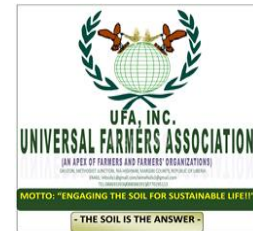




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GEF SGP – UFA PROJECT FIRST QUARTER REPORT (APRIL - JULY 2018)

PARTNERS:



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SUBMITTED BY:

G. SEMEH ROBERTS/CEO/UFA, INC.

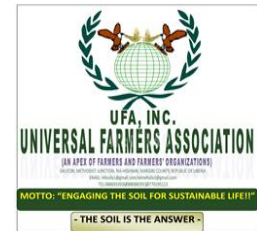
CONTACT: 0886-933-936/0770-195-113

EMAIL: semehufa1@gmail.com

GENERAL EMAIL: infoufa1@gmail.com

DATE SUBMITTED:

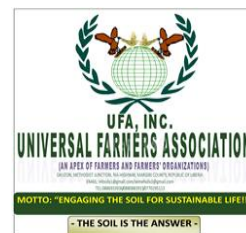
JULY 18, 2018



PROJECT TITLE: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND RURAL LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT



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Annex C: Progress Report

Technical Progress Report

A. PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT NUMBER	LBR/SGP/OP6/CORE/BD/Y3/2018/011
GRANTEE NAME	BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND RURAL LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT
GRANTEE CONTRACT PERSON	GEF SMALL GRANTS
GRANTEE CONTACT PERSON	SEMEH ROBERTS
PROJECT VALUE	US\$28,000.00
PROJECT START DATE	APRIL 16, 2017
PROJECT NUMBER (QUARTER)	FIRST QUARTER
PROJECT LOCATION	ZEANSUE CLAN, BONG COUNTY, RL
NAMES OF BENEFICIARY COMMUNITY	ZEANSUE TOWN,



BENEFICIARIES			
PROJECT BENEFICIARIES		INCEPTION WORKSHOP AND CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING PARTICIPANTS	
Number of females	Z	Number of females	79
Number of males	11	Number of males	66
Number of children	None	Number of children	None
TOTAL	16	TOTAL	145

Project Progress Report:

A. Summary of Project Status (Narrative).

This project entitled: Biodiversity conservation and Sustainable Land Use is designed to address mainly three critical areas of human concerns: conservation of biodiversity, sustainable land Use and climate change adaption. To achieve its development goal, the project has three specific objectives:

1. Increase knowledge on Biodiversity conservation and sustainable Land Management
2. Build sustainable livelihood of 50 rural farmers through domestication of cane rats and snail farming.
3. Promote climate change adaptation technologies through training of Energy efficient stoves production and use.

Following the approval of the project by the donor, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), regarding the project implementation framework , was signed on the 23rd of February 2018, between Universal Farmers Association (UFA), Inc., represented by G. Semeh Roberts, the Executive Director, and GEF-SGP, Represented by Mr. Samuel Boakai, GEF project head at the UNDP- Liberia office.

After the signing, UFA was unable to start the implementation of the project activities immediately because there was a delay in the release of the project funds as stipulated in the MOA, However, upon the release and receipt of the first payment, on the 16th of April 2018, implementation took root without further delay.

Up to this reporting period, UFA has, so far, undertaken activities costing 92% of the amount (US\$14,000) received while the balance 8% is in operations.

B. Update for period and progress made in project implementation

PERIOD	EXPECTED ACHIEVEMENTS	ACHIEVEMENTS (QUANTIFIED)
April-July 2018	Meeting with stakeholders and community members to disseminate information about the project	Four stakeholder meetings held (Zeansue-3, Sawmill-1,
	Conduct project inception and capacity building workshops to enhance awareness of biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use amongst rural dwellers in Zeansue Clan	145 Community members (79 women, 66 men) participated in the inception and capacity building workshop held in Zeansue, Zeansue clan, Bong County. The participants were well aware of the importance of biodiversity and the need to conserve them. More besides, they got to understand the more sustainable way to use land as the promise to provide onward education to the rest of their community dwellers who could not attend the workshop due to reasons beyond their control.
	Recruitment of project volunteers	16 Project volunteers recruited
	Land acquisition	•Community of Zeansue provided one plot of land space to construct rearing shed for cane rats and snailery and to build and put palm nursery.
	Procurement of project materials	•Procured most of the materials needed for project implementation, such as materials for cane rats housing, snailery posters, bill board, flyers, stickers, centers, palm seeding etc., remaining energy efficient stoves and few others materials for quarter 2, 3, and 4
	Building cane rats and snails sheds	•Built cane rat's and snail sheds with roofing completed.
	Clearing of farm land to plant forage for cane rats	About 10 acres cleared to plant forage for cane rats.

C. Progress made against project indicators

PROJECT INDICATOR	PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS INDICATOR	REMARKS
Hold 6 stakeholders and community meetings to disseminate information about the project	4 stakeholders meetings held in Zeansue Clan	The remaining two meetings will be held during 2 nd and third quarters.
Conduct project inception and capacity building workshop to enhance awareness of biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use amongst rural dwellers in Zeansue Clan.	145 participants (79 females and 66 males) gained knowledge about biodiversity conservation	Over 140 community members in Zeansue Clan vowed to serve as channels to further disseminate information about biodiversity conservation
Land acquisition	10 acres of farm land being cleared to plant forage for cane rats	50% clearing of farm land completed
Procurement of project materials	Procured most of the materials needed for project implementation, such as materials for cane rats housing, snailery posters, bill board, flyers, stickers, centers, palm seeding etc.,	50% of project activities completed
Design and print 50 posters, 2 bill boards, 50 stickers and 50 flyers to create awareness amongst community's dwellers, depicting climate change, biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use	Designed, printed and distributed all posters, flyers, and stickers and as well planted the bill board	50% completed
Clearing of farm land to plant forage for cane rats	One plot of land space procured and constructed rearing shed for cane rats, snailery and built palm nursery	Works on cane rats, snailery and palm continue



D. Activities planned and completed this reporting period and results achieved.
(Narration)

ACTIVITIES PLANNED AND COMPLETED	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Conduct project inception and capacity building workshops to enhance awareness of biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use amongst rural dwellers in Zeansue.</p>	<p>145 Community members (79 women, 66 men) participated in the inception and capacity building workshop held in Zeansue, Zeansue clan, Bong County. The participants were well aware of the importance of biodiversity and the need to conserve them. More besides, they got to understand the more sustainable way to use land as the promise to provide onward education to the rest of their community dwellers who could not attend the workshop for other reason(s) known to them</p>
<p>Design and print 50 posters, 2 bill boards, 50 stickers and 50 flyers to create awareness amongst community's dwellers, depicting climate change, biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use</p>	<p>Designed, printed and distributed all 50 posters, 50 flyers, and 50 stickers in five communities towns in Zeansue clan, Bong county. Installed two bill boards, one in Zeansue town and one in Kollila</p>



E. Activities planned but not completed in this reporting period and reasons for delay

ACTIVITIES PLANNED BUT NOT COMPLETED	REASONS FOR DELAY
Establish and run 3000 oil palm plantation to ensure protection of Biodiversity, ecosystem and sustainable utilization of land.	Ongoing activities during project duration
Build sustainable livelihood of 50 rural farmers through domestication of cane rats and snail farming training to enhance and ensure protection of biodiversity, sustainable land management and income security.	Ongoing activities during project duration
Establish one (1) cane rats demonstration and breeding farm and one (1) snail farm to ensure hand-on farming practices	Ongoing activities up to quarter 2
Train 10 farmers in nursery establishment, oil palm plantation management and maintenance.	Ongoing activities during project duration
Meeting with community dwellers to acquire 30 acres of land for cane rates and snail farming	Even though the community provided one plot of land to build the shed for cane rats and snailery, the rest of the land needed to plant the forage for the cane rats is being discussed

A. Activities planned to be completed in the next reporting period.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED	TO BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT REPORTING PERIODS
Procure four (4) colonies of cane rats and 12 pieces of large snail and place them in demonstration farm for breeding	To be completed in quarter 2 , 3 and 4
Conduct 1 capacity building workshops to enhance awareness of climate change and its impact amongst 100 rural dwellers in five communities in Bong County	To be completed in quarter 2
Design and print 50 posters, 50 stickers and 50 flyers to create awareness in communities and in schools, depicting the climate change and hazard of biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use	To be completed in quarter 2



ACTIVITIES PLANNED	TO BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD
Procure and supply 150 energy efficient stoves to 150 community members	To be completed in quarter 2 , 3 and 4
Dig 1 water well to ensure regular supply of water to nursery and oil plantation.	To be completed in quarter 2. Heavy down pull of Rain has erupted digging of the water well.
Establish and run 3000 oil palm plantation to ensure protection of Biodiversity, ecosystem and sustainable utilization of land.	Ongoing activities during project duration
Build sustainable livelihood of 50 rural farmers through domestication of cane rats and snail farming training to enhance and ensure protection of biodiversity, sustainable land management and income security.	Ongoing activities during project duration
Establish one (1) cane rats demonstration and breeding farm and one (1) snail farm to ensure hand-on farming practices	Ongoing activities up to quarter 2
Train 10 farmers in nursery establishment, oil palm plantation management and maintenance.	Ongoing activities during project duration
Meeting with community dwellers to acquire 30 acres of land for cane rates and snail farming	Even though the community provided one plot of land to build the shed for cane rats and snailery, the rest of the land needed to plant the forage for the cane rats is being discussed

B. Experience, lessons learnt and issues in this reporting period.

EXPERIENCE	LESSONS LEARNT
<p>Increased demand for the project in Zeansue Clan Bong County due to its ability to build the capacity of rural farmers to farm sustainably and work with nature without stress, over 140 participants attended the workshop as knowledge gained in conserving biodiversity will continue to serve as guiding tools while undertaking activities that benefit mankind.</p>	<p>Biodiversity conservation is an interesting topic that enhances the knowledge of mankind as it relates to the correlation amongst all living and non-living things and the importance of their interdependency. For example the action of gravel ants against some insects that destroy some vegetable crops. The workshop made us (the participants) to understand that it is advisable to preserve gravel ants and release them on vegetable or whatever crop fields to help drive insects out of the farm without using chemical.</p>



ISSUES IN THIS REPORTING PERIOD

There were several issues but paramount are the three major ones listed below:

1. Delay in the release of project fund after the signing of the MOA
2. Increased demand for the project in Zeansue Clan, Bong County, evident by the over 140 participants that attended the workshop, instead of required 50 farmers.
3. Limited budget limits UFA actions to respond to increasing demand for the Project thus.

1. List of attached supporting documentation and photos. (Refer to reporting check list)

1. Training reports: Attached
2. Pictures: Attached
3. Original receipts :Attached
4. Participants list where the training activity was undertaken: Attached