinating support from NGOs and bilateral donors. These two activities have been designated as part of the Sub-Regional Action Programme (SRAP) of the CCD for West Africa and fall under its thematic group on Sustainable Management of Shared Water Resources.

Collaboration with OAU

32. The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and its Regional Co-ordination Office in Conakry, Guinea, is involved as the executing agency for the Fouta Djallon PDF A. A meeting was held at OAU Headquarters in February 2000 to discuss future collaboration in land degradation projects in Africa. The OAU will participate in activities envisaged under the Ethiopia and Djibouti land degradation PDF A.

Meetings with other key stakeholders

33. Meetings have been convened with the following organisations to present UNEP/GEF activities and to discuss future collaboration in the GEF focal areas, including the crosscutting issues of land degradation:

- (i) IPGRI – meeting at ICRAF, Nairobi between UNEP/GEF and the sub-regional directors of IPGRI. Scope for collaboration was identified in the area of impact, of land degradation in farmers' fields, on agrobiodiversity.
- (ii) African Academy of Sciences (AAS) – meeting held at UNEP/GEF. As a result of the meeting, AAS is developing a PDF A for a medium-sized project on information sharing and networking in land degradation in Africa.
- (iii) FAO's GEF Focal point visited UNEP/GEF in early March. Collaboration on a PDF A for the Akagera River Basin, covering Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania, was discussed.

C. ACTIONS BY THE WORLD BANK

34. The World Bank is fully committed to implementing the GEF action plan on land degradation. In the three months since the adoption of the action plan, efforts have been made on many fronts to follow up on the Council's decisions.

1. Operationalizing linkages between land degradation and the GEF Focal Areas

35. The Africa region of the Bank is involved in several land and water management initiatives using the GEF operational program #9 window in West Africa (Senegal, Niger and Chad River Basin Management Projects). These initiatives are being undertaken under the umbrella of new and innovative partnerships with UNDP and to a certain extent with UNEP (co-implementation), in line with the "spirit" of the Africa Land and Water Initiative launched by the Heads of Agencies. A couple of additional and similar initiatives are under final identification in Southern Africa; PDF Bs are expected to be submitted fairly soon. A recently approved PDF A that should lead to an MSP on shallow aquifer management is also part of the Bank's Africa region's land and water management agenda.

36. The Africa region has submitted the first operational program #12 PDF B and the project brief for Benin: Forest Management (submitted for the May 2000 work program). Several other proposals focussing on land degradation issues are also under final preparation under operational program 12. A couple of agrobiodiversity conservation/land management type of projects has entered the pipeline; the Ghana: Biodiversity Conservation (under operational program #1) project brief which is also being submitted to the May 2000 Council is one of them.

37. Other regions of the Bank are also actively pursuing opportunities for land degradation projects. Consultations have been held between GEFSEC and the Latin American and Caribbean region on potential activities, as well as the operational implications of operational program #12. The region has one project under preparation (MSP) and two under discussion with clients: Brazil - Bonito Watershed MSP; Brazil - Caatinga and El Salvador - Natural Resource Management.

38. Efforts are also underway in the Europe and Central Asia region to identify opportunities for the restoration of marginal drylands to natural vegetation, particularly in the context of the Bank's work in the agriculture sector. The East Asia region has offered to co-sponsor with the Chinese Government a brainstorming workshop, led by Chinese scientific experts, on options for the World Bank and GEF to help China address land degradation and rural poverty. The outcomes of the workshop would feed into the preparation of China's 10th five-year Development Plan, and hopefully result in the identification of at least one World Bank/GEF land degradation/rural poverty project.

39. In the MENA region, in the context of the Middle East Peace Process, the *Initiative for collaboration to control Natural Resource Degradation (Desertification) of Arid Lands in the Middle East* (the Initiative) has now been under implementation from 1995-99. Under the Initiative, the activities undertaken have largely dealt with technical solutions within four themes – Germplasm for Arid Lands, Economic Forestry and Orchards, Rangeland Management, and Marginal Water and Saline Soils. Jordan is one of the five participating countries. Under Phase II (2000-2005) of the Initiative, the activities would focus primarily on the regional aspect which would be anchored in relevant national development projects aimed at reducing rural poverty and arresting natural resource degradation. Activities under the Initiative are the baseline for the proposed PDF-B for the Jordan Conservation of Medicinal Plants Project (operational program #1 - biodiversity cross-cutting with land degradation). Tunisia, another participating country in the Initiative has also submitted an MSP proposal for conservation of medicinal plants which is in the pipeline. Close collaboration will be maintained between the Initiative and GEF project teams in both countries.

2. Strengthening public policy and enabling environment for addressing land degradation

40. In addition to the above-mentioned efforts, it should be noted that the Bank's Africa region has moved towards an enhanced mainstreaming of GEF support for land degradation into rural development operations. Rural development units are becoming more and more involved in developing GEF activities, which has led to enhanced baselines and greater leveraging impacts for land degradation type of activities.

3. Engaging key stakeholders and enhancing GEF catalytic role in mobilizing resources to address land degradation

41. In March 1999, the Heads of UNDP, UNEP, World Bank and the GEF indicated their concern regarding land and water degradation in Africa and agreed to develop a coordinated initiative on an action program to address land and water issues in Africa through the GEF, the three Implementing Agencies, and others. Following the advice of the GEF Senior Advisors and others, a strong foundation has been laid to develop and pilot an action program on integrated approaches to land and water management in Africa.

42. The initiative has now moved to a phase where an interagency working group, led by the Africa Region of the World Bank, is assisting the participating agencies to review their current portfolio of activities related to land and water management in Africa and to identify suitable candidates to pilot integrated land and water management. The interagency group identified the following projects as potential candidates for the initiative: The WB/UNDP Nile Basin Initiative, the UNDP/WB Lake Chad basin project, WB Senegal river basin project, the UNEP/CCD-GM Fouta Djallon mountains land and water management program and the UNEP Lake Baringo land and water management demonstration project. The working group continues to communicate electronically through a UNEP-developed web site, and it is expected to meet with African stakeholders on the margins of the CBD/COP meeting in May 2000 to review progress and to define the next steps. The World Bank will be developing a paper defining a detailed program to be supported by the Implementing Agencies involving the agencies' own resources as well as GEF activities to be implemented by the three agencies in consultation with the CCD Global Mechanism. This will be tabled in the meeting in Nairobi.

Annex B
Updated List of GEF-Financed Projects Approved in 1999 with Land Degradation Component

Country/ Region	Project Type	IA	Project Name	GEF Allocation (\$m)	Cofinancing (\$m)	Total Project Cost (\$m)	Project Activities Addressing
Bangladesh	FP	UNDP	Coastal and wetland Biodiversity Management at Cox's Bazar and Hakaluki Haor	5.52	7.08	12.6	The threats of excessive cutting of mangrove fuelwood, beach compaction by vehicles and tourism, will be addressed through protection measures, village conservation and sustainable use, and integrated management plans.
Bolivia	FP	WB	Achieving the sustainability of the Bolivian Protected Area System	15.3	31.4	46.7	Land degradation activities focus on conserving natural resources in buffer zones by developing alternative incomes for indigenous people and protecting areas from colonization. Local Assessment teams will monitor soil degradation related problems.
Brazil	FP	UNDP	Promoting Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use in the frontier Forests of Northwestern Mato Grosso	6.98	9.13	16.11	Deforestation is the major problem in the region. Activities include encouraging collaboration with local communities, legislation and funding to offer incentives for conservation and rehabilitating degraded land as well as promoting sustainable use.
China	FP	UNDP	Wetland Biodiversity Conservation	11.69	22.9	34.59	The Honghe and Sanjiang Nature Reserves have been converted into agricultural land. The project will remove the threats to wetland biodiversity through: a) Xiamen, Gaihai Lake, and Shouling - threatened by overgrazing during peak season; b) Dafeng - threatened by conversion to agricultural/aquaculture uses; and c) East Dongting - threatened by industrial pollution, and uncontrolled development. Planning activities to focus on better land use management.

Colombia	FP	WB	Conservation of Biodiversity in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Maria	9.37	11.12	20.49	Land degradation issues are addressed; of conservation areas in order to create; implement sustainable production systems; region in an integrated way will add
Costa Rica	FP	WB	Biodiversity Conservation in the Talamanca-Caribbean Biological Corridor	0.75	0.68	1.43	Technologies encouraging forest regeneration production sites will be implemented; regeneration of utilized forests and r
Hungary			Szombathely CHP/Biomass Project	2.5	25.5	28	This project raises the issue of timber be replaced by wood.; environment arrangements
Georgia	MSP	UNDP	Arid and Semi arid Ecosystem Conservation in the Caucasus	0.75	0.16	0.91	Overgrazing and subsequent erosion land degradation component will be addressed as well as analyze land ownership arrangements in the light of current erosion levels; schemes together with pilot demonstration users will be addressed.
India	FP	UNDP	Biomass Energy for Rural India	4.21	4.6	8.8	Biofertilizer production will address; Biogas-cum-bio-fertilizer systems in fuelwood consumption and fertilizer
Indonesia	MSP	WB	Conservation of Elephant landscapes in Aceh	0.74	0.28	1.02	Project activities are aimed at reducing resulting in improved habitat protection encroachment;
DPR Korea	MSP	UNDP	Conservation of Biodiversity at Mount Myohyang	0.73	0.91	1.64	Project activities include setting up protection against encroachment and patrolling capacity and supporting a
Kenya	MSP	WB	Lewa Wildlife Conservancy	0.75	3.19	3.94	Project activities focus on the capacity (LWC) to slow down negative land and improving community capacities; conservation and sustainable enterprises

Malaysia	FP	UNDP	Conservation and Sustainable Management of Peat Swamp Forests in Malaysia	6.3	7.56	14.87	Land degradation activities include demonstration zones; local training promotion of non-timber production
Malawi	FP	UNDP	Barrier Removal to Malawi Renewable Energy program	3.42	7.3	10.72	The project will identify and assess order to address woodfuel use which and forest land degradation;
Micronesia	MSP	UNDP	Community Conservation and Compatible Enterprise Development on Pohnpei	0.75	1.18	1.93	The project will encourage growth o degraded areas and enrichment plan cultivation will be supported throug and Nett forest sites; mitigation of d cultivation;
Mongolia	MSP	UNDP	Commercialization of super-insulating building technology	0.74	3.50	4.24	Over-harvesting of fuelwood is one buildings will have beneficial impac
Mongolia	FP	UNDP	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Livelihood Options in eastern Mongolian grasslands	5.16	6.86	12.03	The project will introduce buffer zo and reforestation and establishing lo in protected areas;
Morocco	FP	UNDP	Transhumance for biodiversity Conservation in the Southern High Atlas	4.37	6.07	10.44	Land degradation will be addressed strengthening of institutions for com management to reduce grazing press management and transhumance;
Nepal	MSP	UNDP	Upper Mustang Biodiversity project	0.75	0.98	1.73	Project activities include a demonst pasture management; establishment rangelands; collection of background rangeland management practices an
Pakistan	FP	UNDP	Mountain Areas Conservancy Project	8.1	2.25	10.35	The project will consider designatin grazing rights and empowering com their lands and to reduce problems c reforestation will be done by establi local demand for firewood as well as measures;

Peru	MSP	WB	Collaborative management for the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Northwest Biosphere Reserve Project	0.75	1.33	2.08	Land degradation is addressed through management as well as improvement of degraded lands;
Philippines	MSP	UNDP	Palawan new and renewable energy and livelihood support project	0.75	1.8	2.55	Renewable energy (solar) will replace fossil fuels, therefore having beneficial impact on the environment;
Philippines	FP	UNDP	Samar Island Biodiversity Project, conservation and sustainable use of a forested protected area	6.11	7.2	13.31	Forest destruction and fragmentation from swidden farming. Land degradation based conservation of natural resources, promotion of appropriate farming systems, management, and alternative income sources;
Thailand	FP	UNDP	Removal of Barriers to Biomass Generation and Co-Generation	6.83	66.39	73.2	Rubber wood residues and rice husk will result in decreased dependence on deforestation;
Venezuela	FP	UNDP	Orinoco Delta Wetlands conservation	9.78	23.29	33.07	Agricultural expansion and potential loss of significant wetland. The project will protect existing socio-economic development and use of the areas outside protected zones;
Venezuela	MSP	WB	Conservation/Sustainable Use of biodiversity in Llanos ecoregion	0.96	1.49	2.45	The ecoregional conservation program will use various approaches, including guidelines and standards for controlling timber cutting and management;
Yemen	MSP	WB	Protected Areas Management	0.75	0.66	1.41	Land degradation component includes a plan for wood cutting and grazing reduction in the Hawf pilot areas;