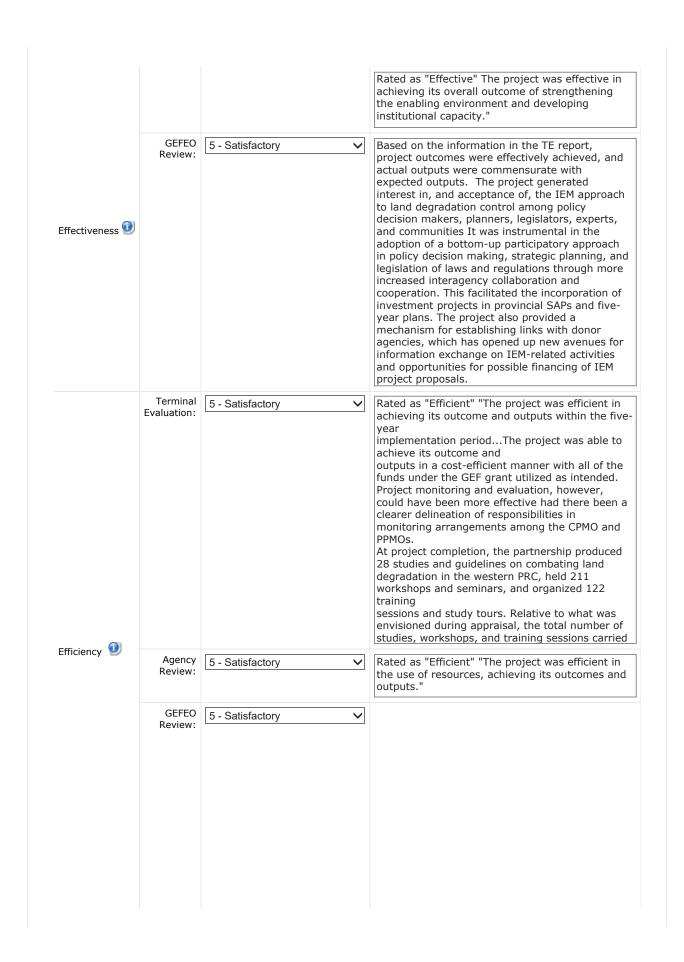


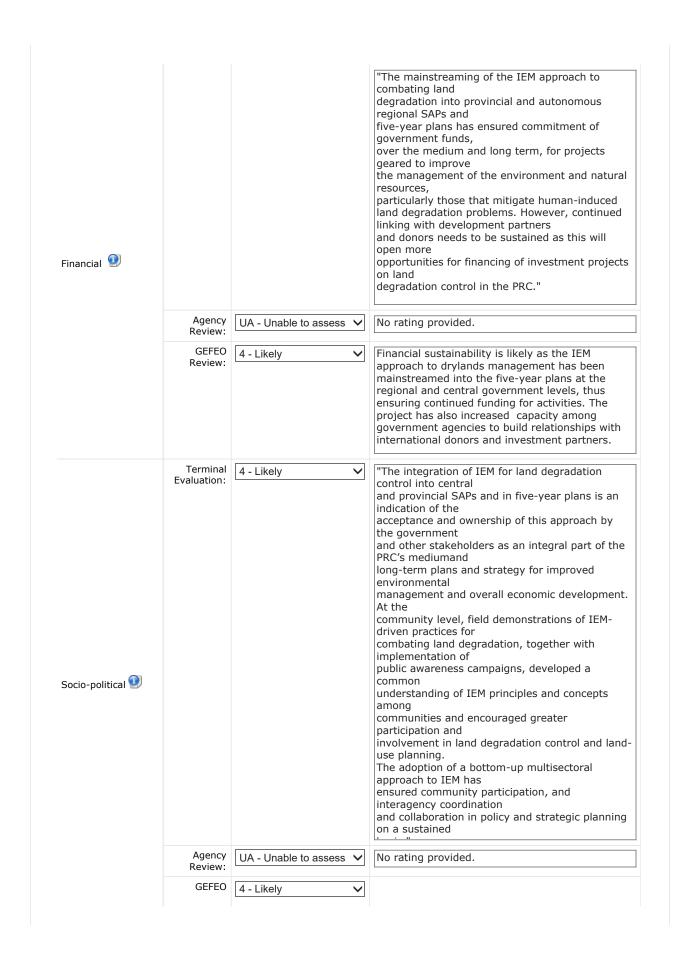
The project is relevant to the GEF multi-focal area program on integrated ecosystem management and to national priorities addressing drylands management. The project's purpose (or objective) has been effectively achieved through activities under the six component outputs. Actual outputs are commensurate with expected outputs, and project activities have been implemented officients.

Criteria	Document	Rating		Comment
	Last PIR:	5 - Satisfactory	~	"Implementation of the project has effectively raised the national and local capacity in combating land degradation."
	Terminal Evaluation:	5 - Satisfactory	~	Rated as "Successful"
	Agency Review:	5 - Satisfactory	~	Rated as "Successful"
Outcomes 🔮	GEFEO Review:	5 - Satisfactory	>	The project was relevant to GEF objectives and national priorities. It was effective in achieving its outputs and objective of increasing national capacity and coordination for implementing IEM targeted to drylands management. The project was cost-efficient in completing all activities within the revised timeframe and with only a 4% increase over the original budget. Both Effectiveness and Efficiency are rated S.
Relevance 💷	Terminal Evaluation:	6 - Highly Satisfactory	~	Rated as "Highly Relevant" "Overall, the project is assessed as relevant and its design as generally sound and adequate."
	Agency Review:	6 - Highly Satisfactory	>	Rated as "Highly Relevant" "The project design and formulation is rated highly relevant. A detailed assessment of problems and opportunities was made during project preparation. The project design was consistent with the strategies of the government, GEF, and ADB. "
	GEFEO Review:	5 - Satisfactory	>	The project is consistent with the GEF OP-12 on Integrated Ecosystem Management and with the aims of the PRC-GEF Partnership on Land Degradation in Dryland Ecosystems . The project is relevant to the priorities of the government of PRC in combating land degradation in the six provinces and autonomous regions of the western PRC. The project design is also consistent with both national and local economic and social development policies as well as with government priorities on several environmental and natural resource concerns as stated in its 11th Five-Year Plan. It was also relevant and consistent with ADB's PRC country partnership strategy (2008–2010)a within the strategic areas of the agriculture and natural resources sector.
	Terminal Evaluation:	5 - Satisfactory	~	Rated as "Effective" "The project was effective in achieving its outcome to strengthen the enabling environment and develop institutional capacity to combat land degradation in the PRC."
	Agency Review:	5 - Satisfactory	~	

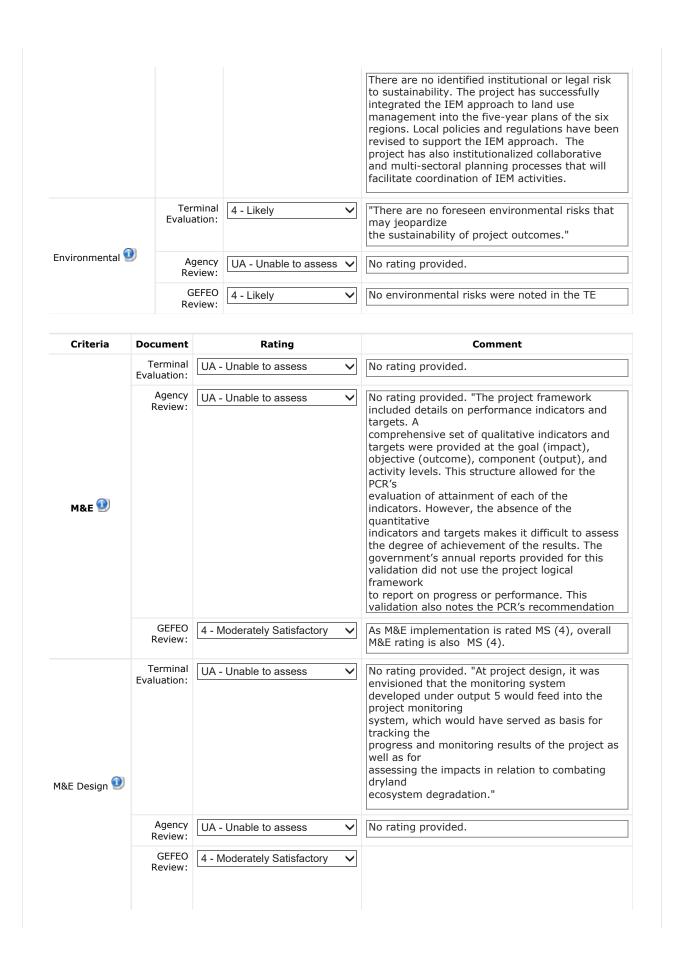


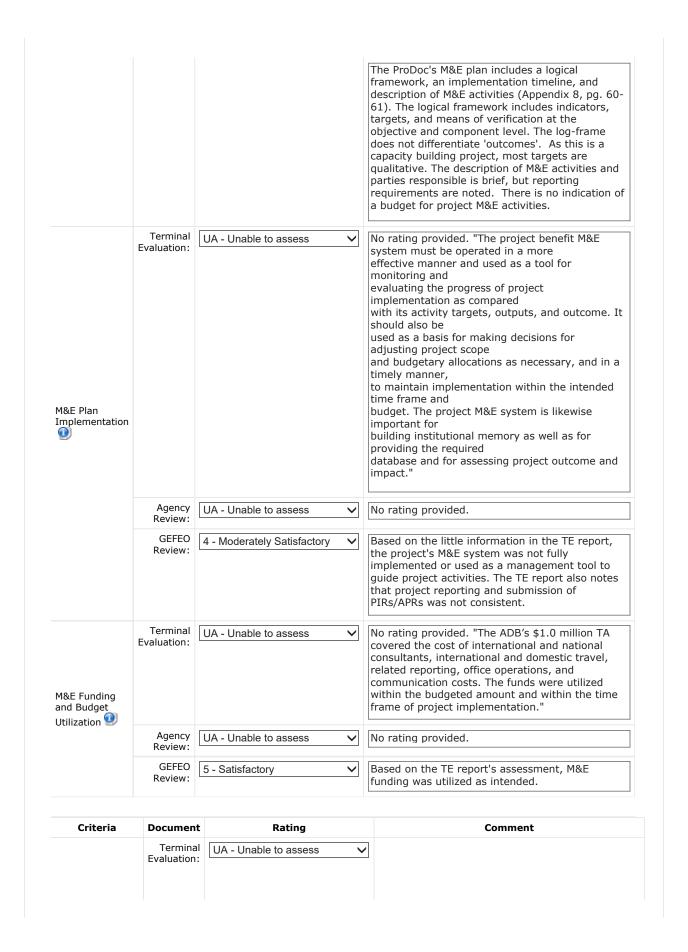
The project achieved its all expected outputs with full disbursement of GEF funds. Total project costs were slightly higher than anticipated. Due to a slow start-up phase, the project closed almost one year later than was expected at appraisal. There was some re-allocation of funds between project activities during implementation. Integration of components 2, 3, and 4 resulted in some cost-savings relative to expected costs. The actual cost for Component 6 (Country Programmatic Framework implementation arrangements) was almost double what was expected. Based on information in the TE report this was largely due to higher than anticipated staffing and overhead costs (staff turnover, incremental staff, office operations). Nevertheless, the evidence on project results indicates that the project has delivered all expected outputs and achieved its objective in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Criteria	Document Rating		Comment			
Sustainability 🚇	Last PIR:	4 - Likely	Rated as "L" for Low risk. Multi-sectoral coordinating mechanism at the national, provincial and county levels will promote effective implementation of the project activities. However enabling environmental improvement is a complex task and requires flexible approaches and responsive interventions. The capacity building of the project has generated both capacity and shifts in attitudes and growing enthusiasm for the project. These capacities, attitudes and the level of enthusiasm may now be affected if there will be no follow-up project in each of the provinces. Therefore implementation of the legal reform recommendations and strategy and action plans will also be more or less affected.			
	Terminal Evaluation:	4 - Likely	"The project is likely to be sustainable. This is supported by the mainstreaming of IEM for land degradation control into central and provincial SAPs and in five-year plans, which demonstrated the acceptance of this approach by the government and other stakeholders."			
	Agency Review:	4 - Likely	"The project is likely to be sustainable given the substantial capacity within the provincial governments and the commitment to the partnership by the government, ADB, GEF, and other			
	GEFEO Review:	4 - Likely	No significant risks to sustainability were noted in the TE report.			
	Terminal Evaluation:	4 - Likely				

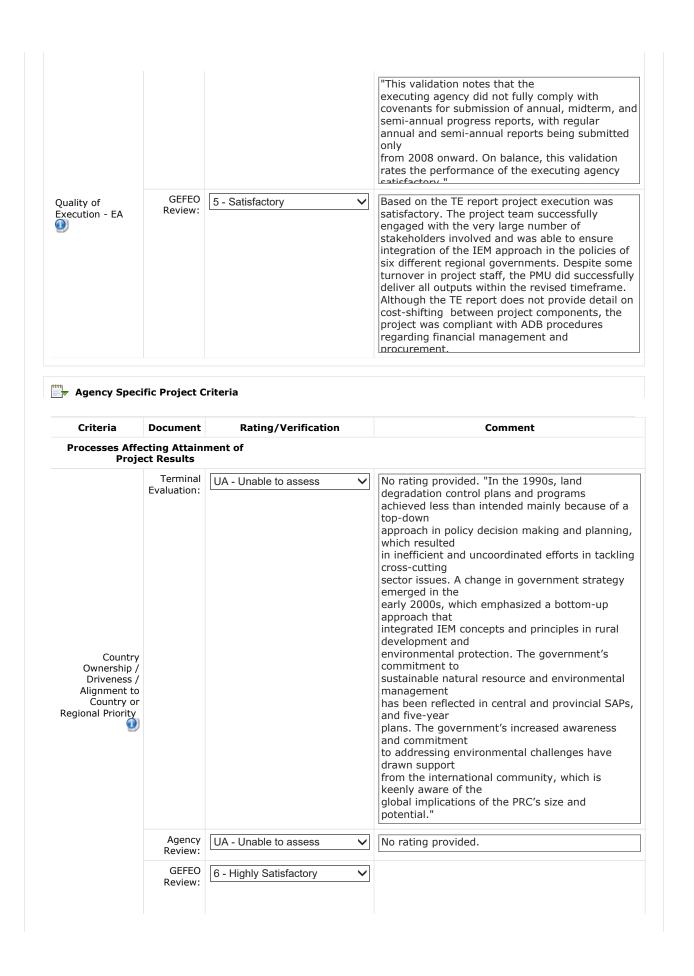


	Review:		Socio-political sustainability appears likely based the project's extensive engagement and consultation with stakeholders from central and regional government agencies. Over 500 officials were involved with the project, and outreach activities have raised general public awareness about the project's goals. The project is the first to bring together such a large number of agencies, including institutions of the highest level, to address land-related issues and problems. The TE report notes that there a high level of political commitment to sustaining project outcomes.
Institutional and Legal	Terminal Evaluation:	4 - Likely	"The project has trained a significant number of technical experts, policy decision makers, legislators, private sector representatives, and communities on participatory IEM, which ensures that the IEM approach will continue to be integrated in provincial and autonomous regional plans. The strengthened capacity of involved agencies, sectors, and communities in land degradation control provided a strong foundation for an enabling environment for combating land degradation in the PRC and subsequently facilitated interagency cooperation and collaboration, and community participation. The monitoring system established, with the provincial IEM information centers playing a key role, has provided an important mechanism for sustained information collection, dissemination, and sharing among stakeholders and for further expanding the adoption of a participatory approach to IEM and planning in other provinces and autonomous regions in the PRC. Continued government support (i.e., financial or otherwise) at both central and provincial levels for applying the IEM approach for land degradation control, in policy decision making and planning, has ensured
	Agency Review:	UA - Unable to assess 🗸	long-term sustainability of activities initiated under the project." No rating provided.
	GEFEO Review:	4 - Likely	

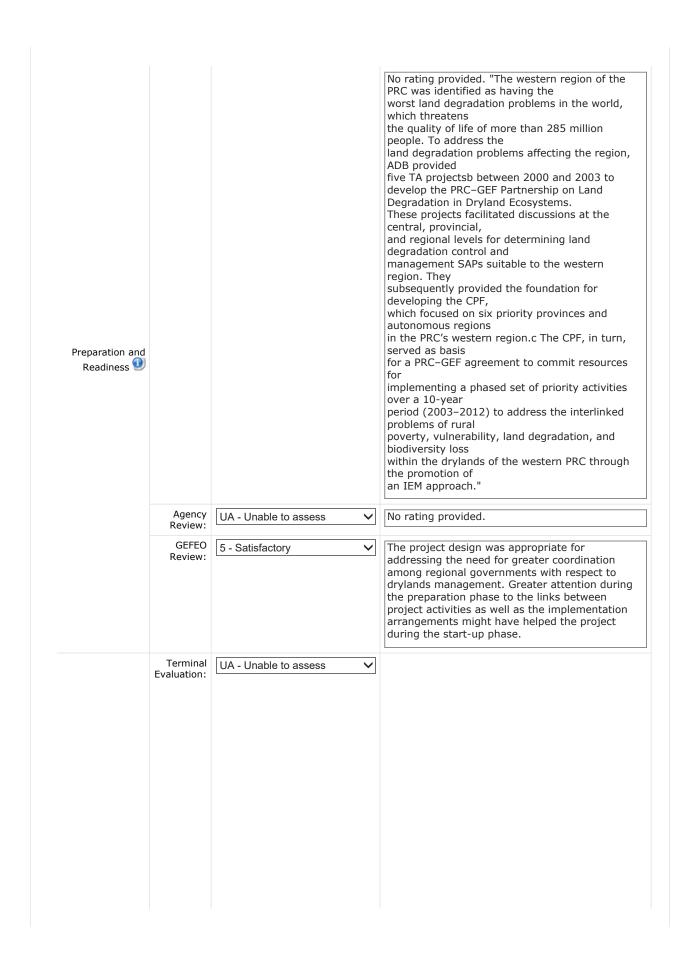


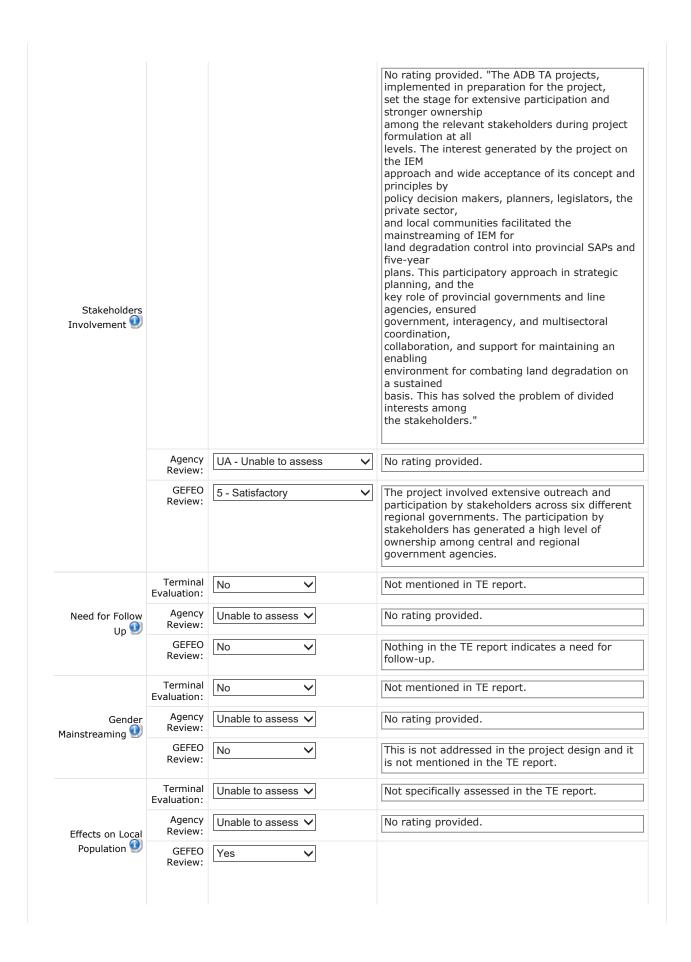


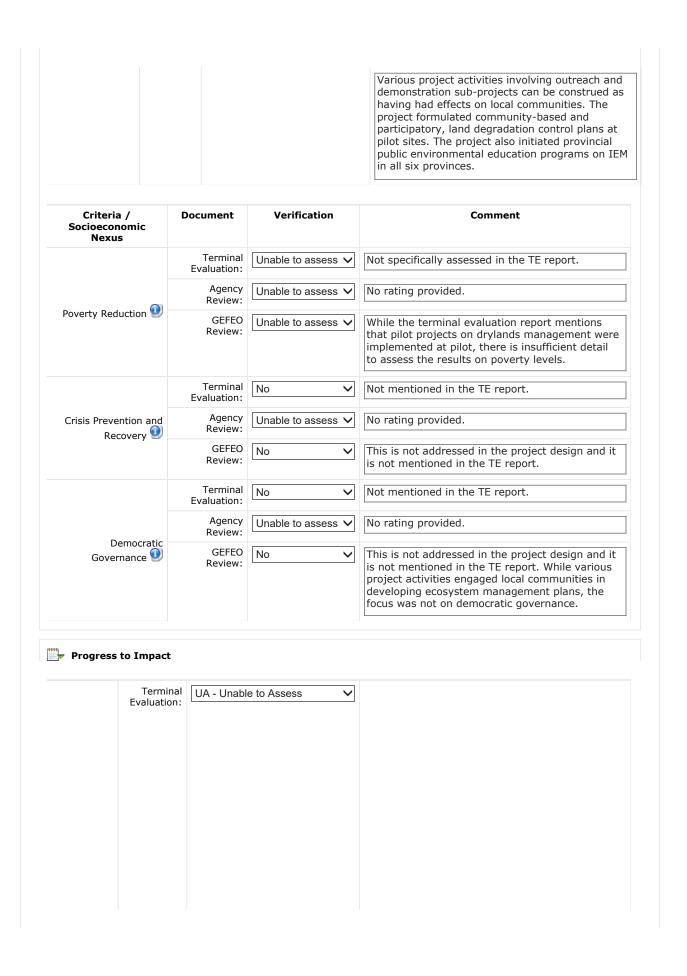
Quality of Implementation and Execution	Agency Review: GEFEO		No overall rating provided. "Despite the high rate of turnover of CPMO staff, the project was implemented in a satisfactory manner and in line with the arrangements envisioned at appraisal." No overall rating provided. Both quality of implementation and execution are			
	Review:	o canonactory	rated satisfactory.			
Quality of Implementation - IA	Terminal Evaluation:	5 - Satisfactory	"Overall, ADB performed satisfactorily during implementation. It was quick in making adjustments for ensuring that project outputs and outcome are effectively achieved within the allocated time frame. During 2004–2010, ADB fielded a total of 13 project administration and review missions, comprising members with varied disciplines and specializations, to provide technical advice and monitor the progress of project implementation. During these missions, ADB discussed problems and issues encountered by SFA, CPCO, CPMO, PPCOs, and PPMOs, provided timely recommendations for their resolution, and ensured that these solutions met the requirements of SFA. ADB backstopping provided the necessary support and supervision for ensuring that all activities were completed within the time frame allowed. ADB carried out regular monitoring of the withdrawal, disbursement, and use of funds to determine how efficiently the project was progressing through review missions and annual reports."			
	Agency Review:	5 - Satisfactory	"This validation agrees with the PCR's assessment and assesses ADB's performance satisfactory."			
	GEFEO Review:	5 - Satisfactory	"This validation notes that the executing agency did not fully comply with covenants for submission of annual, midterm, and semi-annual progress reports, with regular annual and semi-annual reports being submitted only from 2008 onward. On balance, this validation rates the performance of the executing agency			
	Terminal Evaluation:	5 - Satisfactory	"SFA performed satisfactorily. It was able to establish an effective interagency coordination mechanism for the partnership. Through the CPCO, CPMO, PPCOs, and PPMOs, it was able to generate interest in the IEM approach among policy decision-makers, planners, legislators, experts, and communities. This ensured the adoption of IEM concepts and principles in provincial SAPs and subsequently in the provincial five-year plans. SFA was also able to establish links with donor agencies, which opened opportunities for possible financing of IEM			
	Agency Review:	5 - Satisfactory	\checkmark			

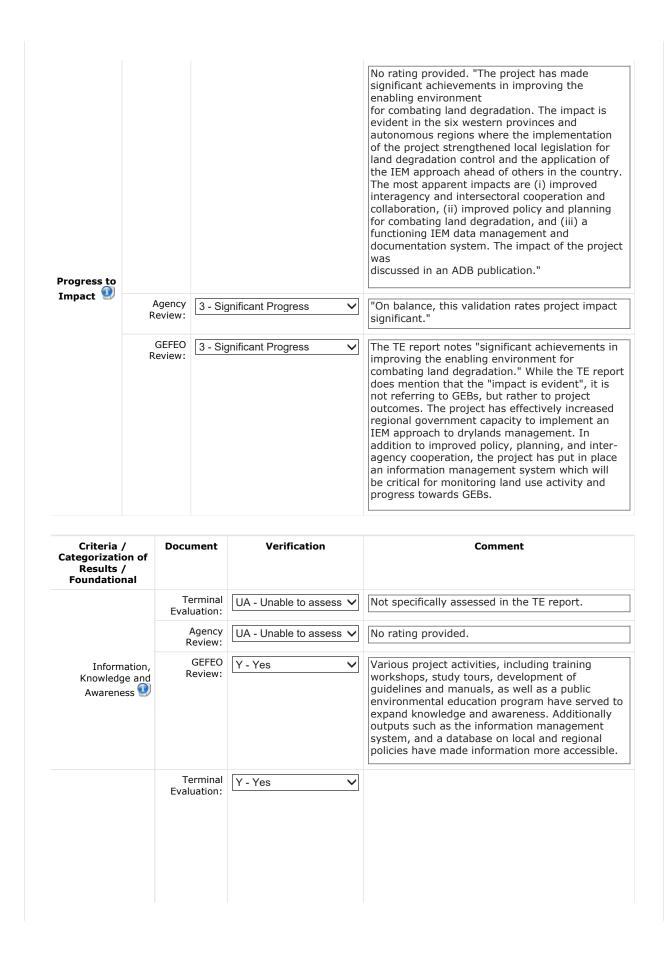


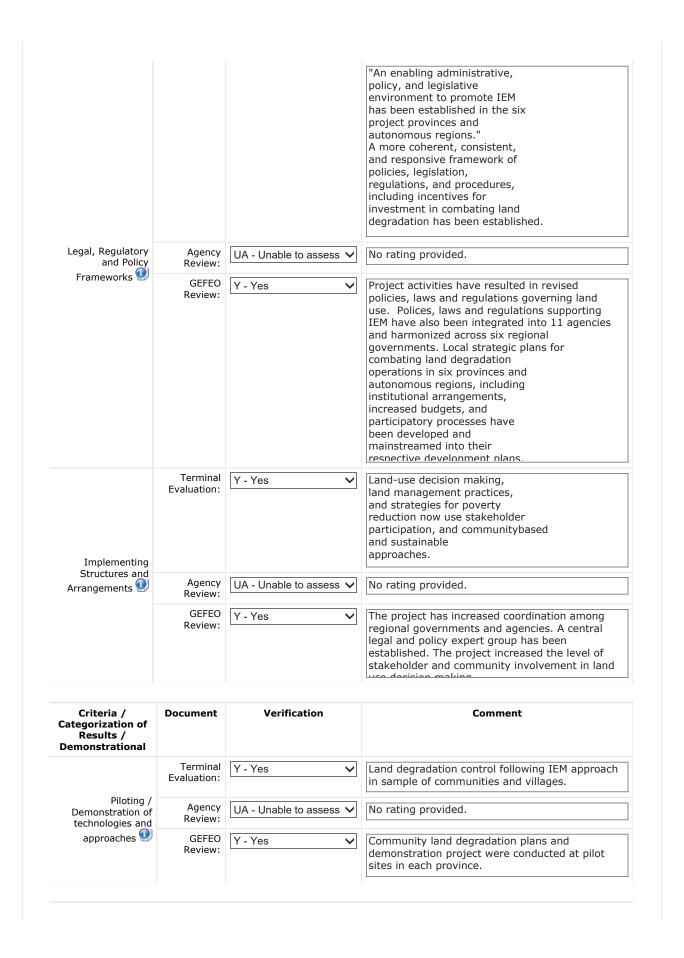
			The project was closely aligned to national priorities regarding drylands management. Support for the project has been high among central and regional government leaders. This is reflected in the higher than expected level of cofinancing provided and the financial comittments to ensuring sustainability.
Financial Planning	Terminal Evaluation:	UA - Unable to assess	No rating provided. "Following the review of the project, carried out during September–December 2004, a detailed project work plan was reformulated based on the consolidation of project outputs 2, 3, and 4 as an integrated institutions and planning package, given that their activities contribute to strengthening the links between macro-level and field-level strategic planning. A reallocation of GEF funds was made and the original project closing date was subsequently extended from 31 December 2008 to 31 December 2009 to provide additional time for achieving quality outputs and for ensuring that project objectives were met. The reallocation was budget-neutral and did not involve major changes in project scope or implementation arrangements. ADB carried out regular monitoring of the withdrawal, disbursement, and use of funds to determine how efficiently the project was progressing through mission reviews and annual reports. Financial reports and plans, as well as the conduct of annual audits, provided management with relevant information for making decisions regarding the budget and timely release of funds. This, in particular, facilitated the establishment of special accounts in project provinces to expedite withdrawal applications and remittance procedures to provincial implementation agencies to avoid further delays in implementation."
	Agency Review: GEFEO	UA - Unable to assess 4 - Moderately Satisfactory	No rating provided. The re-allocation of funds between project
	Review:	. moderatory Satisfactory	components and the high costs for Component (Output) 6 - Project management could perhaps have been avoided through more realistic budgetary analysis at the project design stage.
	Terminal Evaluation:	UA - Unable to assess	











Criteria / Categorization of Results / Investment	Document	Verification	Comment			
Financial mechanisms to	Terminal Evaluation:	UA - Unable to assess 🗸	Not specifically addressed in the TE report.			
acilitate adoption of the promoted technologies and	Agency Review:	UA - Unable to assess 🗸	No rating provided.			
approaches	GEFEO Review:	UA - Unable to assess 🗸	Insufficient information to assess.			
Criteria / Causal Pathway	Document	Verification	Comment			
Replication ①	Terminal Evaluation:	N - No	"The acceptance of the IEM approach by numerous government agencies, and their involvement in its application in land degradation control projects, provided a solid foundation for sustained integration of the approach into the policy and planning framework of the government and a framework for the replication of the IEM approach in other provinces in the PRC "			
	Agency Review:	UA - Unable to assess 🗸	No rating provided.			
	GEFEO Review:	N - No	There is no evidence of replication during the project's lifetime, although there is clear potential for replicating activities in other			
	Terminal Evaluation:	N - No	Not mentioned in the TE report.			
Upscaling 塱	Agency Review:	UA - Unable to assess 🗸	No rating provided.			
	GEFEO Review:	UA - Unable to assess 🗸	Scaling-up of the project results is not addressed in the TE report.			
Mainstreaming ①	Terminal Evaluation:	Y - Yes	"The interest generated by the project on the IEM approach and wide acceptance of its concept and principles by policy decision makers, planners, legislators, the private sector, and local communities facilitated the mainstreaming of IEM for land degradation control into provincial SAPs and five-year plans."			
	Agency Review:	UA - Unable to assess 🗸	No rating provided.			
	GEFEO Review:	Y - Yes 🔻	Based on information in the TE report, the project has successfully mainstreamed the IEM approach into central and provincial government policies and decision making processes.			
Criteria / Evaluat Evidence	ive Doc	ument				

	Terminal Evaluation							
	Agency Review	No data entered yet. Click> Add New Row < to add new row.						
	GEFEO Review	Visibility	Boundary	Intent	Comments			
Environmental Stress Reduction 🖭		Y - Yes	Demonstration Site		There is no explicit evidence in the TE report of environmental stress reduction. However, pilot projects on LD control have been conducted and these should result in stress reduction at the demonstration sites.	€ Edit Î Delete		
		Add New Row						
	Terminal Evaluation	No data entered yet. Click> Add New Row < to add new row.						
Environmental Status Change	Agency Review	No data entered yet. Click> Add New Row < to add new row.						
	GEFEO Review	No data entered yet. Click> Add New Row < to add new row.						
	Terminal Evaluation	No data entered yet. Click> Add New Row < to add new row.						
	Agency Review	No data entered yet. Click> # Add New Row < to add new row.						
Socioeconomic Status	GEFEO Review	Visibility	Boundary	Intent	Comments			
Change 塱		N - No			There is no evidence in the TE report of socio-economic status change.	PEdit Delete		
		Add New Row						
	Terminal Evaluation	No data entered yet (lick> Add New Pew -> to add new						
Arrangements for Impact M&E	Agency Review	No data entered yet. Click> Add New Row < to acrow.						
ттраст м&Е 💆	GEFEO Review	Visibility	,	Comme	nts			
		Y - Yes		The project has developed a monitoring system to track environmental indicators				

