

Timor-Leste 4th concept

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EU-GIZ ACSE programme

Concept Note Cover Page

Country: Timor-Leste
Location within the country: Raumoco Watershed, Lautem District

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Concept focus:

- Climate change adaptation
- Sustainable energy
- Both

Project type:

- Type 1 – 200,000 Euro maximum budget
- Type 2 – Maximum budget is the country allocation

Total requested budget: EUR 500,000

Duration of project: 36 months

Main Contact point:

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Support for PDD development:

- Yes, consultant(s) or organisation(s) to be engaged: Hivos and Seeds of Life
- No
- Undecided

Approved by the UNFCCC Focal Points
10/07/14
Adeo S. Barboim

Concept Note – Description (4 pages maximum)

1. Project title: Integrated Action for Resilience and Adaptation (IA4RA) to Climate Change in the Raumoco Watershed

2. Background and rationale (max ¾ page)

Raumoco Watershed (RW) is located between latitude 8°35'40" to 8°24'3"S and longitude 126°46'10" to 126°52'42"E in the western portion of the administrative jurisdiction of Lautem District, the eastern-most district of Timor-Leste. It has a total land area of 13,903.00 hectares and is home to nine Sucos or villages with 1,570 households and a total population of 6,919 individuals (Registo Saude Familiar, MoH, 2013). An EU-funded watershed characterization study conducted by Hivos in 2012 confirmed the **advanced state of watershed degradation of Raumoco**. This degradation of its forest resources are attributed mainly to (a) **destructive agricultural practices**, i.e., shifting cultivation or slash-and-burn farming, (b) **rampant cutting of trees for firewood** (estimated to reach at least 1,000 mature trees per month), and (c) **unrestricted grazing of livestock** resulting in soil compaction and increased surface run-off. An inappropriate teak plantation inside the watershed, unpaved roads and trails, clearing and grading of residential areas have also contributed to this degradation. **The combined effects of these stressors have contributed to the unmitigated occurrence of soil erosion, sedimentation and flooding putting at constant risk local livelihoods and the biophysical assets of the watershed.** These conditions does not bode well for the watershed and its inhabitants in the face of a changing climate.

Preliminary work has been done to address the above issues. A Watershed Management Council composed of community, district and national stakeholders has been formed with assistance from the MAF-National Directorate of Forestry and Hivos. A Watershed Management Plan has been developed and waiting to be resourced. Through the efforts of MAF-Seeds of Life and JICA-Raebia, a pilot collaboration between the Raumoco and the Nuro watershed in Remexio sub-district of Alleu district has been forged to learn from the complementary work being done in the two watersheds (namely, formation of a watershed management council and watershed management planning in the Raumoco and a community-level Participatory Land Use Planning in the Nuro). The MAF-NDF considers these joint and timely efforts will enable the development of policy guidelines for enhancing watershed management processes in other priority watersheds of the country. **Resources are needed to scale up these initiatives, otherwise, investments in the restoration and conservation of the Raumoco watershed and the promotion of economic growth for its communities (including a recently constructed USD45 million bridge) will come to naught.** This project will contribute to NAPA objectives of developing and implementing "immediate and urgent project-based activities to adapt to climate change and climate variability" and increasing "awareness of climate change impacts and adaptation activities in communities, civil society and government"¹. It also supports the SDP's strategy for agriculture, rural development, forestry and watershed.

3. Objective (s) (two to three sentences)

The IA4RA project will contribute to the achievement of the vision of the Raumoco Watershed Management Council RWMC as a watershed "capable of sustainably providing life-giving support functions and services to the communities made possible through the effective and efficient management of its resources by empowered stakeholders." **Towards this long-term goal, the IA4RA project aims to develop, integrate and**

¹ NAPA-Timor Leste, Dec. 2010

support climate-resilient livelihoods, sustainable energy systems and good governance mechanisms at community and watershed levels.

4. Expected project outcomes (max ¼ page)

(1) Increased adoption by vulnerable farming households of integrated climate-resilient farming systems that generate diversified food and income; (2) Improved access to natural infrastructure/technologies that promote water, food and energy savings/storage at household and watershed levels; (3) Increased capacity of the Suco Council to lead and facilitate in the development of a genuine Suco Comprehensive and Integrated Development Plan (SCIDP) that will serve as a framework in the development of other sectoral community plans on agro-forestry (watershed planning), health, infrastructure, education, governance, peace and order, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation; (4) Enhanced capacity of the Raumoco Watershed Management Council in facilitating the development and delivery of projects and programs as prioritized in the Raumoco Watershed Management Plan; (5) Increased availability of knowledge and skills on climate change-resilient strategies and practices.

5. Targeted outputs (max ½ page)

Output 1: Climate-resilient farming technologies tested and made available as livelihood options for farmers; **Output 2:** Integrated, climate-resilient farming systems that promote crop diversification, integrated aquaculture agriculture systems, and agro-forestry promoted and scaled out; **Output 3:** Market linkages/outlets for local produce (food crops, vegetables, fish and processed products) are developed; **Output 4:** Water harvesting/saving facilities/technologies at household, community and watershed levels established; **Output 5:** Solar energy for powering water saving/recirculating pumps in fishpond/aquaponics systems developed and piloted for households, SISCa points and schools; **Output 6:** Improved cooking stoves that use less fuel and generates less or no smoke produced and made accessible to fuelwood-dependent households; **Output 7:** Suco Councils and working groups trained on participatory approaches to land use planning, natural resource/watershed management and other community development planning processes; **Output 8:** CCA Plans incorporated in Suco Comprehensive and Integrated Development Plans (SCIDP); **Output 9:** Tara bandu ceremonies adopted as mechanisms for protecting community/watershed assets; **Output 10:** Raumoco Watershed Management Council members trained and supported on the execution of priority initiatives in their Watershed Management Plan; **Output 11:** Awareness and media campaigns for communities, schools, and other stakeholders developed and implemented; **Output 12:** Experiences and lessons learned documented and shared with a wide range of stakeholders at the village, district and national levels.

6. Beneficiaries (max ½ page)

Watershed resource-dependent households (especially most vulnerable household members: women, young people, the disabled) are the primary beneficiaries of this project. The IA4RA project will provide access to tested climate-resilient livelihood options, including agro-forestry. Those with access to water will benefit from integrated aquaculture-agriculture systems which include the use of solar energy to power pumps in water saving/recirculating systems. They will also have access to improved cooking stoves for cooking and other productive purposes. Access to food and income, water and renewable energy will improve and thus enable them to cope with changes in climate patterns while contributing to the restoration of the Raumoco Watershed. Suco Councils will benefit from capacity building interventions designed to sharpen their skills in community-driven planning and execution, coordination and resource mobilization. The Raumoco Watershed Management Council will, likewise, have access to resources and technical assistance to implement the priority activities in the Raumoco Watershed Management Plan. By

meeting regularly, discussion of key watershed issues will be facilitated and decisions will be made in a participatory manner. Finally, other watershed areas in the country will benefit from the learning, knowledge, skills and experiences generated by this project

7. Indicative budget (max ½ page)

Item	Indicative budget (EUR)
Project Design Development (PDD)	15,000
Output 1-	20,000
Output 2	45,000
Output 3	5,000
Output 4	45,000
Output 5	45,000
Output 6	20,000
Output 7	20,000
Output 8	10,000
Output 9	10,000
Output 10	45,000
Output 11	10,000
Output 12	10,000
<i>Other budget items as required</i>	
Technical assistance	100,000
Management costs	35,000
Monitoring and evaluation	50,000
Communication and visibility	15,000
Co-financing / In-kind contribution (optional)	25,000 ²
TOTAL	525,000

8. Project management (max ½ page)

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) is the Lead National Agency for this project while the **National Directorate for Forestry** will serve as the **National Implementing Agency** providing overall oversight to project implementation. The National Director for Forestry will serve as Chair of the Project's Steering Committee (SC) that will be composed of other key stakeholders to be identified during the PDD process. The Chair of the Raumoco Watershed Management Council will automatically become a member of the SC with Hivos serving as Secretariat. The main Implementing Partner will be Hivos. The Seeds of Life program, an ongoing MAF initiative, will provide technical supervision in the continued implementation and expansion of ongoing Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) activities being piloted in two upland sucos, including the piloting of a Suco Comprehensive and Integrated Development Planning process (Output 7 & 8). The rest of the action (Output 1-6, 9-12) will be the responsibility of Hivos.

Hivos has been involved from January 2010-September 2013 in an EU-funded Food Security Project Lautem, Viqueque and Baucau and facilitated the formation of the Raumoco Watershed Management Council and the development of its Watershed Management Plan. Hivos also supported distribution of improved cooking stoves among vulnerable households (with funding from Netherlands government) under the same project. Hivos is currently implementing an aquaculture project in two sucos of the watershed. Hivos will assign a Watershed Management Specialist to provide technical assistance in the implementation of the action. Hivos has a Management Team based in Baucau that will provide financial, administrative, human resource and technical backstopping to the project. The Hivos Management Team has more than 8 years' experience in EU-fund stewardship, documentation and reporting.

² In-kind contribution (vehicle use, staff time, office equipment)

9. Complementarity and replicability (max ¼ page)

This programme builds on the outputs of the earlier EU-funded food security project mentioned in the previous section which focused on the formation and strengthening of the Raumoco Watershed Management Council and the development of its watershed management plan. As mentioned in Section 2 above, the process in the establishment of the RWMC is already being replicated in the Nuro Watershed in Aileu District with assistance from MAF-SOL. The farming technologies are affordable, water-efficient and profitable and could be easily scaled out to neighbouring communities and other watersheds.

10. Sustainability and risks (max ¼ page)

The project will help build local capacities in the sustainable management of natural/watershed resources. By strengthening the capacity of the Suco Councils and the Watershed Management Council and promoting complementarities in their activities, institutional and social sustainability will be enhanced. At the household level, the adoption of sustainable farming systems will generate increased livelihoods and other benefits that will continue to motivate households to adopt improved technologies and contribute to socio-economic sustainability. Water and energy saving technologies will contribute to the overall health of the watershed leading to improved environmental sustainability. Though road conditions could worsen during the rainy season, the use of mobile phones and other modern communication facilities will ensure that information flows between communities and the project's implementation teams. Risks related to poor maintenance of solar panels and associated renewable energy equipment may arise. To prevent this, adequate training will be provided to beneficiary households in the operation and upkeep of materials and equipment. Regular monitoring will be conducted to check on the condition of installed systems.

11. Timeline for planned measures (max ¼ page)

Activities	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3
	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Start up	■	■										
Implementation												
1)Test climate-resilient farming systems			■	■	■	■						
2)Promote/scale out of integrated climate-resilient farming systems					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
3)Develop market linkages/outlets				■	■							
4)Establish water harvesting/saving technologies					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
5)Develop/Install solar powered water recirculating systems					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
6)Produce/Make available improved cooking stoves					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
7)Train suco councils/working groups in participatory development planning			■	■								
8)Incorporate CCA plans into SCIDPs			■	■								
9)Adopt/Implement <i>tara bandu</i>				■	■							
10)Train/Support RWMC in the execution of priority initiatives			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
11)Develop/Implement awareness & media campaigns			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
12)Document/Share lessons learned						■	■	■	■	■	■	■
13)Monitoring & evaluation						■	■	■	■	■	■	■

12. Stakeholder engagement in concept note development (maximum three sentences)

Stakeholders engaged in concept note development included: (a) Key officers of the Raumoco Watershed Management Council, (b) The Australian Team Leader of MAF-Seeds of Life (SoL) program and MAF's GIS advisor, (c) the Hivos management/technical team, and (d) national NGOs (Fraterna and Prospek) involved in previous and ongoing activities in the Raumoco watershed.