

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

JULY 2012 - DECEMBER 2012

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT NAME: Implementation of Sustainable Farming Practices by Communities in the Northern R

Project Number: TT-M1017 - Operation Number: ATN/ME-11488-TT

Result: Pilot a programme of alternative and sustainable farming practices to selected farmers in 2 selected watershed communities of the Northern Range

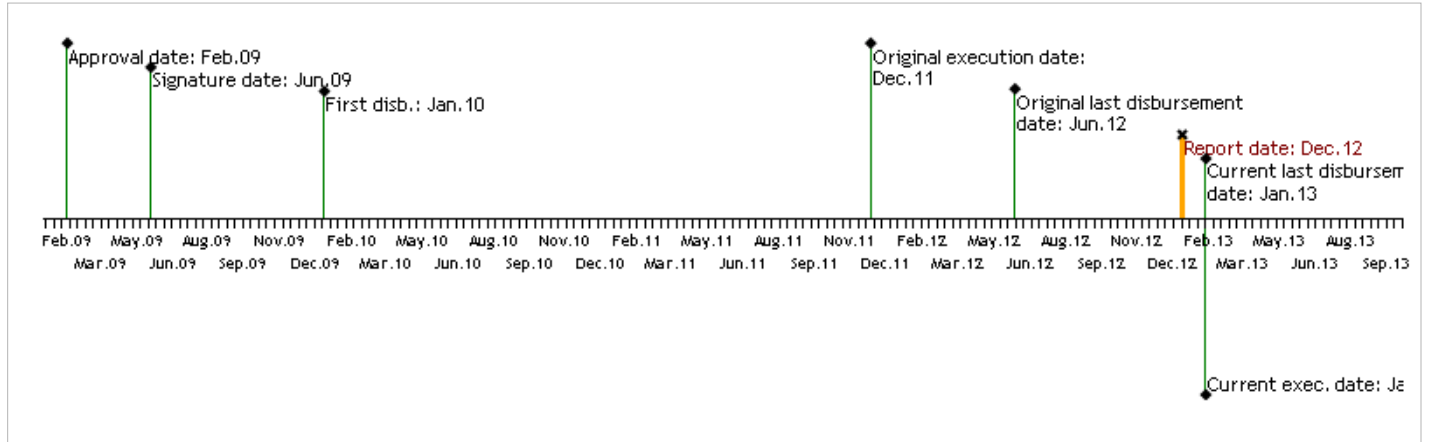
Country Administrator	Beneficiary Country	Group	Subgroup
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	ENV - Environment	AGRI - Sustainable Agriculture

Executing Agency: Cropper Foundation

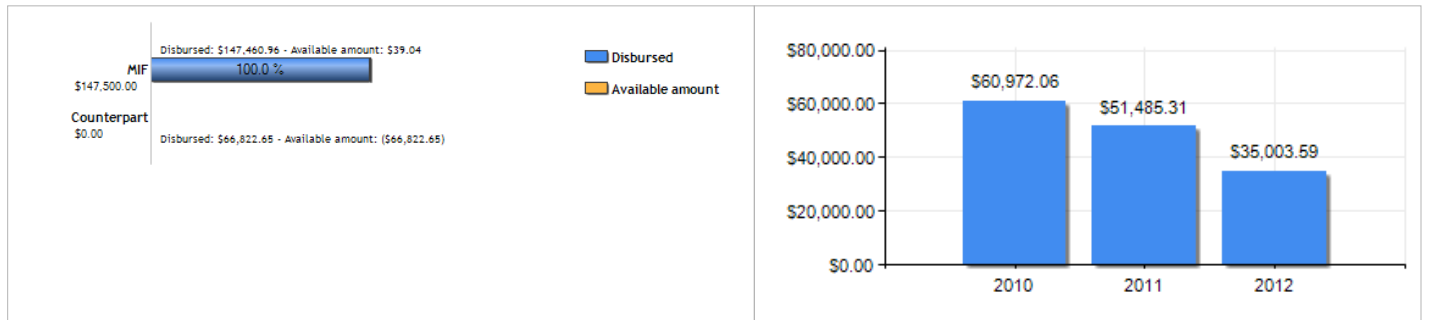
Design Team Leader: Dookiesingh, Vashtie

Supervision Team Leader: Dookiesingh, Vashtie

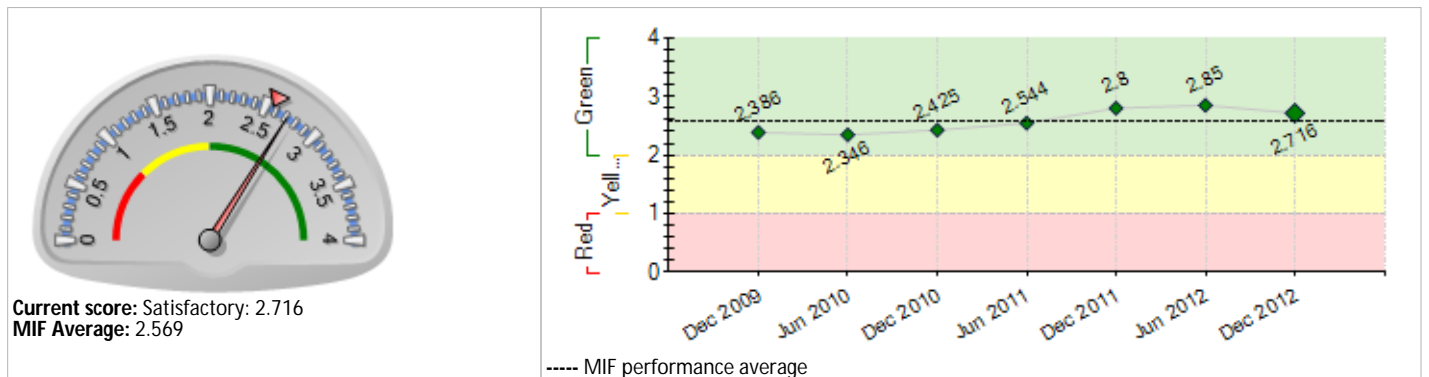
TIMELINE



FUNDS



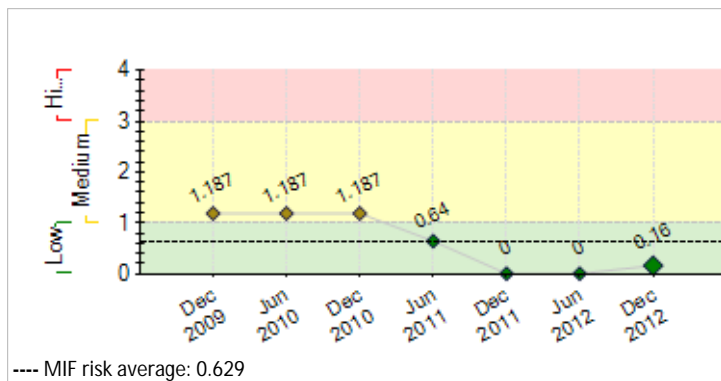
PERFORMANCE SCORE



EXTERNAL RISKS

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

	Risk
Financial Management:	---
Procurement:	---
Technical Capacity:	---



SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

Summary of project performance since inception

The EcoAgriCulture project, in March 2012, successfully achieved all of the targets outlined in the designed plan of activities for June 2009 to June 2012. However, during the course of the project, The Cropper Foundation noted a number of beneficial activities not within the original scope of the project, which would enhance and add considerable value to the ongoing viability of the work. The project was therefore extended to November 2012, in order to undertake the following specific activities: (i) design and implementation of a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework for assessing the impact and sustainability of the farming practices implemented as part of the EcoAgriCulture Project, (ii) technical support provided to farmers in the use of sustainable farming practices, and (iii) engagement and collaboration with the Extension Department of the Ministry of Food Production to provide better support to farmers.

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

The project was successfully implemented and achieved targeted as well as additional results effected during the extension period. Through careful management of the available TC resources the Executing Agency was able to utilize savings to extend the scope and results framework of the original project. The Cropper Foundation proved itself a responsible, technically competent and responsive partner for MIF

Summary of project performance in the last six months

Project activities identified as part of the EcoAgriCulture Project extension, were completed by November, 2012. Three key activities were identified for completion within this semester:

(i) Evaluating the impact of introduced sustainable farming practices as part of the EcoAgriCulture project - A monitoring and evaluation (M&E) exercise was completed to assess the uptake, benefits and continued use of introduced sustainable farming practices (SFPs) among 14 of the participating farmers in the EcoAgriCulture Project. A report for the M&E exercise was produced and uploaded as a knowledge product.

(ii) Documenting case studies of farmers' experiences in implementing sustainable farming practices and the challenges faced - a video documentary was produced of farmers in the Marcos Valley engaging in compost development. The YouTube video can be accessed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wk6ZCrH6IA4>.

(iii) Supporting farmers in mainstreaming the use of SFPs, through providing technical support - The process and outcome of technical support provided to farmers is documented as a series of technical reports produced over the project extension period.

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

SECTION 3: INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

Indicators		Baseline	Intermediate 1	Intermediate 2	Intermediate 3	Planned	Achieved	Status
Result: Pilot a programme of alternative and sustainable farming practices to selected farmers in 2 selected watershed communities of the Northern Range	P.11 Percentage increase of farmers in selected communities implementing sustainable agricultural practices	0				20	20	
		Jun 2009				Jun 2011	Dec 2011	
Component 1: Technical Coordination Weight: 34% Classification: High Satisfactory	C1.11 Percentage of farmers in selected communities are exposed to sustainable farming practices	0				60	60	
		Jun 2009				Jun 2011	Oct 2011	
Component 2: Baseline Assessment, Research and Documentation of Results Weight: 15% Classification: Satisfactory	C2.11 Completion of Baseline Assessment	0				1	1	
		Jun 2009				Jun 2010	Jul 2010	
Component 4: Implementation of Alternative Farming Practices Weight: 49%	C4.11 Percentage of participating farmers adopting sustainable farming practices	0				20	20	
						Jun 2011	Dec 2011	

Classification: High Satisfactory

Component 5: Seminars/Workshops

Weight: 2%

Classification: Satisfactory

C5.11	Public outreach plan to promote project results	0				1	1	
						Mar 2011	Dec 2011	

Milestones	Planned	Due Date	Achieved	Date achieved	Status
M1 Previous Conditions	5	Dec 2009	5	Dec 2009	Achieved
M7 [*] Completion of baseline research to measure environment and economic impact of current cultivation practices utilised by participating farmers.	1	Jul 2010	1	Jul 2010	Achieved
M7 [*] Selection of participating farmers from selected hillside watershed communities for participation in the pilot programme	1	Aug 2010	1	Jul 2010	Achieved
M7 [*] Design of Interventions at the Community Level	1	Dec 2010	1	Jun 2011	Achieved late
M6 Final Evaluation	1	Dec 2011	1	Dec 2011	Achieved late
M4 Implementation of Technical Support Program for farmers in selected communities	1	Feb 2012	1	Jul 2011	Achieved
M7 Development of a model to facilitate replication of the project and dissemination of information on model and project results	1	Mar 2012	1	Jan 2012	Achieved

[*] Indicate that the milestone has been reformulated

CRITICAL ISSUES THAT HAVE AFFECTED PERFORMANCE

[X] Others, which?: The Executing Agency experienced some initial difficulties in contacting beneficiaries as addresses on register maintained by Ministry of Education do not reflect places of abode but location of farms.

SECTION 4: RISKS

MOST IMPORTANT RISKS AFFECTING FUTURE PERFORMANCE

	Level	Mitigation action	Responsible
1. Farmers do not maintain sustainable farming practices	Low	Sustainable farming practices (SFPs) were designed in collaboration with farmers to ensure that introduced SFPs were pragmatic, feasible, and beneficial to the farmer, and therefore likely to be maintained.	Project Coordinator

PROJECT RISK LEVEL: Low **TOTAL NUMBER OF RISKS:** 5 **IN EFFECT RISKS:** 1 **NOT IN EFFECT RISKS:** 2 **MITIGATED RISKS:** 2

SECTION 5: SUSTAINABILITY

Likelihood of project sustainability after project completion: P - Probable

CRITICAL ISSUES THAT MAY AFFECT PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

[None reported in this period]

Actions related to sustainability which will be or have been implemented:

The Cropper Foundation is in discussion with the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme and the IDB MIF to design a follow-up project to the EcoAgriCulture project. This project builds on an initiative being led by The Cropper Foundation with several partner institutions to assist farmers in implementing sustainable hillside farming practices throughout Trinidad and Tobago – beginning with the Northern Range (NR). This project seeks to build on and continue the work already undertaken in the Maracas and Caura watersheds, and to establish a baseline and build capacity in three other watersheds in the NR (Santa Cruz, Lopinot and Aripo) in anticipation of the implementation of sustainable hillside farming practices in these three communities. Because the activities being undertaken in this project are part of a larger plan to improve agricultural activities on hillsides, it is expected that results will be used well beyond the project lifespan.

SECTION 6: PRACTICAL LESSONS

[No lessons learned added yet.]