

The FRAME Program

**EPIQ II Task Order
Contract No. EPP-I-00-03-00013-00
Task Order No. 03**

**FINAL Report
For September 30, 2004 to November 28, 2007**

**Prepared by International Resources Group
for USAID – EGAT/LRMT**

January 2008

SECTION I

I. Introduction

The objective of the FRAME program was “to help NRM practitioners and decision makers to make greater use of the existing body of knowledge and ideas on successful and promising NRM experiences.”

To achieve FRAME’s objective, its sub-objectives included the following:

1. Bring together, organize and make accessible information to NRM practitioners and decisions makers. This was primarily through the FRAME web site (<http://www.frameweb.org>), and a periodic email bulletin, the FRAMEgram.
2. Support Communities of Practices through management of the Simplify™ platform for the website and strategic provision of training. Amongst other Communities of Practice, support to NRM practitioners involved in the UN’s Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD) were to be given particular support.
3. Make available decision-support tools. This was done primarily by FRAME participating in a conference and supporting an Environmental Trends Analysis community of practice.
4. Support integration of NRM and other sectors that aim to spur rural economic growth, reduce poverty, and strengthen governance. Using the Nature, Wealth and Power organizing framework, FRAME supported communication and analytical activities (stocktaking and NRM assessments) focusing on the role of NRM in achieving these goals.
5. Related to the above objective, FRAME aimed to help to “operationalize” the Nature, Wealth and Power concept by identifying actions and the enabling environment that most effectively connect NRM with economic growth, poverty reduction and stronger governance.
6. Provide topical information and analyses through special studies. FRAME supported a number of special studies on topics related to NRM.

To achieve FRAME’s objective and sub-objectives, FRAME builds and expands upon results achieved by previous AFR/SD investments in FRAME. During the period from 1998 to 2004, AFR/SD, through EPIQ and MOBIS GSA Schedule Contracts HFM-E-00-02-00225 and EPP-M-00-03-00025-00 respectively, contracted with a consortium led by the International Resources Group (IRG) to address the above challenges. Beginning in 2004 through the present, EGAT/NRM through EPIQ II continued to work with IRG to address these challenges. The shift in funding from AFR/SD to the EGAT/NRM office coincided with a broadening of the regional scope for FRAME from an Africa only focus to a global scope.

2. Highlights

The following activities highlight accomplishments made toward realization of contract deliverables over the life of the project:

Support to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

FRAME supported efforts to expand the dialogue at UNCCD related conferences to consider the positive impact of investments in NRM as effective means of combating desertification. FRAME did so by undertaking field studies to assess the impact of NRM investments, and sponsoring workshops and events where the study results could be shared with decision makers.

- West Africa
 - Completed stocktaking research in Niger and Ghana.
 - Collaborated with CILSS to host side events at UNCCD CRIC 3 meeting where UNCCD Focal Points from Niger, Ghana and Burkina Faso presented their countries' progress in combating desertification through local NRM interventions.
 - Developed a methodological guide for future study teams to further research intended to explore the impacts of investments in NRM sector.
- Southern Africa
 - Completed stocktaking research on CBNRM and biodiversity conservation in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.
 - Collaborated with IUCN to co-host a regional forum with SADC aimed at raising awareness of the contribution of CBNRM to combating desertification, and improving local livelihoods, the natural resource base and local governance. The forum outlined mechanisms by which UNCCP focal points and CBNRM practitioners could collaborate to achieve common goals.
 - Collaborated with IUCN and SADC to host side events at UNCCD CRIC 5 and COP 8 meetings where UNCCD Focal Points presented their countries' progress in combating desertification and conserving biodiversity through local CBNRM interventions.
- Central Asia
 - Completed stocktaking research in Kyrgyzstan.
 - Organized a Side Event at UNCCD CRIC 5 to present study findings.

Global Natural Products community

FRAME supported efforts to explore the potential for natural product enterprises to contribute to poverty alleviation, improved natural resources management and improved governance. FRAME did so by undertaking field based case studies, sponsoring electronic discussions and an online community of practice, and sponsoring an international workshop.

- **Studies:** FRAME conducted six studies which shared a common methodology informed by the NWP framework combined with the use of value chain analysis methodology. The six studies included: The Philippines, rattan; Nepal, essential oils; Senegal, gum karaya; Guatemala, xate palm; Ecuador, sustainable tourism; Madagascar, medicinal plants.
- **Workshop:** National workshops were held in each country where FRAME studies were undertaken. In addition, an international workshop was held in Washington DC from October 3-5, 2006.
- **Community of Practice:** FRAME supported a CoP in advance of, during and following the international workshop, to foster dialogue across regional boundaries. Documents and workshop related resources were posted on the site. Weekly updates were sent to all members by the community coordinator.

FRAME website

During the duration of the contract, the Website was continuously upgraded to incorporate multiple languages, provide fresh and relevant resources, provide a space for new communities and partners, and improve the user experience. A growing Web team including native French and Spanish speakers kept the content and navigation to a high standard. The Website included 3987 resources at the end of the contract, and had 1712 registered account holders. In the last two years of the contract, web visitation increased dramatically. In September 2005 the site received 200,000 hits per month, by September 2007, that number had reached 1,200,000.

Communities of Practice

FRAME supported established of 27 CoPs by setting up electronic discussion fora and working with community and discussion moderators and participants to facilitate participation and the sharing of knowledge and documents. FRAME staff also provided training to the community and discussion moderators to help them manager their communities.

FRAME Fellows

FRAME initiated the Fellows program to give promising young NRM professionals in the developing world an opportunity to gain experience working with a local NRM-focused NGO. Eight Fellows were placed with the following host organizations: ANSAB, CASS/PLAAS, CPALI, GDRN5, Guinee Ecologie, PTFCE, SAFIRE and WWF.

3. Summary of progress against deliverables

The following table summarizes the project’s accomplishments against all program results and deliverables. The Targets for Year 3 are included only as a reference to demonstrated the expected yearly targets for each deliverable.

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
Result 1: FRAME managed in a coherent and cogent manner	Work Plan	A comprehensive Work Plan for Year 3.	Comprehensive work plan developed for Years 2 and Year 3 developed to improve FRAME management.
	Quarterly Reports	Quarterly reports	Quarterly reports were submitted every quarter.
	Monitoring & Evaluation Plan	Project deliverables and targets tracked in the quarterly reports.	Monitoring and evaluation plan was improved to track project targets and deliverables against overall results for Year 1, 2 and 3. This included an Annex to the quarterly report developed to better communicate FRAME results as they related to the USAID/EGAT/NRM office indicators.
Result 2: FRAME Website managed and upgraded	Business Plan	Develop viable business plan.	FRAME team completed a business planning process including interviews, identifying key themes and strategy workshops in Quarter 3 of Year 3.
	Website Upgrade	FRAME Website – continually upgraded to accommodate the expansion of FRAME beyond Africa.	During the duration of the contract, the Website has been consistently upgraded to incorporate multiple languages, always provide fresh and relevant resources, provide a space for new communities and partners, and generally improve the user experience. A growing Web team including native French and Spanish speakers kept the content and navigation to a high standard. In the last two years of the contract, web visitation increased dramatically. In September 2005 the site received 200,000 hits per month, by September 2007, that number had reached 1,200,000 (this represents a 600% increase in visitation). The total number of account holders also increase 115% in the final two years of the contract.

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
	Web Links	Links within the FRAME site to related Websites will increase by 10 percent over baseline established in the end of Year 2.	<p>Documents and Websites: A total of 4065 documents and 2348 Website links are posted on the site, for a total of 6413 resources. From a minimum number of documents at the project's start, the consistent posting of resources over the years has kept the FRAME Website fresh and relevant. Growth exceeded targets increasing 60 percent alone (from 3987 to 6413) over the last two years of the contract.</p> <p>Members: A total of 1712 users have accounts on the FRAME Website. This is the result of a 115% increase in accounts over the last two years of the contract.</p>
	Web Template Translation	Main templates continually translated into English, French and Spanish.	All main pages are supported in English, Spanish and French, and partner pages and communities were supported in their own language. User guides are available in English, French and Spanish.
	FRAMEgram	FRAMEgram sent out on a periodic basis.	<p>24 FRAMEgrams were written over the lifetime of the contract. FRAMEgrams were published in English and French, and since January 2006 twelve issues have been published in English, French and Spanish. The FRAME community generally expressed much appreciation for the resources in the newsletter.</p> <p>In addition to the FRAMEgram, during the last year of the contract FRAME account holders and FRAMEgram subscribers also received a monthly update of 30 (10 in each language) resources posted on the site.</p>
	USAID KM Events	Participation in Agency KM events as identified.	FRAME staff has participated in various knowledge management events and activities, at USAID or elsewhere in Washington DC or overseas. These activities have brought new resources and lessons learned to the FRAME program, brought FRAME under the attention of a wider audience, and furthered recognition of FRAME as a leading KM program within the Agency. In addition, along with the USAID AMAP program and others, FRAME staff has been supported the strengthening of KM strategy and capacity within USAID. One highlighted event was FRAME's presentation at the Web2forDev Conference hosted by the FAO in Italy on September 25-27, 2007 where FRAME's integrated approach with knowledge management and decade of experience was shared with an international audience.

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
Result 3: Contact Group supported	Contact Group Expansion	Launch and support the new FRAME network, in place of expanding the original Contact Group.	During the duration of the contract, the Contact Group was supported and eventually in the final year absorbed into a larger “Network,” which was designed to provide Contact Group “benefits” to a larger audience. 125 members completed the FRAME network survey, resulting in a rich database of contacts, professional information and FRAME program feedback. FRAME network members have been contacted with relevant announcements and links on the FRAME site. Former CG members remain closely connected to FRAME.
	Business Plan	Originally a Result 3 Deliverable, Moved to Result 1 (see above)	See above.
	CG Roles and Responsibilities	Launch new FRAME Network to replace the original Contact Group.	See above.
	CG Fora	FRAME will use FRAMEweb, and promote electronic discussion fora to support the expanded FRAME Network.	Members of the Contact Group community were integrated into the broader FRAME Network and received network and Website updates.
Result 4: Online case studies increased and enriched	Tracker Case Studies Links to Tracker	No new case studies or links will be added to Tracker. New resources, including case studies and links will be posted to FRAMEweb by FRAME staff and members of the FRAME community. FRAME will facilitate the sharing of all resources through FRAMEweb	All case study results from FRAME and community members were posted on FRAME. All new FRAME documents were listed on the FRAME publications page.
	NRM Tracker Format	NO new case studies added to DEVECOL..	N/A
	DEVECOL Case Studies	NO new case studies added to DEVECOL.	N/A

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
Result 5: Communities of Practice (CoP) and Online Discussions supported and enriched	CoP Guidelines	Guidelines for initiating and supporting CoP updated as needed.	CoP Guidelines are available in English, French and Spanish.
	CoP Facilitation	FRAME will continue to support existing CoP and will initiate 1 new CoP.	<p>FRAME developed and supported Communities of Practice (CoP) throughout the contract.</p> <p>FRAME supported established CoPs by setting up electronic discussion fora and working with community and discussion moderators and participants to facilitate participation and the sharing of knowledge and documents. FRAME staff also provided training to the community and discussion moderators to help them manager their communities.</p> <p>By the end of the contract, the FRAME Website was providing space and tools to 27 Communities of Practice, titled: Co-Management Community; Conservation and Governance; Conventions Locales; Environmental Trends Analysis (ETA) ; Forestry and Communities; Gender and Sustainable Natural Resource Management; Gestion des Forets Naturelles en Afrique; Groupe de travail Tavy; IUCN-FRAME CBNRM studies; Land degradation: International Network on the Cost of Inaction; Land Tenure for Drylands Development e-Conference; Limits of Acceptable Change Okavango Delta; Natural Products; Natural Regeneration in Niger; Nature, Wealth and Power; Niger Drought and NRM Investments Discussion; Water and Sanitation Guidelines; Jatropha; MCC & NRM Open Forum; Protected Areas Trust Fund Discussion; AIDS and Conservation Online Discussion; FRAME – UNCCD Community CRIC 5; Redfia, Red Nacional de Formacion e Investigacion Ambiental; SADC UNCCD CBNRM Regional Forum; Transfer of Management for Protected Areas; Madagascar Protected Areas Management; Wildlife Enterprise Network (WEN).</p>
	CoP Training	Incorporate FRAMEweb training, including how to participate in and manage a CoP and online discussions, into all FRAME supported workshops. Continue to upgrade and make accessible guidance materials on FRAMEweb.	FRAMEweb trainings including CoP training became a standard component of all FRAME workshops. In addition, personalized training for using FRAME continued on an as-needed basis with new users.

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
	CoP Help Desk	Satisfactory help-desk services provided to CoPs and online discussions.	Satisfactory help-desk services were provided to the CoPs and online discussions.
	Online Discussion Guidelines	Guidelines for initiating and managing online discussions updated as needed.	Guidelines for managing on line discussions were developed and adjusted and used as needed.
	Online Discussions Facilitation	Five online discussions initiated and managed. Some will be short and limited to one week or less, others will be organized to last longer time frame.	Over the life-time of the project, the organization and hosting of online discussions became an increasingly important way to build momentum for the site, increase usage and number of account holders, and stimulate meaningful, high-quality discussions among professionals in NRM. Over the course of the task order period, discussions were hosted and supported on the following topics: Co-management, Gestion des Forêts Naturelles en Afrique, Conventions Locales, Environmental Trends Analysis, Gender and NRM, Land Tenure for Drylands Development, Natural Products, Natural Regeneration in Niger, Nature Wealth and Power, Niger Drought and NRM Investments, Water and Sanitation Guidelines, MCC & NRM, HIV/AIDS and Conservation, Madagascar Transfer of Management for Protected Areas. In addition, various online discussions took place within Partner Pages.

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
<p>Result 6: Stocktaking, NRM Assessments and Special studies conducted</p>	<p>(new) The contractor will conduct at least four studies. These may include NRM stocktaking assessments, studies in support of the UNCCD, and studies on special topics.</p>	<p>The contractor will conduct studies on themes of interest to the FRAME community. Studies may be field or desk based. Studies will use NWP as an organizing framework and will aim to demonstrate the contribution of natural resources and NRM to economic growth and poverty alleviation. The contractor will conduct at least 2 studies.</p>	<p>FRAME conducted case studies to capture lessons learned and best practices in natural resource management and greatly exceeded targets for numbers of such studies. FRAME studies used Nature, Wealth and Power as an organizing framework.</p> <p>23 studies were completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 CBNRM case studies in Southern Africa (Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe) • 2 synthesis studies in Southern Africa • 1 Natural Products Synthesis report • 6 Natural Product Studies • 1 Sahel Study Methodology Guide • 1 Study in the Philippines focusing on Private vs. Community Forest management regimes • 1 Study in Nepal focusing on Community Based Natural Resource Management for the natural products sector • 1 Study in Madagascar focusing on sustainable silk harvesting to conserve biodiversity and improve rural livelihoods • 2 studies from Mali, one focusing on Eucalyptus Production in the Yame Valley, and a second focusing on Land Tenure and Decentralization • 2 UNCCD case studies from West Africa (Niger, Ghana) • 1 UNCCD case study from Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan)

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
	(new) The contractor will support fora to disseminate the findings of FRAME supported studies.	<p>The contractor will participate in fora where the results of FRAME supported studies can be shared with the NRM community.</p> <p>In the case of existing fora, the researchers or a FRAME staff member will represent FRAME.</p>	<p>FRAME disseminated study results through workshops and online fora. FRAME presented the findings of the CBNRM case studies from South Africa at a meeting in Washington DC co-hosted by the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG).</p> <p>FRAME Team member, Boubacar Thiam presented FRAME's approach to stocktaking at a workshop organized by the UNDP/GEF Global Support Unit and CILSS in Ouagadougou May 7-10, 2007.</p> <p>The FRAME team worked with National Public Radio correspondent, Richard Harris, to provide information for a report broadcast on the linkages between re-greening in Niger and adaptation to climate change. Information from the FRAME case study on farmer managed natural regeneration in Niger was also shared with National Geographic writer, Paul Salopek, for a report being prepared for publication in March, 2008.</p> <p>FRAME also worked with Karen Holmes and the World Resources Institute to contribute to a case study on the role of social networks and community-based institutions in the transformation of Niger's farmed landscapes and associated improvements in sustainable NRM practices.</p> <p>FRAME/IUCN CBNRM studies were synthesized into a policy brief which was presented and disseminated at the UNCCD COP, held in Madrid September 3-14, 2007</p> <p>FRAME's various online discussions (described under Result 5) supported all FRAME studies and study outcomes by stimulating dialogue and building awareness.</p>

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
	(new) The contractor will support CoP to share the findings of FRAME-supported studies.	The contractor will initiate and support CoPs around the themes explored in FRAME supported studies.	As reported under Results 5 and 7, FRAME communities and partner pages were created as needed to support FRAME studies and build dialogue on themes and topics important to USAID, FRAME and the FRAME community. The communities directly related to FRAME studies included those Environmental Trends Analysis, IUCN-FRAME CBNRM Studies, Natural Products, Natural Regeneration in Niger, Nature Wealth and Power, Niger Drought and NRM Investments, FRAME-UNCCD Community CRIC 5, SADC UNCCD CBNRM Regional Forum, Conservation through Poverty Alleviation International (CPALI), and CILSS/UNCCD Etudes du Sahel.
	(new) Contributions to NWP	FRAME supported studies will be informed by the NWP methodology.	FRAME studies were informed by the NWP methodology.
	(new) EGAT Presentations	FRAME will present the findings of FRAME supported studies to EGAT as opportunities are identified.	FRAME held a meeting on natural regeneration in Niger hosted by the EGAT Bureau in Washington DC in January 07. Lessons learned were discussed with a group of over 40 NRM practitioners and policy makers. FRAME participated in an EGAT/NRM Extended Biodiversity Team meeting in November 2007 to share the lessons learned from the IUCN/FRAME collaborative studies on CBNRM experiences in Southern Africa. FRAME hosted a SID event in Washington to share the results of the Natural Products studies. FRAME also hosted an international conference in DC on the topic. USAID/EGAT staff were invited to both events.

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
<p>Result 7: Partnerships and Partner Pages supported and expanded</p>	<p>Partner Pages (new Year 1)</p>	<p>FRAME will provide continued support to current Partners hosting Partner pages. FRAME will offer Partner Page space to interested organizations.</p>	<p>FRAME provided support to Partners through “Partner Pages” hosted on the Website. Organizations and individuals with Partner Pages received technical and content support, were enabled to use FRAME knowledge sharing tools, and benefited from enhanced visibility through the Website, the FRAMEgram, and other FRAME outreach activities.</p> <p>By the end of the contract, the site was hosting 23 Partner Pages: Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group; Animal Health for the Environment and Development (AHEAD); Asociación de Promoción Iniciativas Ecológicas (APIE); BATS; CASS/PLAAS CBNRM Research and Networking Programme; CILSS/UNCCD Etudes du Sahel; Conseil National de l’Environnement pour un Developpement Durable (CNEDD); Community Conservation Coalition; Conservation through Poverty Alleviation International (CPALI); Fair Trade Federation; FODEPAL; GDRN5 - Réseau Gestion Décentralisée des Ressources Naturelles; Geo e-links; INternational Communication and Education Fund (INCEF); Katoomba Group; Madagascar Mateza; Mining and Environmental Health in Africa (MEHA); Organization for Conservation of Natural Resources and the Combat of HIV/AIDS (OCRA); Southern Africa Sustainable Use Specialist Group (SASUSG); USAID Biodiversity/Forestry Extended Team; Voahary Salama; WWF Community Conservations; WWF Sarpo.</p>
	<p>Partner Page Training</p>	<p>Incorporate FRAMEweb trainings including how to manage a Partner page, CoP and online discussion into all FRAME-supported workshops.</p> <p>Conduct an assessment of partner’s Website needs. Provide one-on-one assistance to existing partners wishing to update site, and potential partners wishing to develop new site.</p>	<p>Over the life-time of the contract, the support was provided to partners, communities, and individuals using the Website. This included one on one support, training in person and over the phone, and general support for all users. Training materials in three languages were also shared and posted on the Website.</p>
	<p>Partner Page Help Desk</p>	<p>Provide support to partners wishing to develop or improve their Partner Page.</p>	<p>Personal assistance, support and training was provided for all users of the site. Conversations included exploring how FRAME tools might best help their organization or team efforts.</p>

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
	(none)	Fellows will be placed with partner organizations to support studies when requested by partner organization.	FRAME placed 8 Fellows with partner organizations including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guinee Ecologie • CASS PLASS • WWF Sarpo • GDRN5 • Philippines Tropical Forest Conservation Fund (PTFCF) • Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB - Nepal) • Conservation for Poverty Alleviation (CPALI - Madagascar) • SAFIRE
Result 8: Use of NRM decision-support tools supported	STELLA Modeling Assessment	N/A (STELLA training assessment completed in Year 2. Now new deliverables in Year 3)	N/A
	Modeling CoP	A Decision Support Tools/ Environmental Trends Analysis (ETA) CoP to be developed as part of the ETA workshop	Community of Practice and a discussion forum were made available at www.frameweb.org/eta . Many resources (including those on a special "tools" page) were posted. FRAME ETA Community member Lars Softestead, gave presentations at the ESRI Federal User Group Convention in San Diego, and at the World Bank ICT and Agriculture Meeting in June. His presentation, "ICT-based networks as communities of practice: past, present and future", included a description of FRAME.
	Modeling Training	FRAME Workshop to be organized in conjunction with International Conference for Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Conference (GSID 9) in November 2006	Decision support tool workshop held in November 2006.
	Final Report (Modeling)	Workshop notes will be written and shared with participants and other interested stakeholders.	Workshop notes and presentations disseminated to interested stakeholders.

Result	Deliverable	Targets YEAR 3	Accomplishments for Results and Deliverables
<p>Result 9: FRAME integrated into the Agency's KM Strategy</p>	<p>FRAME Demonstrations</p>	<p>FRAME KM tools demonstrated to EGAT KM staff as opportunities are identified.</p>	<p>Highlights from the Web 2.0forDev conference and KM4Dev workshop were shared with USAID staff through trip reports and a brief presentation.</p> <p>Audio presentations for the Natural Products Conference were circulated among USAID and EGAT staff.</p> <p>On May 21, 2007 the FRAME team presented FRAME's approach to knowledge management at an EGAT Land Team meeting.</p> <p>Over the life-time of the project, the FRAME team also supported various USAID programs and activities by sharing its information on the Website and in the Newsletter, and by supporting specific partner pages and communities related to USAID initiatives, such as the USAID BATS and Biodiversity and Forestry Extended Team meetings partner pages.</p> <p>FRAME staff also worked along with AMAP staff to coordinate USAID/KM related synergies and opportunities between the two programs, specifically the links between natural resources management, poverty alleviation and micro-enterprise development and strengthen USAID's approach to KM.</p>
	<p>USAID KM events</p>	<p>Participation of Contractor staff in Agency KM events</p>	<p>FRAME was to be evaluated as a part of the NRM Office needs assessment which was scheduled to be completed after the end of the FRAME contract.</p>

4. FRAME Program contributions to NRM Office Strategic objectives

FRAME is based on the premise that improved knowledge sharing will contribute to improvements in NRM, leading to healthier ecosystems, sustainable NRM, and improved human well being. FRAME aimed to support the four NRM Office Strategic Objectives through knowledge sharing activities including workshops, online discussions, newsletter updates and the FRAME website. The following describes contributions of FRAME activities toward the NRM Office Strategic Objectives over the course of the project:

1. **Areas of natural resources with improved management.**

FRAME stocktaking assessments involved national partners and rural communities in the research process, formalizing knowledge about the stewardship of natural resources and increasing opportunities for influencing decision-makers and establishing the conditions that enable and favor improved management. FRAME also hosted fora, bringing together stakeholders, from community members to decision makers, with the aim of facilitating the exchange of useful information for decision makers at the national and international level.

2. **Areas of natural resources showing improved biophysical conditions.** FRAME studies helped to document areas showing improved biophysical conditions. FRAME supported efforts to capture the impact of Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) in Niger. FRAME supported stocktaking and other studies demonstrated impressive improvements in the natural resource base in Niger. Study results were shared at national and international fora.

3. **Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource and conservation management.** FRAME studies, electronic discussions and website all offered information on the importance of livelihoods derived from natural resources.

4. **Number of people with improved access to democratic decision-making.** FRAME's approach to knowledge sharing involves working with local champions to capture knowledge. Involving local champions in the discovery process is not only an intellectual investment in them, but assures that they will be more invested in the study results. FRAME works with local champions in the hopes that by participating in the discovery process they will be empowered to use study results to advocate for improved natural resource management policies. For example,, FRAME partner Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB) completed a manual on how to organize communities to facilitate their participation in natural resources management efforts and natural-products based enterprises. The manual is expected to encourage NGOs to work with communities to more actively engage them in NRM decision making processes.

5. Financial administrative data: Period of Performance: 09/30/04 To 11/29/07

	\$ Amount
Overall Budget	\$4,344,007.00
Funded Value	\$3,341,000.00
Cumulative billed Years 1, 2 and 3	\$3,328,469.00
% Utilization Years 1, 2 and 3 (% used of funded value)	99.62%

SECTION II

I. Cognizant Technical Officer's comments

2. Contracting Officer's comments