



**GEF-7 REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT
CHILD PROJECT**
PROJECT TYPE: FULL SIZED PROJECT
TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TRUST FUND

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Securing a Living Amazon through Landscape Connectivity in Southern Guyana			
Country(ies):	Guyana	GEF Project ID:	10288
GEF Agency(ies):	World Wildlife Fund, Inc.	GEF Agency Project ID:	G0019
Project Executing Entity(s):	Environmental Protection Agency	Submission Date:	02/10/22
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity, IP SFM Amazon	Expected Implementation Start	September 1, 2022
		Expected Completion Date	August 31, 2027
Name of Parent Program	Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program - Phase II	Parent Program ID:	10198

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Programming Directions	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing
BD 1-1	Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors	GEF TF	3,519,725	3,158,816
IP SFM Amazon	Promoting effective coordination for sustainable forest management	GEF TF	1,633,028	1,465,579
Total project costs		GEF TF	5,152,753	4,624,395

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To strengthen landscape connectivity through improved management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area and North Rupununi Wetlands in southern Guyana						
Project Components / Programs	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing
1. Integrated Protected Landscapes	TA/ INV	1.1. Strengthened protected area management effectiveness	1.1.1 Infrastructure, furnishing and communication equipment to support effective management of the KMPA, including ranger's quarters and multipurpose building 1.1.2 Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices surveys, resource use map, and new land use plan for the KMPA	GEF TF	\$1,475,724	\$1,264,934

			<p>with indigenous communities</p> <p>1.1.3 South-south exchanges and courses for PA staff and community representatives for improved PA management</p>			
2. Integrated Productive Landscapes	TA/ INV	2.1 Increased areas of forests and watersheds brought under sustainable land and water management (SLWM) Practices	<p>2.1.1. Rapid assessment of existing knowledge; assessments and surveys on the socio-economic, biological and environmental aspects of the NRW will be conducted based on the gaps</p> <p>2.1.2 Spatial analysis of the NRW, incorporating ecological assessments (2.1.1), land use and ownership data, and traditional use areas, developed through a participatory process</p> <p>2.1.3 Integrated management planning for the NRW with collectively defined strategies and implementation structure</p> <p>2.1.4. Multistakeholder platform established to ensure a participatory approach for development of 2.1.2 and 2.1.3</p> <p>2.1.5 Wetland management activities with local communities and other stakeholders in North Rupununi Wetlands to support SLWM practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Small grants to strengthen livelihoods, traditional practices, capacity building, and management for SLWM - Sustainable use of forest resources 	GEF TF	\$2,884,578	\$2,524,823

			strengthened to support SLWM practices in the landscape			
3. Policies / Incentives for Protected and Productive Landscapes	TA	3.1 Strengthened regulatory frameworks for natural resource conservation/sustainable use	3.1.1 PA Act gap analysis and recommendations for improvements 3.1.2. Revised PA Act, defined in consultation with stakeholders, presented to Cabinet for Review and tabling in Parliament	GEF TF	\$158,500	\$165,582
4. Capacity Building and Regional Coordination	TA	4.1.Strengthened monitoring and evaluation system 4.2 ASL regional cooperation and knowledge sharing	4.1.1. Monitoring and Evaluation reports (e.g., project progress reports, midterm evaluation, terminal evaluation) 4.2.1 Coordination with ASL program and ASL regional coordination project 4.2.2 Knowledge management and communications products	GEF TF	\$388,582	\$448,847
Subtotal					\$4,907,384	4,404,186
Project Management Cost (PMC)				GEF TF	\$245,369	\$220,209
Total project costs				GEF TF	\$5,152,753	4,624,395

C. CONFIRMED SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Investment Mobilized	Amount (\$)
Civil Society Organization	North Rupununi District Development Board (NRDDB)	In-Kind	Recurrent Expenditure	80,000
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Natural Resources	In-Kind	Recurrent Expenditure	500,000
Recipient Country Government	Protected Areas Commission	In-Kind	Recurrent Expenditure	710,850
Recipient Country Government	Protected Areas Commission	Grant	Investment Mobilized	730,747
Donor Agency	Conservation International	In-Kind	Recurrent Expenditure	1,000,000
Recipient Country Government	Guyana Forestry Commission	In-Kind	Recurrent Expenditure	100,000
Recipient Country Government	Environmental Protection Agency	In-Kind	Recurrent Expenditure	163,582
Donor Agency	WWF Guianas	Grant	Investment Mobilized	720,886

GEF Agency	World Wildlife Fund Inc.	In-Kind	Recurrent Expenditure	618,330
Total Co-financing				4,624,395

Due to the COVID pandemic and budget cuts, as well as a change in project strategy, the co-financing figure has been adjusted – the overall figure has been reduced.

Investment mobilized has been identified in both Protected Areas Commission's, WWF Guianas' and Conservation International's portion of co-financing. Government of Germany through KfW, Frankfurt Zoological Society, and Protected Area Trust is providing grants to the Protected Areas Commission for management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area. WWF Netherlands, WWF France, Forest Stewardship Council, and Eaglemere have provided grants to WWF Guianas to cover forest, freshwater and governance initiatives, which includes supporting landscape management, policy development and advocacy for policy strengthening, including freshwater. The term Investment Mobilized has been used to reflect co-financing that excludes recurrent expenditure, and financing that will be leveraged alongside the GEF grant.

The Field Museum has provided a letter of support to the project, and is expected to provide a co-financing letter in the near future.

TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country Name/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
WWF-US	GEF TF	Guyana	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	3,519,725	316,775	3,836,500
WWF-US	GEF TF	Guyana	MultiFocal Areas	IP SFM Amazon	1,633,028	146,972	1,780,000
Total GEF Resources					5,152,753	463,747	5,616,500

E.2. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A "NON-GRANT" INSTRUMENT? No

F. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

Project Core Indicators		Expected at CEO Endorsement
1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	611,000
2	Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	
3	Area of land restored (Hectares)	
4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	901,800
5	Area of marine habitat under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	
	Total area under improved management (Hectares)	
6	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO2e)	847,406

7	Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management	
8	Globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)	
9	Reduction , disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)	
10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	
11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	700 (50% women)

Core Indicator 1: The project will be strengthening the management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area (KMPA), which is 611,000 hectares. The baseline METT score for KMPA is 76. The project expects to increase the METT score to 83 by project close.

The project expects to increase the scores for the following METT indicators:

- 7. Is there a management plan or equivalent and is it being implemented?
- 7a. The management planning process allows adequate and equal opportunities for stakeholders to influence management
- 9. Do you have enough information to manage the area?
- 11. Do the people managing the area have the necessary knowledge and skills?
- 15. Are equipment and facilities sufficient for management needs
- 30. Are indigenous people involved in management decisions?
- 31. Do local communities living in or near the protected area have input to management decisions?

Core Indicator 4: The project will improve planning of the North Rupununi Wetlands by developing a plan and a decision-making structure for implementing the plan. The North Rupununi Wetlands comprise an area of 901,800 hectares and this is the area proposed to be covered under the planning process. The exact scope/hectarage will be validated by a multistakeholder group during Year 1 of the project.

Core Indicator 6: The EX-ACT tool was used to calculate this core indicator. The project is expected to improve practices in 1,800 hectares during the life of the project, contributing to 72,489 metric tons of carbon emissions mitigated. Through the improved planning and management plan supported under the project, it is expected that the project will move at least 1% of the North Rupununi Wetlands (or 15,128 hectares) from ‘very low degradation’ to ‘no degradation’ over 5 years. This contributes to 774,917 metric tons of carbon emissions mitigated, this is considered ‘indirect’ as it will be achieved post-project (e.g. the plan will be put in place, but implemented for 5 years after project close).

Core Indicator 11: The project is expected to have 700 beneficiaries, of which 350 are women. Beneficiaries will include: PAC site level staff that will participate in trainings, and communities around KMPA and in the North Rupununi Wetlands who will benefit from planning processes, trainings, and exchanges.

TAXONOMY

See GEF Taxonomy Worksheet in Annex G.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN WITH THE ORIGINAL PIF

1a. Project Description.

The Child Project area lies in southern Guyana, within Administrative Region 9 - Upper Takutu, Upper-Essequibo. It is a globally significant biodiversity hotspot with a unique seasonal hydrological connection to the Amazon watershed, and a significant concentration of Indigenous peoples and titled lands with current and ancestral ties to these sites. The Project comprises two sites: the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area (KMPA) and the adjacent North Rupununi Wetlands (NRW). To the north of the NRW is the Iwokrama Forest Reserve and to the south of the KMPA site are Indigenous lands, state lands and the Kanashen Amerindian Protected Area. The two sites are described below.

**The project design has been adjusted since the Child Project Annex at the request of the Government of Guyana. The project landscape has changed from central Guyana to southern Guyana. While the project components remain the same, the project design reflects several key changes.

- Component 1: Integrated Protected Landscapes - The project originally proposed to establish a new Protected Area. The strategy has been revised, the project will support Strengthened protected area management effectiveness for the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area.
- Component 2: Integrated Productive Landscapes – The project will maintain an integrated management planning strategy, however the project is now focused on the North Rupununi Wetlands to ensure productive practices are compatible with the long-term ecological functioning of the wetlands.
- Component 3: Policies/Incentives for Protected and Productive Landscapes – the project outcome will still focus on strengthening regulatory frameworks for natural resource conservation/sustainable use, however the focus has shifted from an analysis of EPA regulations to revisions to the PA Act.
- Component 4: Capacity Building and Regional Coordination – this component remains the same.

The information presented below is specific to the revised project strategy.

1) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description):

The principal environmental problem to be addressed by this project is the cumulative negative ecological and hydrological impacts of current and potential future land-use changes and natural resource extraction activities in the NRW. These impacts include resource depletion and habitat fragmentation from infrastructure development, logging and large-scale agriculture. These impacts could compromise the project area’s ability to deliver ecosystem services, notably biodiversity maintenance, hydrological services, including water supply and water quality maintenance, and carbon sequestration, which sustain livelihoods and provide economic and subsistence opportunities for the area’s local and Indigenous communities, and ensure resilience to potential impacts from climate change. Failure to manage these threats would lead to loss of connectivity, causing wider negative impacts at greater spatial scales, such as increased flooding, disruption of hydrological systems and decreased gene flow for key groups such as fishes. The KMPA, which is being managed by the PAC, also faces threats to its ecological integrity including degradation of forest and waterways from illegal or unsustainable resource extraction. Threats to the child project area are described in detail below.

Threats to the KMPA

The 2019 and 2020 KMPA Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) assessments reported the following threats under the table below:

			2019	2020
1. Residential and commercial development within the protected area	1.1	Housing and settlement	Low	Low
	1.3	Tourism and recreational infrastructure	Low	Low

2. Agriculture and aquaculture within a protected area	2.1	Annual and perennial non-timber crop cultivation	Low	Low
	2.3	Livestock farming and grazing	Low	Low
3. Energy production and mining within a protected area	3.2	Mining and quarrying	Low	Low
4. Transportation and service corridors within a protected area	4.1	Roads and railroads (include road killed animals)	Na	Low
	4.4	Flight paths	Low	Low
5. Biological resource use and harm within the protected area	5.1	Hunting, killing and collecting terrestrial animals	Low	Low
	5.2	Gathering terrestrial plants or plant products	Low	Low
	5.3	Logging and wood harvesting	Low	Low
	5.4	Fishing, killing and harvesting aquatic resources	Med	Med
6. Human intrusions and disturbance within a protected area	6.1	Recreational activities and tourism	Low	Low
	6.3	Research, education and other work related activities in protected area	Low	Na
7. Natural system modifications	7.1	Fire and fire suppression (including arson)	Low	Low
	7.3c	Other 'edge effects' on park values	Low	Low
8. Invasive and other problematic species and genes	8.1	Invasive non-native/alien plants (weeds)	Low	Low
9. Pollution entering or generating within protected area	9.2	Industrial, mining and military effluents and discharges (e.g. poor water quality discharge from dams e.g. unnatural temperature, de-oxidants, other pollution)	Low	Low
	9.4	Garbage and solid waste	Low	Low
10. Geological events	10.4	Erosion and salutation/deposition (e.g. shoreline or riverbed changes)	Low	Low

1. Farming in the protected area and the use of fire in clearing new farmlands. The use of lands in KMPA for subsistence farming activities by the indigenous communities is a traditional practice which under the PA Act is allowed and actively exercised by the local people. Shifting agriculture is practiced; and part of the preparatory process of creating the farms involves the use of fire to burn and clear forest and unwanted vegetation, and enrich the soil with nutrients for better growth of crops after planting. These actions under the application of the METT are categorized as a low priority threat, meaning an action that is present but having little to no impact on the protected areas. In the 2019 & 2020 METT reports, this current low impact threat to the PA was identified as an area to be closely monitored because of the potential impact that this activity can have. The number of active farms and farm clearings have steadily been increasing in the PA from 2018-2020 based on monitoring activities and reports. In 2018, four (4) active farms were observed during the annual overflight (aerial monitoring) of the PA, in 2019 the number of farms and farm clearings observed increased to six (6) and in 2020, approximately 18 farm clearings were observed within the PA from the activity (KMPA overflight report 2019 & 2020). It is also a point to note, that along with the increase in the number of farms, the average sizes of farms are also increasing. The increase in farm numbers, size and the use of fire in the farming process can have a large negative impact on the values of the PA. The risk from fires that can potentially go out of control and cause larger impacts on the environment and biodiversity, as well as impacts from greatly increasing the number of farms, highlight the significance of this threat to the KMPA. During the 2020 overflight survey, the team observed active fires running at the northern boundary of the KMPA, south of Kaicumbay Village, covering an area of approximately 367.32 ha (PAC, 2020). The point of origin of the fire was observed to be a land clearing suspected to be cleared for a farm. A new impact resulting from/of this threat, was identified when conducting the 2020 METT assessment, where it was mentioned by some of the participants in the exercise that the use of pesticides are now being used on crops at some farms. This claim will have to be officially investigated to verify, which will have an impact on the PA if proven true (PAC, 2020).
2. Logging and Wood Harvesting. For communities around the KMPA, as in the NRW, gathering is still the primary source of housing and other building materials, as very few villagers can afford to purchase sawn lumber for building, or zinc or other imported materials for roofing. Whether round wood or sawn boards are used, the forest is still the only source for timber and many other materials for construction. In the KMPA, these actions

are allowed at subsistence levels. There are no current timber concessions in the KMPA, however, some communities adjacent to the mountains have been extracting timber from within their titled lands for commercial purposes (PAC, 2015). Edge effects due to logging activities occurring outside the PA has been reported as a potential threat in the 2019 METT assessment. A more serious issue for the protected area is preventing illegal logging; it was determined that careful monitoring is required to prevent illegal logging (PAC, 2019; PAC 2015).

3. Illegal Mining. The commercial exploitation of mineral resources in the KMPA is not permitted; however, there have been expressions of interest in the mineral and hydrocarbon potential of the area (PAC, 2015). The PAC has over the years received several reports of illegal gold mining¹ activities being conducted in the KMPA. The site level team (KMPA rangers and site level coordinator) will act on these reports and investigate the alleged sites and take the necessary follow up actions. While the team has observed evidence of persons being in an area through finding abandoned camps, fuel, left behind garbage, small clearings and dug pits, there was never a time the team found active mining activities occurring. The last incident to be reported and investigated in the PA for illegal activities was in 2020, where once again no active mining was found. That being said, there is enough to suggest that illegal mining within the PA is a point of interest and as such there is the need for constant monitoring of the PA to ensure that illegal mining doesn't become a significant threat to the PA. Mining activities occurring outside of the boundaries of the PA but utilizing water sources that either flow through the PA directly or feed into these water sources are a point of concern due to contamination of the water source and the aquatic resources utilized by the local people. Mineral mining operations outside of the existing boundaries in the headwaters of the Rewa Kwitaro Rivers, which pass through the PA are already negatively impacting water quality and ecosystem regimes (PAC 2015). Water quality and mercury testing conducted in 2018 by the PAC have found elevated levels of mercury in fish found in the area. It is important to note that under the Protected Areas Act, traditional mining activities (porkknocking) is allowed by the local people.
4. Unsustainable Wildlife Harvesting Practices. Another threat identified in both the 2019 and 2020 METT analysis is the unsustainable harvesting practices. This relates to the overuse of the shared resources within the KMPA and of particular concern is the use of aquatic resources. The PAC conducted a resource use mapping exercise with the 21 communities of the KMPA in 2016 where the communities were asked to identify their main hunting, gathering, and fishing resources used, and the places within the PA where these resources can be found. The community was then asked to identify the resources which they have found to be becoming scarce and the methods used to hunt, gather and or collect the resources. The outcomes found that the majority of communities identified several aquatic species (mainly fish) as becoming scarce. The main factor behind this scarcity was found to be overfishing of rivers and ponds and the use of seines. Commercial extraction of fish by non-locals inclusive of Brazilians were also identified as causes for the threat (PAC 2016). The METT analysis 2020 identified the threat as increasing in its impact due to observations of persons from local communities being seen selling fish in the town of Lethem and reports from the local communities that persons are being seen leaving with large iceboxes of fish which suggests commercial utilization of the catch rather than subsistence use. This threat is one of the most difficult to monitor and handle because the fish will not only stay within the PA where certain unsustainable methods of harvesting cannot be utilized, but with their movement along the river they can be harvested outside the PA using this method. As a result, the threat of unsustainable wild harvesting practices is one of the main threats of the KMPA, which needs actions that will curb the current trends. A way forward in to effectively deal with these issues is the development of resource use agreements with communities, which are identified as next steps from the resource use maps and reports.
5. Increased Tourism. Increased tourism into the PA which occurs without the knowledge and consent of the governing agency, PAC, was reported in the 2019 METT assessment: 'Nature tourism is growing Guyana and the KMPA offers one of the country's premier destinations for this type of tourism. While this brand of tourism causes little to no disturbance to natural environment, it is a threat and if it increases from present levels there is a possibility of a more serious impact such as disturbed habitats and ecosystems.'

¹ <https://guyanachronicle.com/2021/03/24/authorities-mull-legal-action-over-illegal-mining-and-logging/>

Overall, based on the METT reports for 2019 and 2020, and other supporting ecological monitoring and research reports of the PAC, the KMPA has maintained its core/key ecosystem values. The PA although maintaining its core ecological values has activities occurring within its borders which go against the rules and regulations of the PA (illegal) and are unsustainable practices. Most of these threats currently are low impact threats in that they are not having significant negative impacts on the PA but need to be closely monitored because of the potential they have to increase the level of effect they are having on the PA. Additionally there are signs of increasing impact and level of threat to the PA and as such highlights the need and importance for setting up the necessary systems for improved management and monitoring of the PA.

Threats to the NRW

1. Infrastructure development. Paving of the Lethem to Linden Road corridor is being planned. This would allow improved connection between Georgetown, Guyana's capital, and Brazil, increasing the movement of people, goods, and services. Already, a bridge linking both countries has been built across the Takutu River which borders Lethem and the Brazilian state of Roraima. The road which passes through the NRW site would undoubtedly result in increased access, including to the broader child project area, and consequently, potentially increase resource exploitation and land-use change (WWF, 2012). In other parts of the Amazon, road development has typically been associated with illicit secondary road networks, and influx of people that may result in increased pressure on natural resources (e.g. conversion for agriculture, or unsustainable extractive practices) – this could have potential impacts on the local communities that currently rely on these natural resources. Roads also have the potential to act as a hydrological barrier to key flow pathways which sustain the wetlands. Roads need to be properly planned and designed in order to minimize the impacts and maintain water flows (Berardi et. al., 2019). Although key hydrological pathways have been identified, determining discharge to inform suitable road culvert and bridge design is required to avoid any road construction causing irrevocable damage to the hydrological integrity of NRW (Cobra Collective, 2020). Good land management and zoning, as well as monitoring and enforcement, are important to address this potential problem.
2. Unsustainable wildlife harvesting practices. Fishing supports local livelihoods and is an economic activity in indigenous and local communities; fish is also an important part of local culture and diet in the NRW. In the past, overharvesting depleted populations of arapaima due to commercial demand (primarily from Brazil) (WWF, 2012). A management plan was later developed in an effort to reverse the decline and protect the species; however, funding challenges have impacted communities' ability to continually monitor the status of the species. The species of arapaima present in Guyana has been confirmed to be different from the species found in the rest of the Amazon, making *Arapaima arapaima* endemic to Guyana.² According to a recent FAO report, fishers report a decline of other species of fish, which is likely the result of increased fishing intensity to satisfy commercial demands.³ Wildlife harvesting, especially for commercial use, needs to be monitored and managed. Many species have declined as a result of overharvesting; a correlation analysis⁴ in the area reveals a very strong positive relationship between the most frequently hunted species and those perceived to be less abundant than they were ten years ago. The following species are the most commonly and frequently hunted in the NRW communities: lowland paca, red brocket deer, red-rumped agouti (*Dasyprocta leporina*), collared peccary (*Pecari tajacu*), black curassow, lowland tapir, white-tailed deer, great long-nosed armadillo (*Dasybus kappleri*). The top five preferred mammal species across the survey sites were lowland paca, red-rumped agouti, collared peccary, red brocket deer, and lowland tapir. Conservation efforts aimed at these targeted species have revived

² https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Donald-Stewart/publication/280684686_A_New_Species_of_Arapaima_Osteoglossomorpha_Osteoglossidae_from_the_Solim_es_River_Amazonas_State_Brazil/links/550eedd60cf21287416afb9d/A-New-Species-of-Arapaima-Osteoglossomorpha-Osteoglossidae-from-the-Solim-es-River-Amazonas-State-Brazil.pdf

³ <https://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/CB6659EN/>

⁴ Hallett, M. T., Kinahan, A. A., McGregor, R., Baggallay, T., Babb, T., Barnabus, H., ... Bankovich, B. A. (2019). Impact of Low-Intensity Hunting on Game Species in and Around the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area, Guyana. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 7. doi:10.3389/fevo.2019.00412

some populations, but efforts must be increased and sustained in the long term. Furthermore, a recent study⁵ found that even with low-intensity hunting, changes in the distribution and behavior of hunted species can cause cascading effects on non-hunted species, which can have an impact on ecosystems.

3. Large scale agriculture. There is growing interest regarding large-scale agricultural expansion in the savannas of the NRW. The Rupununi has been identified in the National Strategy for Agriculture in Guyana: 2013 – 2020, for development of mega-farms by investors. Already in parts of the North Rupununi, rice is being cultivated at commercial scales and the extensive cultivation of soya bean and other crops has been proposed. Soils in these areas are nutrient poor and require frequent inputs of fertilizers in order to maximize crop yields. The pesticides used for pest control along with the fertilizer run-off can contaminate water sources (Alonso, et.al., 2016). Such large-scale activities result in habitat conversion and will affect the hydrology and ecosystem services delivered by the NRW if their placement and management are not effectively guided. Infrastructure and associated activities, such as damming tributaries also have an impact on the functioning and services provided by the wetlands (Berardi, et. al. 2019).
4. Unsustainable Logging Practices. Small and community-based loggers are active within the landscape and are regulated by the GFC. Small community-based loggers utilize reduced impact logging practices (RIL) but they are not required to implement RIL to the extent that is required by large forest operators. This results in forest degradation and increase in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Given the low-carbon trajectory being pursued by the Government at the national level, and the overall significance of small and community-based loggers' contribution to national production (70-80%), this is an important challenge to be addressed.

Threats cross-cutting KMPA and NRW sites

1. Climate Change. A recent climate change projection for southern Guyana indicates a 2 to 3°C temperature rise by 2050, decreased precipitation over the same period, and shorter and more intense rainfall (SNC, 2012). The impact of climate change has already been noted in the area as it experiences shorter, more intense rainy seasons and hotter temperatures during the dry seasons. This results in greater occurrences of both extremes of floods and droughts. Also, with rising temperatures and increased rainfall variability, the impacts on human well-being and the environment from threats identified above are likely to be exacerbated. In this context, preserving the integrity of the Rupununi Wetlands is a priority, since wetlands have been widely demonstrated to be efficient nature-based solutions to mitigate impacts of rainfall variability, floods and droughts.

Barriers addressed by the project

To manage the environmental problem and threats listed above, the project proposes to bring two important sites in southern Guyana under improved management to create a contiguous, managed forested and wetland area in southern Guyana. Having this landscape well-managed will help to secure critical hydrological processes, biodiversity values, and livelihoods of local communities, as well as limit deforestation and wetland degradation along with the associated climate emissions.

The barriers to achieving this can be broadly grouped as: (1) barriers to strengthened protected area management in the KMPA and National Protected Areas System (NPAS), and (2) barriers to integrated management of the NRW landscape.

Barriers to strengthened Protected Areas management in KMPA and NPAS

Guyana's National Protected Areas System (NPAS) is relatively new, having only been established in 2011 with the passing of the Protected Areas Act. The KMPA is one of three recently established national PAs that is managed by

⁵ Ibid.

the PAC. The KMPA received a METT score of 75 in 2020 (slightly lower than the 2019 score of 76.8, largely due to Covid-19 impacts). Key barriers to effective management of the KMPA, identified in the 2019 and 2020 METT report and stakeholder consultations, include:

1. Insufficient infrastructure and Capacity Building to support effective management of the KMPA. The KMPA Management Plan outlines the need for improved infrastructure in and around the PA to support implementation of management measures, particularly monitoring and enforcement exercises. While a site office and ranger station are currently being constructed, this is still insufficient to effectively meet the infrastructural needs of the KMPA. Insufficient infrastructure contributes to insufficient monitoring of reports and threats in the KMPA. The KMPA Site staff currently constitutes a team of 12 persons with a view of hiring another eight persons in the coming year. There are no official rangers' quarters (accommodation) or training/multi-use center for use by the KMPA Site Team. The PAC is renting a variety of spaces in the Town of Lethem to facilitate accommodation of staff, which means rangers are dispersed, posing several challenges as it relates to maintaining a more sustainable and efficient site level presence. The KMPA 2020 METT report also indicated the need for training and capacity building of staff. While the PAC over the years has provided many opportunities to staff for training in the areas of research, life skills, commuter technology, use of vehicles and training in community related matters, there is limited training/capacity of staff in the area of day-to-day PA management. The PAC in 2018 trialed an initiative where staff of the Commission spent a week working alongside staff of the Parc Amazon, protected area in French Guiana. This proved to be very effective. There is also need for investment in specialized training of staff in key areas of protected areas management, this can be done through short professional courses and master's degree programmes.
2. Limited promotion of conservation-compatible land uses in the KMPA. The KMPA is surrounded by Indigenous Makushi and Wapishana peoples. In line with the Amerindian Act, indigenous people can access the PA for traditional practices, including fishing, gathering of timber and non-timber forest products, and subsistence hunting. However, as these communities are interested in pursuing other uses of the PA, such as tourism, the effective management of the PA means greater joint efforts to ensure both livelihoods of communities and conservation targets of the KMPA can be maintained. A key barrier to this approach is having actual resource use agreements with Communities and an approved zoning plan for the KMPA. Over the years the PAC worked with the KMPA communities to conduct Knowledge Attitudes and Practice (KAPs) surveys and Resource Use Mapping (RUM) exercises. However, it has been 4 years since this information was collected and several factors have changed including population growth, impacts of climate change on resource availability and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The KAPs and RUMs should be updated to engage communities and other stakeholders on a viable plan and agreement on resource use in and around the KMPA. Additionally, a Zoning plan for the KMPA was never done – resources are currently extracted/used in an ad hoc manner but mostly guided by traditional practices. An integrated zoning plan for the KMPA will allow for better planning and a baseline for monitoring but could also form the basis of community conservation agreements (to allow, for example, community-led tourism enterprises) that integrates sustainable use of KMPA natural resources and better oversight/monitoring from the site level authority.
3. Limited scope of PA Legislation. Gaps in the PA Act (2011) have become apparent as the PAC moves ahead with its mandate of expanding and managing the KMPA and wider NPAS. The draft 2020-2025 NPAS strategy highlights the need to address legislative gaps and the PAC has noted some areas which need further clarity, including: an amendment including a revision of penalties and clear guidelines on resource-use within PAs; revisions that give PAC the authority to manage areas with multiple land ownership regimes; broadened legislation so areas rich in biodiversity, but not covered under the formal PA system, can be under some form of conservation; and provision for co-management or total management to be designated to another body, with PAC providing oversight. Currently, these gaps are a barrier to the effective management of existing PAs, and prevent other forms of conservation/protection within the country from being established and contributing to impending 30 x 30 commitments being proposed under the CBD.

Barriers to Integrated Management of NRW Landscape

The main barriers to integrated management of the NRW, which allows for productive practices while securing the biodiversity and critical ecosystem service of the wetlands, are driven by two factors: (1) decisions based on inadequate data on hydrology (including water quality and quantity), soils, livelihoods and community use, biodiversity, etc.; and (2) decisions based on economic development rather than a more holistic integrated landscape approach that considers all social, economic and environmental impacts.

1. Limited data on ecosystem functioning, health, and natural capital for the NRW, to inform planning and decision making. Effective natural resource use and management relies on robust and updated baseline data. However, such data for the NRW – including ecosystem processes and functioning (such as hydrology), agriculture-wetland interactions, wildlife populations, livelihoods and community use, and climate change – is currently limited. Limited data, as well as monitoring, is a barrier for key stakeholders and users (agencies, communities) that are balancing productive uses in the landscape and maintenance of the wetlands. Baseline data and information can be used to inform, for example, the design and placement of roads and other infrastructure, or the siting of agricultural lands, while considering biodiversity/ecosystem functioning. Furthermore, information on the wetland natural capital can present the economic value of the wetland, in terms of providing water, water depuration and other services such as flood and drought disaster prevention and mitigation, to further support government and stakeholder planning and development options. Such information is most successful when integrated into participatory plans (see below).
2. Lack of a participatory wetland management plan and governance structure to manage multiple values/uses of the landscape. Despite its significant ecosystem values, multiple productive values and stakeholder interests within the landscape, there is not yet a cohesive wetland management plan (guided by updated baseline data) to guide land and natural resource management in the NRW. This is a key barrier to managing the wetlands in both an environmentally and economically sustainable way. Updated baseline data, a management plan, zoning for conservation and non-conservation uses and governance structures to carry this out are key to guiding productive uses in the landscape while maintaining the integrity of the wetlands (and connectivity of the landscape as a whole). Without it, productive uses will likely be more ad-hoc: concessions may be granted in sensitive or less productive areas, and productive uses may not be balanced with long-term maintenance of the wetlands.
3. Productive practices are not always compatible with, or do not fully incorporate considerations for, wetland biodiversity and ecosystem functioning; limited livelihood opportunities to support sustainable resource use. While planning is the first step to balancing productive uses and wetland functioning by, for instance, siting concessions in less-sensitive areas, productive practices can also be improved to be both more profitable and have less impact on the wetlands and connectivity of the landscape. Logging, for instance, is an important source of livelihood in the region. However, there is limited capacity for small-scale and community-based loggers are not required to implement reduced impact logging practices to the same extent as large loggers. This causes forest degradation and increases emissions. Overall, it is important to promote livelihood opportunities that are compatible with maintaining the health of the ecosystem. This provides for social and economic development in the wetlands while at the same time safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Indigenous communities in the NRW have title to their lands, making them one of the largest land holders in the area. Additional resources and livelihood opportunities are needed that provides communities with the means to effectively manage resources on their own lands, whether through resource-monitoring, or species management, which can have significant impact on the health of biodiversity, freshwater, and other natural resources of the NRW. Ensuring that these options reduce emissions and are climate-smart will also help communities and the wetlands to be more resilient to climate change.

4. Loss of traditional knowledge and language. The way of life of indigenous people - for example, their traditional hunting, fishing, gathering and farming practices, has been a significant factor that has contributed to the sustainable use and management of the resources in their lands/territories. It is therefore important for focus to be placed on ensuring that traditional knowledge continues to be

incorporated into current conservation efforts. Alarming, there are recognized threats to traditional knowledge continuity which need to be monitored and appropriate interventions pursued. The drivers of the erosion of traditional knowledge and language are a complex mix of socio-cultural and economic factors, including lack of intergenerational transmission, uninterested youth, and migration. Loss of language and traditional knowledge negatively affects biodiversity conservation, and this has been recognized by Indigenous communities, including those that live around the Kanuku Mountains (Cobra Collective, 2021) and the NRW.

2) The baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects:

The following section describes current and ongoing baseline initiatives for the project:

Baseline for the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area.

PAC administration of the KMPA: The KMPA, which covers 611,000 ha or 2.8 % of the country's terrestrial area, is managed by the PAC as part of the NPAS and in accordance with the PA Act, 2011. A [management plan](#) (2015-2021) is in place and guides the interventions that are required for effective management. The management plan is implemented by PAC funding from the PAC, Protected Area Trust and other donor partners. A new KMPA management plan is being drafted and is expected to be finalized by the end of 2022.

The PAC is currently implementing [Guyana Protected Areas System - Phase III](#) (2018-2022), with funding from the Government of Germany, through KfW. The project is supporting three PAs (including the KMPA) and consists of the following components: infrastructure and equipment, and capacity building. Within the KMPA the PAC is now constructing a site-level office to further improve site-level presence. However, other key infrastructure such as staff quarters and a training/multi-use center are necessary to enable a permanent local presence and better delivery of services such as monitoring, training and research. Monitoring takes place through regular patrols and annual aerial surveys (METT 2020 report). In addition, a METT assessment and an accompanying report are completed each year by PAC, which helps to guide planning for management activities.

Another ongoing project is funded through the Frankfurt Zoological Society: '[Protection and Management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area.](#)' The project has three pillars: control and monitoring (alongside PAC: training rangers, planning control posts, carrying out ranger patrols, analyzing satellite data for detection of illegal activities); biological monitoring (largely through camera traps), and; environmental education (community meetings and nature camps with local communities).

Resources management in Indigenous Communities associated with the KMPA: Twenty-one (21) Indigenous communities live adjacent to the PA and are important stakeholders and key to the overall successful management of the area. As such, the PAC is working strategically to build stronger, more inclusive partnerships in order to maintain the health of the PA as well as livelihood opportunities for communities. While Covid-19 has prevented the PAC's annual education camps, village and stakeholder update meetings from taking place, PAC has continued its education and awareness work through environmental education materials and packages.

Communities around the KMPA have organized themselves into an umbrella body - the Kanuku Mountains Community Representative Group (KMCRG) to support decision-making, planning and management of the PA, with the PAC. Conservation International-Guyana, through its [Amazonia Verde Project](#) (2021-2025), is supporting the KMCRG toward ensuring they are empowered to develop and carry out their own initiatives to conserve their forests and support livelihoods, in keeping with their local knowledge and governance systems (knowledge management and advocacy; sustainable value chains; improved management of IPLC lands; and capacity building). This support is also being extended to the NRDDDB and other IPLC groups in the wider region.

Baseline for the North Rupununi Wetlands Area.

Management of the NRW area: Management of the NRW lies with multiple government agencies including EPA, GFC, GLSC, GWCMC, Ministry of Agriculture (depending on the resource-use issue to be addressed). Indigenous communities are key to the area’s overall management, but is limited to the management of resources on their titled lands. CI-Guyana has drafted a strategy as well as a joint strategy with WWF-Guianas to guide CI and WWF’s efforts within Region 9; and NRDDB is guided by an action plan (2019-2021) which covers several thematic areas including the wetlands.

Sustainable Livelihoods and Resource Management: Ongoing work in the Rupununi complements the Child Project objective of enhancing management, connectivity between habitats and livelihoods. Organizations such as WWF-Guianas and its partners, Cobra Collective and the Field Museum, have been working toward understanding the hydrological dynamics of the wetlands and identifying sensitive sites, but a comprehensive understanding is still needed. WWF-Guianas also currently supports community-based conservation and sustainable livelihoods through the Bina Hill Institute, tied to the NRDDB.

The International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) is currently financing a project, ‘Hinterland Environmentally Sustainable Agricultural Development Project’ (2016-2023, US\$ 8.45 million), which provides support in the Rupununi for small farmers’ inclusion in markets; improving small-scale farmers' access to public services, knowledge and technologies through training and technical assistance in the areas of planning and natural resources management; and food and nutrition security.

Through the Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Project (2018- 2023), funded by the European Union and implemented by GWCMC and CIFOR, communities in the Rupununi are undertaking activities which will contribute to maintaining healthy fish and terrestrial wildlife populations. In the north Rupununi, SWM is supporting the simplification of the Fisheries Management Plan, conducting awareness sessions with fishers, conducting arapaima and other fish stock assessments. The project is also collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture-Fisheries Department, to review the National Inland Strategy for Fish and Aquaculture through a collaborative process. Finally, CI-Guyana’s Amazonia Verde initiative, described in the baseline information for the PA, is also focusing on the NRDDB and communities in the north Rupununi.

The Forestry Training Center Inc. provides critical theoretical and practical exposure to stakeholders on reduced impact logging (RIL), forestry inventory and other key components of sustainable forest management, in accordance with the National Forest Plan, 2018.

Current Field Museum projects in support of sustainable livelihoods and resource management in the NRW landscape include:

- Creating biodiversity field guides & supporting biodiversity monitoring for Rupununi ecolodges: Surama Village, Rewa Village, and Manari Ranch
- Creating a flood model of the North Rupununi Wetlands in collaboration with Cobra Collective, WWF, CI, and Dr. Robert Stallard
- Monitoring of Arapaima populations and movements with Rewa Village
- Supporting North Rupununi Wildlife Clubs.

The Iwokrama International Center for Rainforest Conservation, which manages the 371,000 ha Iwokrama forest site located just north of the wetlands, works with indigenous communities and institutions, such as the North Rupununi District Development Board and Bina Hill Institute, to support development and sustainable management of resources within the North Rupununi. Iwokrama supports community development – e.g., establishment and functioning of wildlife clubs and skills development in resource management; capacity building for the NRDDB; and sustainable natural resource management (for e.g., through tourism and fisheries management).

3) The proposed alternative scenario with a description of outcomes and components of the project:

The project objective is ‘to strengthen landscape connectivity through improved management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Areas and North Rupununi Wetlands in southern Guyana.’ In particular, the project will work to integrate productive activities (forestry, agriculture, tourism) and sustainable land and water management

considerations – so that the landscapes long-term environmental health, functioning and associated ecosystem services are secured, while at the same time ensuring the landscapes provide livelihood and productive benefits.

The project will work in two landscapes, both of which balance productive use and ecosystem management/protection. The first is the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area (KMPA). The KMPA is an IUCN Category VI Protected Area; therefore, the area promotes both the conservation of ecosystems and habitat and the use of natural resources in a sustainable manner. Local communities, including Indigenous communities, live near the PA and access the PA for traditional use. The second target landscape is the North Rupununi Wetlands (NRW). The NRW has a number of land uses (agriculture, logging, fishing, etc.) and is under a range of management regimes (indigenous titled lands, private lands, concessions granted through government agencies, state land). The wetland is also of regional and global significance, hosting important biodiversity and associated ecosystem services, as well as supporting hydrological connectivity (e.g., portals) between the Amazon and Essequibo River systems during the rainy season.

The project theory of change is that

1. For the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area

If infrastructure (rangers' quarters and multi-use center), monitoring tools and equipment, and increased capacity of the PAC site level team (through workshops, trainings, and exchanges) is in place in the KMPA, then PAC will have a stronger site level presence and will more effectively manage threats identified in the METT;

If a resource use map and land-use plan for inside the KMPA is developed, relying on a participatory approach through community consultation Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practice surveys (which include traditional use and needs), and support from resource users and the communities, as well as training of community and government staff in holistic landscape management that incorporates traditional knowledge, environmental data etc., then the proper planning and capacity for sustainable use of natural resources inside KMPA will be in place;

If these conditions are in place, then overall the project will improve the management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Areas (KMPA), and threats will be reduced/mitigated which decreases fragmentation and ensures habitat connectivity.

2. For the North Rupununi Wetlands

If, through a robust consultation process, an active and representative multi-stakeholder platform is formed and receives salient, up-to-date and credible socioeconomic and environmental data, then this platform can support a participatory, integrated planning process (that may include, for example, land use planning and zoning) that promotes sustainable land and water management of the NRW;

If a long-term and representative governance mechanism is in place to guide better management of productive uses while securing the integrity and functioning of the wetlands;

If activities can be implemented to support environmentally sustainable production and wetland functioning/management;

Then the project will improve management of the North Rupununi Wetlands (NRW) and promote productive practices that are compatible with wetland management (and integrate sustainable land and water management considerations), thereby delivering co-benefits for livelihoods and maintenance of habitat connectivity (hydrological, forest) and functioning the wetlands into the long-term.

If revisions to the PA Act are incorporated and approved by the government, then management of the NPAS will be strengthened. Finally, if the project ensures effective monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, and communications, then the project can better incorporate adaptive management opportunities and support scaling up of project results.

A Theory of Change diagram is included in the Project Document.

Component 1 – Integrated Protected landscapes

Outcome: 1.1. Strengthened protected area management effectiveness

The first component involves improving the management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area (KMPA). Specifically, the project will support the strengthening of protected area management at the site level, with the involvement of Indigenous communities living around and utilizing the resources of the protected area. Component 1 is structured to address the barriers '*Limited capacity and infrastructure to support effective management of the KMPA*'; and '*Limited promotion of conservation-compatible land uses in the KMPA*'. The project aims to accomplish this by: strengthening technical capacities of PA staff and other stakeholders; enhancing infrastructure and equipment for site-level management; enabling the continued involvement of local communities in PA management; and improving planning for sustainable natural resource-use within the PA. The Protected Areas Commission will implement the activities under Component 1.

Output 1.1.1 Infrastructure, furnishing and communication equipment to support effective management of the KMPA, including ranger's quarters and multipurpose building

To enable permanent local presence and effective management of the KMPA, the project will support construction and furnishing of staff quarters and a multipurpose center for research, education and training. The increase in site level presence, infrastructure, equipment and services to be provided by these facilities will improve the capabilities of site level staff, responsible for the daily operation and monitoring of ecological targets, to conduct their tasks more efficiently. The PAC currently rents four separate facilities in Lethem to cater for office space and accommodation of staff; having its own facilities is expected to be more strategic for the PAC in the long-term. Appropriate simple and contextual designing and planning of infrastructure will be done in order to ensure facilities function well and have low maintenance costs.

Key activities include recruitment of an Architectural/Engineering consultant to support design of the infrastructure (including an Environmental Impact Assessment), recruitment of contractors and a supervising engineer consultant to undertake the construction, and construction of the staff quarters and multipurpose center.

Output 1.1.2 Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices surveys, resource use map, and new land use plan for the KMPA with indigenous communities

Local communities are important stakeholders in the management of natural resources in the PA. Local communities draw their livelihoods from resources in and around the protected area. To ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, the project will support three key activities.

- **Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) Surveys** - In order to understand the relationship between the people living within and adjacent to KMPA and their interactions with the protected area, KAP surveys will be conducted in twenty-one villages surrounding the KMPA, and will build on a previous baseline survey done during February to June 2016 by the PAC. The information from the survey will therefore be utilized to inform PAC planning, and longer-term engagement approach to develop a strong cooperative relationship between PAC and communities around the KMPA.
- **Resource-use maps (RUM)** - Building on the KAP surveys, so that a better understanding of land and resource use could be achieved, workshops will be held in all 21 communities associated with the KMPA to update resource use maps. This will help to identify common goals and areas for collaboration to ensure that, together, the PAC and communities can ensure the sustainability of resources for future generations.
- **Land-use plan** - Sustainable land use can only be achieved through proper planning and with support from resource users. As such, developing land and sustainable resource use plans for inside the KMPA is important and must be done with the participation of communities. The intention is to use baseline and updated data gathered from the KAP surveys and RUM processes to design and implement a gender-responsive land use planning process for the KMPA in partnership with local communities and other stakeholders. The Amerindian Act will continue to protect community rights to access the PA for traditional use. This activity will allow compatible activities to occur within the various zones of the PA, which reduces potential pressures on ecological values of the PA, ensures that livelihood and other benefits to communities are still maintained and, strengthens the management of the PA.

Output 1.1.3 South-south exchanges and courses for staff and community representatives for improved PA management

To improve the management of the KMPA, the project will support exchanges and trainings for site-level PAC staff, other Governmental agencies with a role in PA management, Indigenous communities/representatives (including community groups such as KMCRG), and other stakeholders.

Component 2 - Integrated Productive Landscapes

Outcome 2.1 Increased areas of forests and watersheds brought under sustainable land and water management (SLWM) Practices

Component 2 is structured to address the barriers: 'Limited data on ecosystem functioning, health and natural capital in the NRW to inform planning and decision-making'; 'Lack of participatory wetland management plan and governance structure to manage multiple values/uses of the landscape'; and 'Productive practices are not always compatible with, or do not incorporate considerations for wetland biodiversity and ecosystem functioning; limited livelihood opportunities to support sustainable resource use'; and 'loss of traditional knowledge and language.'

Given that the NRW landscape is allocated for productive uses by multiple stakeholder groups, the project will develop, through participatory approaches, an integrated wetland management strategy, establishing and operationalizing a multistakeholder platform for decision-making and planning in the NRW, and implementing activities on the ground that strengthen management of the NRW – such as sustainable livelihoods, research, community-based resource monitoring and capacity building for governance, traditional knowledge building and transmission. Key gaps will be addressed, thereby maintaining connectivity in the landscape and the ecological, social and economic values provided by the wetlands. EPA will be responsible for the outputs below.

Output 2.1.1 Rapid assessment of existing knowledge; assessments and surveys on the socio-economic, biological and environmental aspects of the NRW will be conducted based on gaps

The NRW is a well-known area that contributes to maintaining globally significant biodiversity and plays a substantial ecological and hydrological role in the functioning of the broader Rupununi and Amazonian landscapes, and delivers a wide range of ecosystem services. Over the years, researchers have worked to document and understand its history, species, hydrology, and value to local Indigenous communities. However, additional assessments which allows for a more comprehensive understanding of the biological, hydrological, socio-economic values and status/function of the NRW is required. Data gathered under this output will inform a spatial analysis of critical zones within the NRW and guide decision making by the multi-stakeholder platform and government regarding management of the region (under 2.1.2).

Key activities include: (1) rapid assessment of existing knowledge, (2) Assessments and surveys to address key identified gaps, (3) providing accessible communication products based on the assessments, ensure a robust knowledge management system, and distribution of assessments to key stakeholders for their own decision making and planning purposes.

Output 2.1.2: Spatial Analysis of the NRW, incorporating ecological assessments (2.1.1), land use and ownership data, and traditional use areas, developed through a participatory process

The project will undertake a spatial analysis of the NRW, an important first step if the area is to be effectively managed. This will establish a common understanding among stakeholder groups, including those who may be involved in its management, and will make it easier for decision-makers to spatially direct management actions as proposed under output 2.1.3. Under this output, the project will map currently land uses and ownership (Amerindian land), traditional use areas, and ecological, etc. This process will utilize data collected under 2.1.1 and will also involve consultations with communities and other stakeholders. The process will be led by the EPA, with support from consultants and the representatives of the multi-stakeholder platform.

Output 2.1.3: Integrated management planning for the NRW with collectively defined strategies and implementation structure

Under this output, the project will support an integrated management planning process for the NRW. The purpose is to undertake a planning process that will balance productive activities and key hydrological/ecological considerations, and secures traditional use and rights of Indigenous communities. This requires delivery of some sort of plan/strategy for management of the NRW along with operationalizing a decision-making / governance mechanism to ensure a holistic integrated landscape approach is followed. Titled indigenous lands will continue to be managed by communities, they may freely choose to apply aspects of the planning framework within their lands.

Several key activities will be supported under this output, including: (1) in depth consultations to understand thoughts and concerns related to management of the NRW, (2) identify and examine options for integrated management planning for the NRW, (3) development of selected management planning strategy for the NRW, including governance and management structure. This output will be implemented using a highly participatory and inclusive approach.

Output 2.1.4: Multistakeholder platform established to ensure a participatory approach for development of 2.1.2 and 2.1.3

A multistakeholder platform, led by EPA and with representatives from key stakeholders (including communities and government agencies), including both women and men, will be established for the purpose of providing input and approving Outputs 2.1.2 and 2.1.3.

Key stakeholders will be identified through a participatory process based on the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, and validated by EPA and stakeholders during Year 1 of the project (through consultations). Stakeholder representatives will be invited to join the multistakeholder platform. A Terms of Reference which outlines the roles and functions of the multistakeholder platform will be developed by EPA and agreed with all members of the platform, including a conflict resolution mechanism.

Output 2.1.5 Wetland management activities with local communities and other stakeholders in North Rupununi Wetlands to support SLWM practices

The project will support a number of strategies aimed at supporting SLWM practices in the NRW. The EPA will put out a Call for Proposals and select at least 2 proposals (through a competitive process and based on agreed selection criteria) that will support SLWM. Eligible activities are listed in Section 2.2. of the ProDoc and include: capacity building, monitoring and management, livelihood support, sustainable productive practices, restoration, and improved planning.

Under this Output, Guyana Forest Commission / Forestry Training Center will also receive financing to strengthen the sustainable use of forest resources in the NRW. This will include development of training materials and implementation of trainings for small-scale loggers in the region on reduced impact logging, training on certification options and REDD+, trainings on equipment use, and technical exchanges with University of Guyana and Guyana School of Agriculture.

Component 3 - Policies/Incentives for Protected and Productive Landscapes

Component 3 addresses the barrier 'Limited scope of PA Legislation.' Under this component, the project will support policy options and recommendations to strengthen the PA Act for facilitating more effective management across the NPAS, and consider options from a policy/regulatory side for meeting Guyana's commitments to Target 3 (30x30) of the Global Biodiversity Framework and accounting for conservation areas outside of the IUCN category system.

Outcome 3.1 Strengthened regulatory frameworks for natural resource conservation / sustainable use

Output 3.1.1 PA Act gap analysis and recommendations for improvements

The PA Act of 2011 guides the management of Guyana's National Protected Areas System (NPAS). Though effective in many respects, there is urgent need for review and strengthening of the PA Act to make it fit for purpose.

Activities include: (1) Conduct a legal review and gap analysis of the PA Act, 2011. The PAC has noted some areas which need further clarity, including: revision of penalties and clear guidelines on resource-use within PAs; allowance

for a diverse set of management categories and governance types (to meet the Global Biodiversity Framework and Aichi target 11), and broadened legislation so areas rich in biodiversity, but not covered under the formal PA system, can be under some form of conservation; and provision for co-management or total management to be designated to another body, with PAC providing oversight. (2) Produce recommendations for improvements, as well as consultations with communities and key stakeholders to develop/validate these recommendations.

Output 3.1.2 Revised PA Act, defined in consultation with stakeholders, presented to Cabinet for Review and tabling in Parliament

Activities under this Output include: (1) Based on recommendations, preparation of regulatory text and Revised PA Act in consultation with all key stakeholders (includes public review of revised ACT).⁶ (2) Submission of Revised Act to Cabinet for Review and tabling in Parliament.

Component 4 – Capacity Building and Regional Coordination

Under this Component, the project will support monitoring and evaluation to track and evaluate project progress. The component will also promote coordination with other child projects under the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program, and support coordination and knowledge sharing more widely through a communications plan and communications products.

4.1. Strengthened monitoring and evaluation system

4.1.1. Monitoring and Evaluation reports (e.g. project progress reports, midterm evaluation, terminal evaluation)

The PMU and project partners will follow an M&E plan to monitor and report on project progress, and identify any areas where adaptive management is needed. Under this Output, the PMU will deliver technical and financial reports. Independent consultants will be recruited to undertake a mid-term and terminal evaluation of the project.

4.2 ASL regional cooperation and knowledge sharing

4.2.1 Coordination with ASL program and ASL regional coordination project

Under this output, the PMU will ensure effective communication and coordination at the national and regional levels with the other ASL projects to support regional approaches, knowledge sharing, and help increase uptake of lessons and best practice. Activities include participation in the annual face-to-face meeting hosted by the ASL Coordination Child Project, participation in at least one ASL-hosted workshop, field visit, exchange and/or study tour per year, participation in other face-to-face and virtual ASL meetings, and periodic dissemination of information to the ASL global coordination project (on request).

4.2.2 Knowledge management and communications products

To ensure knowledge from the project is appropriately documented and disseminated, the project will implement a knowledge management and communications plan. This includes establishing a repository to ensure proper knowledge management, developing knowledge products that allow the dissemination of achievements and lessons learned, packaging relevant knowledge above into formal communication products (including brochures, reports, videos) and disseminate through different media identified for each audience, and organize and participate in relevant events, workshops, webinars and platforms to disseminate project results.

4) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or impact program strategies:

⁶ Regulatory text must align with WWF safeguards and be in accordance with safeguard requirements as described in the ESMF

The project is funded under the GEF Biodiversity focal area and Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program (more specifically the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes (ASL) Program). The project is aligned to the following strategies:

- **Biodiversity 1-1 (BD 1-1):** *Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors.* In the North Rupununi Wetlands, the project will undertake a planning process for the NRW to support critical biodiversity and hydrological functioning of the wetland ecosystem, while at the same time establishing systems to ensure productive practices do not occur in areas where they would undermine or degrade the biodiversity value of the ecosystem. The project will also work to improve productive practices – including in the agriculture, forestry, fisheries, tourism, and extractive sectors - to be more biodiversity-positive. The proposed project will strengthen the effective management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area by addressing key gaps in the METT. This includes planning for natural resource use, and building the individual and institutional capacities needed to ensure the protected area achieves conservation objectives and global environmental benefits.
- **Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program (SFM IP):** This is a child project under the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes II Impact Program, and activities have been designed to address the priority environmental threats in the country's Amazon region. The project is aligned to the ASL II Program's Theory of Change, which is founded on the logic that the ecological resilience of the Amazon biogeographical region can be maintained if:
 1. PAs' size, management and financing are increased so that a representative area of the Amazon is effectively conserved under various regimes. In the case of Guyana, the project will strengthen management of the KMPA (611,000 hectares).
 2. *Management of productive landscapes between PAs is improved.* The Guyana ASL project will support an integrated management planning process in the NRW (901,800 hectares), which is situated between two protected areas: the KMPA and Iwokrama Forest. Overall, the project will contribute to mitigation of 847,406 metric tons of CO₂e.
 3. *Key technical and institutional stakeholder capacity and regional cooperation are strengthened.* The project will support trainings and knowledge exchanges for capacity building at the national level. The project will also fully participate in the ASL Program, which will allow for strengthened regional cooperation and facilitate knowledge sharing between practitioners. Output 4.2.1 includes budget and resources to ensure full coordination and participation in the ASL program and ASL regional coordination project.

5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing:

Under the baseline of work there is a moderate level of management of the protected area and an emerging interest in planning for and management of the NRW. The GEF project will fund improved management of the PA; in the NRW, the project will establish a multi-stakeholder platform for decision making and a management process and subgrants for wetland management. Overall, this will lead to an incremental value of improved biodiversity and forest and wetland management across a large landscape, and maintaining connectivity within and between the protected areas (KMPA and Iwokrama Forest Reserve to the North) and the NRW to maintain hydrological processes and habitat for large range species such as the jaguar.

The Incremental Cost Reasoning for the proposed project is presented in the table below.

Component	Baseline	Alternative Scenario (Project Strategy)	Global Environmental Benefits (GEB)
1. Integrated Protected Landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● KMPA management is undertaken by the PAC with support of a site level team, which is responsible 	The project will implement several key activities to strengthen the management of the KMPA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improved forest management and biodiversity

	<p>for regular monitoring and control, biological monitoring, environmental education with surrounding communities, and overall implementation of the Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Management Plan is in place and is currently being revised for the next 5 years • KMCRG supports decision making, planning, and management with the PAC, and is receiving support through CI-Guyana and other donors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and furnishing of KMPA staff quarters and a multipurpose center for research, education and training – this will allow for better site level management and a center for community engagement • The project will undertake a process for better resource use planning with PAC and local communities to ensure the PA continues to meet the goals of both conservation and traditional use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring ecological integrity of the wetlands, and maintaining hydrological processes • Improved connectivity, ensuring a large tract of land (1,883,800 ha) is compatible with ecological and biodiversity considerations
2. Integrated Productive Landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRW has various land ownership: Indigenous People (titled lands), various government agencies, private land-holders • NRDDB provides a mechanism for community leaders to plan and manage lands/resources • Various organizations work on monitoring and biological research around NRW, agricultural support systems (IFAD), RIL (FTCI), fisheries management (SWM and Field Museum), and close work with communities (CI, WWF Guianas, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite its status as a globally significant wetland, there is currently no overarching plan in place to ensure the integrity of the wetland alongside productive practices. Under the GEF alternative scenario, a participatory planning process will be undertaken for the NRW, along with a governance and coordination system in place to support such a strategy. • In addition to improved planning, the project will support activities that support wetland management and sustainable productive activities (livelihood development) within the wetlands 	
3. Policies / Incentives for Protected and Productive Landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA Act in place • Strong history of titled indigenous lands • Commitment to MEAs, Aichi Target 11, and Target 3 (30x30) commitment under the Global Biodiversity framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project will undertake a gap analysis of the PA Act and produce recommendations to support strengthened management of PAs and the PA system. • The project will support Guyana’s commitment to Target 3 (30x30) and Aichi Target 11 by assessing options for counting areas outside Guyana’s formal PA system towards these commitments. 	

6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

Contribution to global environmental benefit's is described in the section above. The project will contribute to the following GEF core indicators.

Project Core Indicators		Target
1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	611,000
4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	901,800
6	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO2e)	847,406
11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	700

7) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up:

Innovativeness

The proposed project has several innovative aspects incorporated into the project strategy. Under Component 2, the project will undertake a participatory approach with all key stakeholders for integrated management planning for the North Rupununi Wetlands, one that balances productive use with environmental considerations. While this is not a new approach globally, and there are many lessons and best practices for the project to build on, this is the first time that such a planning process will be done in Guyana.

A second innovative aspect of the project is under Component 3. Given Aichi Target 11, and the new Target 3 (30x30) commitment under the Global Biodiversity framework, there is renewed global attention on what contributes towards 'conservation of 30% of earth's land and ocean by 2030' and how to achieve these goals– with special attention given to other effective area-based conservation measures (OECM) and indigenous lands. This project will assess options for counting areas outside Guyana's formal PA system towards these commitments.

Sustainability

Each component of the project strategy has been designed to ensure sustainability.

Under Component 1, the project builds on PAC's existing mandate and the activities the KMPA site level team performs on an ongoing basis (community engagement, implementing the management plan). The infrastructure supported by the project will be designed in such a way that ensure longevity; PAC will cover maintenance costs. In addition, the products delivered through Component 1 – e.g. resource-use map and land-use plan – will be done in a participatory way to ensure buy-in, and will be aligned with the KMPA management plan to ensure alignment with the longer-term strategy and therefore, long-term use.

Under Component 2, the project will ensure a participatory approach towards integrated planning for the NRW. This planning process will include an accompanying coordination/governance structure to provide the basis for long-term planning in the NRW. This governance structure will likely build on the multi-stakeholder platform established through the project to sustain inclusive decision-making in the NRW.

Under Component 3, a revised PA Act will be presented to government, and, if approved, would ensure a long-term enabling environment for effective management in the NPAS.

Scaling-up

There is potential for scale-up of project results nationally and regionally/globally. As noted above, the process being supported in the NRW (towards integrated management planning) is the first of its kind in Guyana. If successful, such planning could be replicated in other parts of the country. In addition, the assessments and recommendations for meeting Target 3 – in terms of regulatory and internal accounting procedures -could provide important lessons and guidance globally. This is an area of global interest, with many countries looking for examples and good approaches.

1b. Project Map and Geo-Coordinates. Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.

- Kanuku Mountains Protected Area: 3.17682° N, -59.5957° W
- North Rupununi Wetlands: 4.035903° N, -59.311544° W

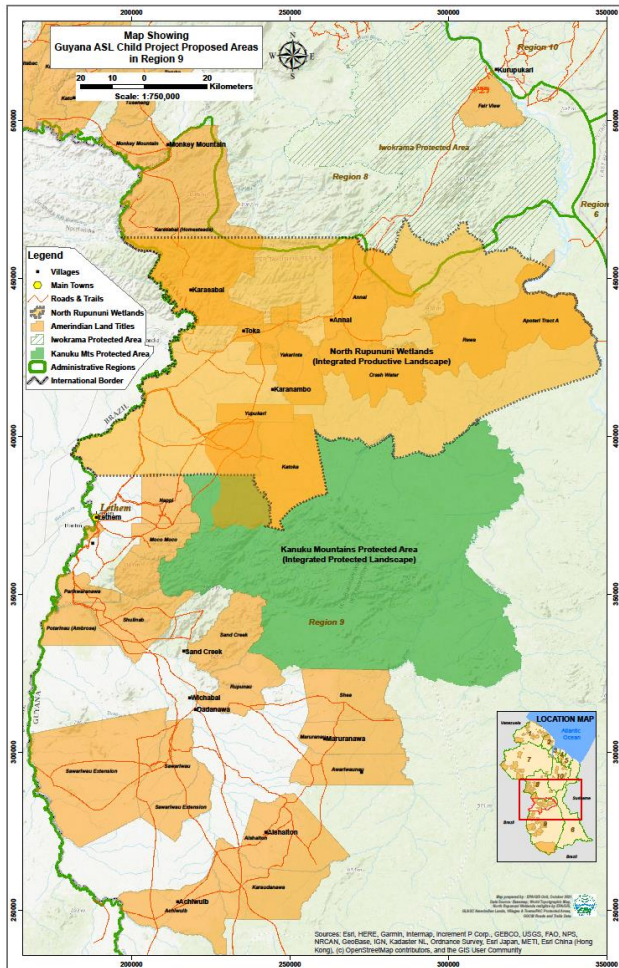


Figure 1: Map of child project area: North Rupununi Wetlands and Kanuku Mountains Protected Area

1c. Child Project?

This is a child project under the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes II Impact Program. The project description follows the ASL Program's ToC and its activities have been designed to address the priority environmental threats in the country's Amazon region.

Output 4.2.1 will ensure budget and resources to ensure coordination with the ASL program and ASL regional coordination project.

2. Stakeholders.

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

The PMU will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the GEF and WWF standards on Stakeholder Engagement, specifically the WWF [Standard on Stakeholder Engagement](#) and the associated [Procedures for Implementation of the Standard on Stakeholder Engagement](#). A project-specific Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been developed to guide stakeholder consultations during execution and has been uploaded as part of the submission.

Provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement.

Below is a summary of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, including how stakeholders will be consulted and in what manner. The project has budgeted for consultations, workshops, and travel costs to ensure proper stakeholder engagement throughout the life of the project. A Safeguards and Gender Officer will be recruited to the PMU (under EPA) and will be responsible for ensuring implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, in line with safeguards and gender standards.

Stakeholder Type	Name	Engagement Plan for Execution
Communities and Indigenous People	The project will engage communities in the NRW and surrounding the KMPA, which is the traditional home of the Indigenous Makushi and Wapishana people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities will be consulted in line with FPIC principles in Year 1 to validate the proposed project activities, adjustments will be made based on these consultations to ensure consensus and support. These consultations will take place before any on-the-ground activities begin, in order to facilitate a truly collaborative process. The specifics of the FPIC process will be agreed to with communities as outlined in a separate Indigenous Peoples Plan. • Communities will be consulted and engaged in all project Components once outputs are mutually agreed (bullet point above): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Component 1</u>: PAC will engage communities to co-develop community resource maps and land use plans. Community members will be invited to trainings and capacity building workshops. ○ <u>Component 2</u>: Community representation on the multi-stakeholder platform (Output 1.1.4), community consultation throughout the NRW planning process, and, if desired, communities can apply to directly implement activities on their titled lands through Output 1.1.5. ○ <u>Component 3</u>: Communities will be consulted on potential revisions to the PA Act. • FPIC will be followed according to the safeguard plans, and activities will be in accordance with the Protected Areas Act 2011 and the Amerindian Act 2006 • Robust grievance mechanism will be in place
Indigenous representative Organization	Kanuku Mountains Representative Group; National Toshias Council; North Rupununi District Development Board and Bina Hill Institute	These organizations will be invited to have representation on the multi-stakeholder platform (with regular meetings), through which these organizations will be consistently engaged in decision-making for the NRW planning process, and will have input on the type of activities and selection of partners for activities being implemented under 1.1.5.
Government of Guyana	EPA, PAC, GFC and Forestry Training Center	EPA is the lead executing agency for the project. PAC and GFC are executing partners under the project. All three government agencies will be responsible for implementing project activities. PAC will lead activities around the KMPA and on revisions to PA Act (Component 1, 3). EPA will lead activities in the NRW (Component 2), with GFC and FTC executing some activities.
	The Government agencies with a mandate to regulate activities in the NRW include: EPA, GGMC, GFC,	Key government agencies will be invited to have representation on the multi-stakeholder platform (with regular meetings), through which

	GLSC, MoA, GWCMC, and Ministry of Amerindian Affairs	these organizations will be consistently engaged in decision-making and participatory roles for the NRW planning process
NGOs	Iwokrama International Centre, Frankfurt Zoological Society, Conservation International – Guyana, IFAD, CIFOR, Field Museum, WWF Guianas, Cobra Collective	Key NGO’s will be invited to comment on and participate in various project components. Under Component 2, NGO’s will be invited to provide input throughout the NRW planning process. Some may be invited to join the multi-stakeholder platform. NGO’s may be able to apply under the Output 1.1.5 competitive process, especially where partnership is requested by Indigenous communities. NGO’s will also be invited to provide input into revisions of the PA Act.
Private Sector	Concession holders and private sector actors in the NRW (including for agriculture, logging, etc.)	Concession holders and private sector actors will be engaged through the multi-stakeholder platform, and will be consulted throughout the NRW planning process.

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

- Consulted only;
- Member of Advisory Body; contractor;
- Co-financier;
- Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body;
- Executor or co-executor;
- Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assessment.

The proposed project recognizes the importance of considering both women's and men’s contributions across sectors and at all levels for successful, long-term solutions. The Government of Guyana (GoG), Global Environment Facility (GEF) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the principal actors leading the project, are committed to mainstreaming gender in all policies and sectors.

A Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan were conducted to ensure gender mainstreaming throughout the project cycle. The Gender Analysis is an examination of gender, the differences between men and women, their access, control and use of resources and the implications for the project goals, objectives, outcomes and outputs. The gender analysis is the basis of the gender action plan, the main tool for the mainstreaming of gender in the project.

Gender Analysis:

Men and women are viewed as equal before the law with Article 29 of the Constitution of the Republic of Guyana, and various legislative framework for women’s rights and equality in Guyana. Furthermore, Guyana’s National Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Policy 2018-2023 aims to fight all types of discrimination against women and girls, including eliminating all forms of violence, promoting economic development and inclusion, wellness and healthcare, and support education training and skill development.

Guyana has also signaled its political commitment to gender equality through ratification of several international gender frameworks, including: the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence (Belem do Para), and the International Covenant on Economic, Cultural and Social Rights. Guyana is a signatory to several MEAs, including the United Nations Framework for Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Convention on Biodiversity (UNCBD) and the United Nations Convention on Desertification (UNCD), which have related gender mainstreaming strategies. However, whilst there are no legal barriers to women’s participation in society at a national level, socio-cultural norms and values limit their actual participation.

In Region 9 (the focus of this project), there are 21 local and Indigenous communities. The gender analysis provided several observations.

Division of Labour: Women in the area are limited in their ability to pursue wage-earning opportunities outside of the home. The amount of opportunities available to women and men depend on the degree of the integration of the village into the cash economy. Limitations of indigenous women to pursue wage-earning opportunities outside of the home include the household responsibilities of the child and elderly care, lack of employment opportunities in the communities and low levels of education and skills training.⁷

Control of Resources: The fact that land is communally owned in the village offers both advantages and disadvantages to women. Advantages include that a single woman can have access to and control of land. However, for married women and women in relationships, despite the land being communally owned it is viewed as “family” property or in some cases male owned. Women are therefore limited in their ability to be able to use the land for collateral purposes. Women’s interaction with the environment and natural resources of the area is largely for the extraction of non-timber forest products, which they utilize for making of crafts. Other activities include the use of other ecosystem services in the conduct of their domestic activities.

Power and Decision Making: The power structure of the villages is related to economic power and is patriarchal despite the visibility of women through voluntary and community work.

Access to Education and Training: The trend in Region 9 overall indicates higher numbers of females in secondary schools as a result of males leaving school early to engage in wage earning activities such as gold mining. There is also an issue of teenage pregnancy and teen brides which affect girl’s attendance in high school.⁸

Access to Finance and Credit: Access to finance and credit is a barrier for women in Guyana and in Region 9. There are no legal barriers for either gender to access credit or financial resources. However social norms (perceptions of men as being better at business) and lack of ownership (either singly or jointly with partners and husbands) of collaterals such as land and property continue to hinder women’s access to formal credit. Women in Region 9 also reported not having the confidence and fearing the loss of household capital as deterrents in accessing credit.⁹

Gender Considerations and Recommendations

Gender considerations are applicable to all components of the project. It is critical that both men and women have equal opportunity to participate and benefit from the project activities. The strategic approach of the gender action plan is twofold:

- 8) Design of activities to address specific barriers to the participation of each gender and to increase their visibility and agency;
- 9) Design of complementary gender activities for each of the proposed activities of the project to ensure the integration of gender considerations in the entire project cycle.

The main tools of the project to achieve gender mainstreaming are the stakeholder engagement plan, the gender action plan, the grievance redress mechanism and the monitoring and evaluation mechanism.

Gender Action Plan

A detailed Gender Action Plan has been attached, and links outputs with tangible activities to promote gender inclusion, equality, and equity. The Gender Action Plan includes the following high-level recommendations, organized by Component.

⁷ UNICEF (2017) Study on indigenous women and children in Guyana. Available at:

<https://www.unicef.org/guyanasuriname/reports/study-indigenous-women-and-children-guyana>

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Conservation International. (2016). Rupununi Innovation Fund (RIF) Gender Analysis. Conservation International

Gender related activities under Component 1 will:

1. Ensure men and women's agency and visibility in all stakeholder engagement options including Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) with indigenous communities. This will take into consideration the recommendations regarding increasing women's participation.
2. Ensure women's participation in PA management workshops and trainings, and the design of methods and materials used for these activities is gender-sensitive.
3. Ensure women's participation and visibility in exchange visits for government and communities on strengthened PA management. This activity will also include capacity building, taking into consideration gender inequalities in capacity to participate and may require in-house training to build foundational capacities.

In the communities, men's and women's differential roles, responsibilities and daily practices directly influence their uses of and needs for natural resources. This will be factored into both Component 1 and Component 2. In addition, Component 2 will include the collection of gender data and sex-disaggregated data in the Rapid assessments on socio-economic, environmental, and ecological features in the productive landscape to inform regional planning.

The project will ensure that access to resources and opportunities for training, information and decision-making are equitable and transparent for all community members, including women, at the household, community, and landscape levels. The Gender Analysis recommended that, at the community level, there be a quota of 50 percent women in all projects related decision-making bodies to increase women in the project area participation in environmental decision making.

For Component 3, mainstreaming of gender in new PA Act is a necessity. The PA Act presently is gender blind. The new PA should be gender responsive in keeping with mainstreaming of gender in national legislations and policies. Women and their representative organizations should be equally consulted in the consultations for the revision of the Act. A gender expert or a legislative expert who is experienced in gender mainstreaming in legislations and PAs should be responsible for the mainstreaming of gender in the revision.

Within Component 4, the project will include a robust gender responsive Monitoring and Evaluation plan that collects both gender and sex-disaggregated data with gender-sensitive collection will be done by the project, including both quantitative and qualitative data to offer more insights into the progress and changes happening because of the project opportunities and benefits to all stakeholders. All project-level reports will include information on the implementation of the gender mainstreaming plan. Knowledge management products will include the portrayal of both men and women, with a focus on increasing women's visibility in conservation and natural resources management.

Throughout the life of the project, the stakeholder engagement plan will be implemented, and will represent one of the main mechanisms of addressing gender mainstreaming in the project. Stakeholder engagement will be conducted in a way to ensure participation of men and women, taking into account that women's participation is affected by their heavy domestic responsibilities.

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment? (yes /no)

If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality: closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources, improving women's participation and decision making; and or generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

Does the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators? (yes /no)

4. Private Sector Engagement. The project seeks to ensure productive practices are compatible with the ecological functioning of the North Rupununi Wetlands, therefore engaging the private sector will be key. The project will support trainings for small-scale loggers to promote reduced impact logging practices. In addition, the project will engage private sector actors (loggers, those engaged in agriculture) in the NRW planning process.

5. Risks.

The risks and proposed mitigation measures are described in the tables below.

Risk	Likelihood & Potential Impact	Risk Mitigation Measures
PAC and site-level capacity for management of the KMPA remains low (in specific areas)	Low likelihood High impact	Technical capacity building will be provided for staff and stakeholders, along with improved technology and other facilities to build overall ability of PAC and Site-level personnel to manage PA
Key stakeholders do not participate in NRW integrated landscape management planning process	Low likelihood High impact	Comprehensive stakeholder engagement strategy; multi-stakeholder and collaborative approach for development of landscape management strategy.
Local communities reject PA activities in KMPA, and/or landscape management planning in NRW out of concern for land claims and resource access	Low / Medium likelihood High impact	The PMU will undertake a series of consultations in the first 6 months of the project to validate the project activities and adjust as needed. The activities were preliminarily agreed through the KMPA management planning process. Mitigation measures include: Clear and sustained communication along with transparent, participatory processes to ensure stakeholder engagement and FPIC; pursue management that preserves community rights and access; community involvement in management and livelihood opportunities. Given the project is designed around a participatory process, the project will be designed with communities and other stakeholders. The project will engage all affected communities to ensure their support.
Business-as-usual extractive activities continue and infrastructure development (for example, road building) proceed regardless of landscape management planning	Medium likelihood High impact	Ensure participation of relevant agencies and stakeholders in strategy process, coordination and governance within the landscape to support sustained implementation of the management strategy.
Changes in Government policy with respect to conservation, natural resource management and/or climate change commitments	Low likelihood High impact	Project documentation to highlight how integrated sustainable landscape management, livelihood development and PA management advances social, economic, and environmental objectives. The project aligns to MEAs that Guyana is party to.
Change in village leadership	High likelihood Low Impact	The project will consistently engage communities and other stakeholders in all components. This engagement will account for changes in village leadership, and ensure new leaders are properly involved.
Project baseline activities are abandoned and/or project co-financing does not materialize	Low likelihood Medium impact	Clear commitments secured during project development
Covid-19 pandemic delays and otherwise negatively impacts implementation of project	High likelihood Medium Impact	Follow national COVID-19 guidelines and adhere to any additional guidance from key stakeholders. Additional information presented in Table 11 and 12.

Climate Risk Summary^{10, 11}

Climate Risk	Potential Consequence	Counter Measure
<p>Temperature Fluctuation: The climate change projection for southern Guyana indicates a 2 to 3°C temperature rise by 2050.</p>	<p>Temperature changes significantly impact agriculture unless proper adaptation measures are implemented. The following are the most visible impacts of climate change in the region.</p> <p>In terms of vulnerability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing temperature. <p>In terms of emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current emissions add up to 110 Gt, the most significant being related to agriculture. 	<p>The project will consider climate risks in all project components. The project will mainstream mitigations and responses into project-developed plans, including: resource use maps and land use maps in the KMPA (to understand how resources and use may change due to climate impacts, with responses incorporated), and in management planning for the NRW (to understand potential impacts, and have strategies in place).</p> <p>The project will support activities in line with the sustainable management of land and water resources in the landscape, promoting sustainable, productive practices and wetland plans that will limit deforestation and wetland degradation along with the associated climate emissions.</p>
<p>Frequency and Intensity of Heavy Rainfall: One of the greatest threats of climate change in the KMPA and NRW is the increased precipitation variability. This will result in greater occurrences of both extremes of floods and droughts.</p>	<p>Failure to manage these threats would lead to loss of connectivity, causing broader negative impacts at greater spatial scales, such as increased flooding, disruption of hydrological systems, and decreased gene flow for key groups such as fishes.</p> <p>In terms of vulnerability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shorter and intense rainy seasons. • Greater variability of rainfall. 	

Climate Risk Screening was conducted for the project.

COVID-19 Risk Analysis

Risk category	Potential Risk	Mitigations and Plans
<p>Availability of technical expertise and capacity and changes in timelines</p>	<p>Continued or renewed efforts in COVID-19 containment are likely throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>The project will utilize remote working tools to support and engage with partners and stakeholders. This includes the use of virtual communication tools and platforms.</p>
	<p>Initial screening suggests that the availability of technical staff is not majorly affected by COVID. Minimal impact is anticipated.</p>	<p>The Guyana Government was closely involved during PPG and expressed support for this project to move forward despite the challenges of COVID-19.</p>
<p>Stakeholder engagement process</p>	<p>COVID-19 restrictions may limit effective engagement with stakeholders – particularly local communities (as a result of, for example, travel restrictions)</p>	<p>Consultations will only be undertaken in compliance with national and local guidelines, and with COVID-19 precautions in place. This may involve, for example, small group sizes, the use of testing, and PPE.</p> <p>The PMU will develop guidance on COVID protocols in the two project areas. In all cases, continued attention will be given to ensuring the voices of IP, women, youth, and any underrepresented community members.</p>

¹⁰ There is limited information on the vulnerability to climate change and the quantification of current and future emissions for the project areas. In this regard, the mainstreaming process will be based on new information and awareness processes with the local population.

¹¹ Conservation International. 2021. *Vulnerability, Adaptation and options for Mainstreaming Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation Action in the Rupununi*.

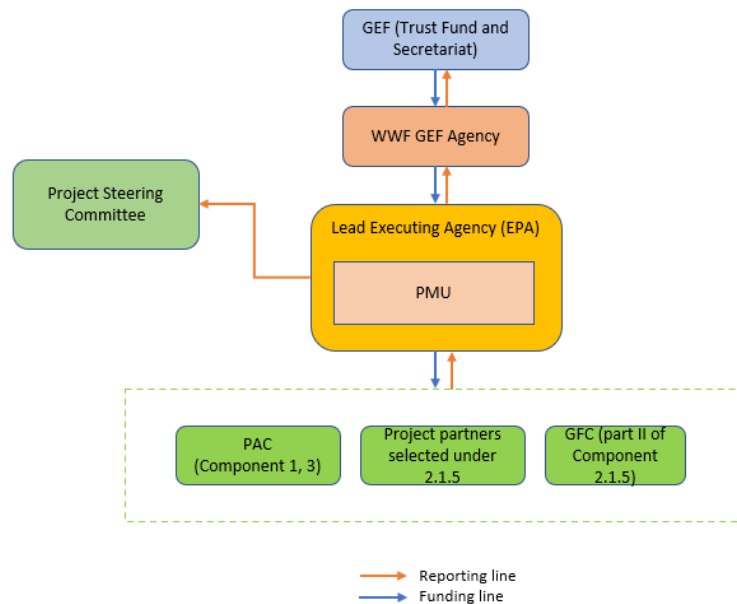
Future risks of similar crises.	COVID-19 impacts may lead to increased livelihood/economic challenges and isolation of the communities.	Project support for sustainable management of the NRW and the KMPA will help maintain habitats that provide direct socioeconomic benefits. Conservation of these priority forest, wetland, and savannah areas will maintain natural assets that underpin livelihoods and green economic opportunities.
--	---	--

COVID-19 Opportunity Analysis

Opportunity Category	Plan
Can the project do more to protect and restore natural systems and their ecological functionality?	The project is focused on protecting and ensuring the ecological functioning of southern Guyana. The project will strengthen the management of the KMPA to preserve its ecological functioning. In the NRW, the overall project goal is to ensure the ecological and hydrological functioning of the wetlands, in harmony with productive activities. Since the two areas are contiguous, improved management of both sites will strengthen ecological connectivity to maintain a large, intact area of globally critical Amazonian ecosystems.
Can the project include a focus on production landscapes and land-use practices within them to decrease the risk of human/nature conflicts?	The project will target one productive landscape, the NRW, supporting participatory planning and execute activities to support sustainable land and water management. The goal is to balance productive use with sustainable land and water management practices to ensure the ecological and hydrological functioning of the wetlands.
Can the project promote circular solutions to reduce unsustainable resource extraction and environmental degradation?	The project will work to integrate productive activities (forestry, agriculture, tourism) and sustainable land and water management considerations – so that the landscape's long-term environmental health, functioning, and associated ecosystem services are secured while at the same time ensuring the landscapes provide livelihood and productive benefits. There are limited opportunities for circular solutions.
Can the project innovate in climate change mitigation and engage with the private sector?	The project will contribute to climate change mitigation by promoting sustainable, productive practices (e.g. Reduced Impact Logging, in coordination with small community enterprises), and limiting deforestation and (wet)land degradation (along with the associated climate emissions).

6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination. Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

Institutional arrangement



The proposed implementation arrangement can be found above, and includes EPA as the lead Executing Agency (EA), PAC and GFC as project executing partners, a Project Steering Committee, and WWF as the GEF Agency.

The project will include the following institutional actors:

Project Steering Committee (PSC): A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be formed to serve as the oversight, advisory, and support body for the project. The PSC provides overall guidance for the implementation of the project. It is responsible for approving annual work plans and budgets, and reviewing and approving any changes to the project strategy alongside WWF GEF Agency.

In terms of membership, the PSC will include representatives from the EPA (EA), Protected Areas Commission (PAC), Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC), the FTCI, Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission (GLSC), as well as a representative from the NGOs active in the area (on a rotating basis) North Rupununi District Development Board (NRDDB), Kanuku Mountains Community Representative Group (KMCRG). The PSC will be chaired by the EPA. WWF GEF Agency will maintain observer status.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be the **Lead Executing Agency (EA)** responsible for overseeing the implementation of project activities, including disbursing and administering funds (to be confirmed pending due diligence process) to project execution partners for the implementation of specific outcomes/outputs/activities. In setting up this structure, the EA will enter into grant agreements with each executing partner. Grant agreements will outline the financial, technical, reporting, and other requirements for the executing partner.

As part of its responsibilities, the EA will establish the Project Management Unit. The **Project Management Unit (PMU)** will be responsible for the day-to-day management and coordination of project activities and fulfillment of its goals. The PMU will consist of staff identified below; a Finance Officer from the EA will be assigned to the PMU with responsibility for the financial reporting of the project.

- *Project Manager/Technical Advisor:* Oversee the project implementation (full-time basis) under the guidance of the PSC and with support of WWF.
- *Project Assistant/M&E Officer:* Provide assistance (full-time basis) to the Project Manager/Technical Advisor in the overall implementation of the project. Responsible for the design, coordination and implementation

of the monitoring and evaluation framework of the project. Provide technical assistance to EA and co-executing partners in relation to monitoring and reporting.

- *Technical Officer*: Provide assistance (full-time basis) to the Project Manager/Technical Advisor in the implementation of the project, including field-based monitoring.
- *Safeguards and Gender Officer*: Provide assistance (full-time basis) to the Project Manager/Technical Advisor on stakeholder engagement, coordination of ESS plans implementation and gender considerations.
- *Financial Officer*: Responsible for managing the financial reporting of the project (preparation of budgets, quarterly/annual reports)

WWF-GEF Agency: WWF-US, through its WWF GEF Agency, will: (i) provide consistent and regular project oversight to ensure the achievement of project objectives; (ii) liaise between the project and the GEF Secretariat; (iii) report on project progress to GEF Secretariat (annual Project Implementation Report); (iv) ensure that both GEF and WWF policy requirements and standards are applied and met (i.e. reporting obligations, technical, fiduciary, M&E, safeguards); (v) approve annual workplan and budget; (vi) approve budget revisions, certify fund availability and transfer funds; (vii) organize the midterm and terminal evaluation and review project audits; (viii) certify project operational and financial completion, and (ix) provide no-objection to key terms of reference for project management unit.

Coordination with other GEF and non-GEF initiatives

The project will coordinate with the following projects where feasible to maximize impact and reach of project activities:

- Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Multi-country Soil Management Initiative for Integrated Landscape Restoration and Sustainable Food Systems: Phase 1 (CSIDS-SOILCARE Phase 1) (est. 2022-2026; USD 8,135,205)– this is a regional GEF project implemented by FAO. In Guyana, the project is funded by GEF Land Degradation under Guyana’s LD allocation of US\$986,000. The ProDoc was approved by GEF on September 22, 2021. It seeks to restore targeted degraded lands and increase land productivity through Climate Smart Agriculture Model Farms and a training program for farmers. The Pilot Sites will be identified in Administrative Regions 1, 5 and 10. While not taking place in the project landscapes, this project may yield important lessons and best practices for application in the NRW such as the methodologies utilized in restoring degraded areas, implementation of climate smart agriculture farming practices, and training activities for farmers.
- Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Development and Management (SLDM) Project: The SLDM Project is under implementation for an extended period of eighteen (18) months, January 2022 to July 2023. The SLDM Project will lead to strengthened capacities of GLSC in information management, planning, land information system, geodesy, cadastre development, land degradation assessment and monitoring, and land governance for SLDM and reclamation. It will build capacities in integrated geospatial information systems, land administration, governance of tenure, planning, assessment and land monitoring. The Project will also enhance capacity in targeted areas in land governance, land planning, land management and land restoration and monitoring. This outcome will realize development and implementation of land use plans with service providers and land users/local communities for piloting improved sustainable land management, management practices and reclamation measures.
- Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme to ensure Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change (2020-2024, USD 11,735,780) – this regional GEF project aims to implement the Strategic Action Program (SAP), promoting Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Amazon basin. In Guyana, this includes strengthening national policies to enable the establishment of water authorities.

7. Consistency with National Priorities.

The proposed project is consistent with Guyana’s constitution, which promotes sustainable use and protection of flora, fauna, water and other natural resources and establishes that citizens have a duty to participate in activities

designed to improve the environment. Legislation, policies and strategies that have been enacted in furtherance of these principles include:

- The revised Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) which is a long-term national development strategy focusing on improving economic, social, and environmental resilience in Guyana. This revised strategy builds on the previous LCDS, and expands into environmental services, water resources management, climate resilience, biodiversity, and marine economy.
- Leader's Pledge for Nature was endorsed by Guyana in 2021. This pledge for nature is a commitment to urgent and transformational actions to address biodiversity loss, safeguard planetary safety net and ensure countries build forward better towards net positive outcomes for nature, climate and sustainable development.
- Protected Areas Act, 2011, which provides for the creation, management, and financing of the NPAS management.
- Environmental Protection Act, 1996, which provides for the protection, conservation and management of natural resources and the environment.
- Amerindian Act, 2006, which addresses conservation and resource management in indigenous territories and the exercise of traditional user-rights over resources.
- The Forests Act, 2009, which promotes sustainable management of forests, and the National Forest Plan and Policy, 2018.
- Wildlife Conservation and Management Act, 2016, which provides for the protection, conservation, management, sustainable-use, internal and external trade of Guyana's wildlife.

National plans and priorities also point to infrastructure and agricultural development in the NRW. The project will promote a participatory and integrated management approach for the NRW to balance national plans and priorities around infrastructure, agricultural development and livelihood development with environmental dimensions and natural resource management in the NRW, and in line with Guyana's MEA commitments (described below).

Protected area management, NRW management strategy and livelihood strengthening also support Guyana's obligations under several multilateral environmental agreements including: United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) and Nagoya Protocol, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), Escazu Agreement, Aichi Target 5 (By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced), and Aichi Target 11 (By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, are conserved...). Guyana is also committed to Target 3 (protection and conservation of at least 30 percent of the planet by 2030 – or 30x30) under the Global Biodiversity framework. Finally, Guyana is committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, of which Goal 5 (gender equality), Goal 12 (responsible consumption and production), Goal 13 (climate action), and Goal 15 (life on land) are of particular relevance. Building on these commitments, the proposed project will strengthen and improve landscape connectivity through sustainable management of critically important wetland areas and protected areas within southern Guyana.

8. Knowledge Management.

The project knowledge management and communications strategy will ensure lessons and best practices are developed, stored and appropriately disseminated to ensure sustainability and uptake more broadly. Knowledge management and communications is tracked and budgeted under *Component 4: Capacity Building and Regional Coordination*. \$114,425 has been budgeted for knowledge management and communications, this includes budget for a consultant to develop and disseminate communication products and engagement in ASL II.

Lessons Learned

Existing lessons and best practices were gathered relating to management of the NRW and KMPA during project development and informed project design. Lessons and best practices can be found documented in *Section 3.7 Lessons learned during project preparation*.

During execution of the Project, lessons and best practices from similar projects will continue to be collected and analyzed during project execution to inform execution of the project strategy. Lessons learned and best practices from the Project will be captured on an ongoing basis and documented in the semi-annual project progress reports (PPR) and Midterm and Terminal evaluation.

Knowledge Management and Communications Plan

A strategic knowledge management and communications plan has been budgeted for this Project and will include the following knowledge and communication products:

Component	Deliverable	Timeline
Component 1: Integrated Protected Landscapes	Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices surveys – the information will be consolidated into a report for both benchmarking progress and informing the project strategy.	Year 2
	Resource use maps and a land-use plan for the KMPA with indigenous communities will be developed and shared for guiding sustainable resource use. This is the first time a land-use plan has been done for a PA in Guyana, therefore the methodology will be documented for wider application.	Year 3 - 4
	South-south exchanges and courses for PA staff and community representatives to share best practices and lessons learned from the Project and to learn from practitioners in the same field to strengthen PA management.	Year 2 - 4
Component 2: Integrated Productive Landscapes	Knowledge of the NRW pertaining to traditional knowledge, socio-economic, biological, and environmental aspects will be collated. This information is currently disbursed; therefore a knowledge management system is needed. The information will also be shared through communication products and information sheets.	Year 1- 2
	The project will produce and share results of a spatial analysis of the NRW, defined through a participatory process.	Year 2
	The project will deliver a management plan/strategy for the NRW to guide decision making. Complementary knowledge products and information will be shared to build awareness and buy-in to the planning process.	Year 3 - 4
	Lessons and best practices from the SLWM activities under 2.1.5 will be documented and shared	Year 3 - 4
Component 3: Policies/Incentives for Protected and Productive Landscapes	A PA Act gap analysis and recommendations will be developed and shared	Year 3
	The revised PA Act will be developed in consultation with stakeholders, and will be available for public review.	Year 4
Component 4: Capacity Building and Regional Coordination	6-monthly project progress reports	Year 1 - 4
	Midterm evaluation	Year 2 (delivered early Year 3)
	Terminal evaluation	Year 4
	Participation in annual ASL meeting	Year 1 - 4
	Participation in ASL field visits, exchanges, study yours	Year 1 - 4
	Participation in face-to-face and virtual ASL meetings	Year 1 - 4
	Inputs to ASL project website	Year 1 - 4

Alignment to Amazon Sustainable Landscape Program

The project's knowledge management and communication plan will be closely aligned with the ASL Coordination Child Project. The ASL Coordination Child Project provides a platform for regional cooperation, including sharing of experiences, lessons, and solutions for participating countries in the ASL. Component 4 ensures budget for full project participation in ASL, including:

- Participation in an annual face-to-face meeting.
- Participation in workshops, field visits, exchanges and/or study tours.
- Participation in other face-to-face and virtual ASL meetings.
- Relevant knowledge and communication products produced by the project will be shared on the ASL website, with relevant communication products packaged by ASL, to ensure wider access and uptake.

All knowledge and communication products produced by the Project will be shared on the ASL website to ensure wider access and uptake. In addition, the PMU will share relevant documents directly with stakeholders as laid out in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, this may include through mail, presentations at workshops, and meetings of the PSC.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation. Describe the budgeted M & E plan.

The Project will be monitored through the Results Framework. The Results Framework includes 1-2 indicators per Outcome, and describes: frequency of reporting, who is responsible for measuring each indicator (as well as any supporting partners), and the methodology for measuring indicator targets. The baseline has been completed for each indicator along with feasible targets, set annually where relevant. Indicator targets are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound (SMART), and disaggregated by sex where applicable. Component 4 of the Results Framework is dedicated to M&E, knowledge sharing and coordination.

Relevant Core indicators have been included to provide a portfolio level understanding of progress towards the GEF Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs).

The Project Assistant/M&E Officer will be responsible for overall gathering of M&E data for the annual results framework tracking, and providing suggestions to the PMU Project Manager/Technical Advisor to improve the results, efficiency and management of the project.

\$274,157 has been budgeted to support M&E. This includes \$80,000 for independent consultants to undertake a mid-term and terminal evaluation, \$139,200 for the M&E portion of the Project Assistant/Monitoring and Evaluation Officer’s time, a small portion of the Project Manager’s to undertake reporting and monitoring of the project (24,957), and \$30,000 for travel costs for the Safeguard consultant and Project Assistant/M&E Officer to support monitoring project progress.

The following is a summary of project reports:

Table 10: M&E Reporting

M&E/ Reporting Document	How the document will be used	Timeframe	Responsible
Inception Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize decisions made during inception workshop, including changes to project design, budget, Results Framework, etc. 	Within three months of inception workshop	PMU
Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan activities and budget for each project year 	Annual	PMU
Quarterly partner Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform PMU PM on progress, challenges and needs of activities in field. 	Every three months	Project partners
Quarterly Financial Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess financial progress and management. 	Every three months	PMU F&A officer
6 Month Project Progress Report (PPR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share lessons internally and externally; Report to the PSC and GEF Agency on the project progress. 	Annually at six months into the project year	PMU
12 month Project Progress Report (PPR) with Results Framework and workplan tracking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform management decisions and drafting of annual workplan and budget; Share lessons internally and externally; Identify risks and challenges that have arisen, and propose mitigation plans or actions; Report to the PSC and GEF Agency on the project progress. 	Annually	PMU
Project Closeout Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the format of the PPR 	One month after technical close	PMU

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize project results and overall outcomes to the PSC and GEF Agency. 		
GEF METT Tracking Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform GEF SEC on progress towards outcomes/impact relating to protected areas; Assessment of the project contribution to GEBs. 	CEO endorsement, Mid-term and Close	PAC
Mid-term Project Evaluation Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External formative evaluation of the project; Recommendations for adaptive management for the second half of the project period; Inform PSC, GEF and other stakeholders of project performance to date. 	Midterm	External expert or organization
Terminal Project Evaluation Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External summative evaluation of the overall project; Recommendations for GEF and those designing related projects. 	Before project completion	External expert or organization

Independent formal evaluations have been budgeted by the project and will adhere to WWF and GEF guidelines and policies. The Midterm Evaluation will be conducted within six months of the midpoint of the project and the Terminal Evaluation will be completed before the official close of the project. The evaluations provide an opportunity for adaptive management as well as sharing of lessons and best practices for this and future projects. The Operational Focal Point will be briefed and debriefed before and after the evaluation(s) and will have an opportunity to comment on the draft and final report.

An annual reflection workshop has been budgeted for the PMU and project partners to review project progress and challenges to date, taking into account results framework tracking, work plan tracking, stakeholder feedback and quarterly field reports to review project strategies, risks and the theory of change (ToC). The results of this workshop will inform project decision making (i.e., refining the ToC, informing PPRs and AWP&Bs).

10. Benefits. Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)?

The project seeks to generate socioeconomic benefits by improving livelihoods and land/resource management to enhance the enabling environment for natural resource management, sustained ecosystem services, and a stronger long-term foundation for economic activities.

A landscape management planning strategy for the NRW will enable better and more inclusive governance as it will allow for the interconnected elements of the landscape – biodiversity and ecosystems, socio-cultural and economic – to be managed in a way that meets the range of needed goods and services; spatially rationalizing different productive activities and conservation based on evidence and knowledge of how the landscape functions and traditional indigenous use; and enabling long-term, sustained collaboration among multiple stakeholders, with the purpose of achieving the objectives of a sustainable landscape. Enhanced coordination between agencies, for example, can reduce overlapping and conflicting land-uses, and thus reduce conflict between resource users. Multi-stakeholder participation in strategy development and implementation will further reduce conflict through transparent processes to identify and balance the needs and priorities of different stakeholders. By explicitly incorporating environmental considerations into the management planning, and allowing for collective decision making among stakeholders, trade-offs can be negotiated between productive activities, cultural and spiritual uses, and ecosystem values; sector agencies can coordinate and align on monitoring and regulation of resource use; and local communities can better influence how resources are managed. This in turn will generate socioeconomic benefits through direct use values (e.g., reliable freshwater supplies and provisioning of food resources, timber as well as non-timber forest products).

The implementation of livelihood and other initiatives that strengthen sustainable land and water management practices, with local communities and stakeholders in the NRW area, will bring many positive socio-economic

benefits including: livelihood development (Output 2.1.5); enabling communities build resilience to economic and environmental shocks (for e.g., Covid-19, droughts and floods); and improving local communities' connection with their land, culture and traditional practices.

Project support for sustainable management of the NRW and the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area will help maintain habitats that provide direct socioeconomic benefits. Conservation of priority forest, wetland and savannah areas will maintain natural assets that underpin livelihoods and green economic opportunities, which are particularly important in the interior of Guyana given its economic disadvantages relative to the coastal area. Notably, reducing the likelihood of habitat fragmentation, which enhances ecological connectivity, will reinforce Guyana's continuing growth as an ecotourism destination, by maintaining wildlife movements, hydrological links, and other ecosystem processes that form the basis of the sector's prospects.

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification: Medium

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

An Environmental & Social Safeguards Screen was completed for the project. Based on this Screen, the Project has received a Categorization of "B," given that it is essentially a conservation initiative expected to generate significant positive and durable social, economic and environmental benefits. Any adverse environmental and social impacts are site specific and can be mitigated. Due to the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic, full consultations on project activities have not yet been completed, and therefore an Environmental Social Management Framework, Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework, Process Framework, and Grievance Redress Mechanism for the required Safeguards will be created prior to Project implementation. Management Plans will be created within the first year of Project implementation once activities have been finalized in consultation with local stakeholders.

PART IV: ANNEXES

Annex A: Project Results Framework (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

Project Outcome	Indicator	Definition	Method	Who	Disaggregate	Base	Targets			
							YR1	YR2	YR2	YR4
Objective: to strengthen landscape connectivity through improved management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Areas and North Rupununi Wetlands in southern Guyana										
	Area of contiguous landscape under some form of management plan	Number of hectares with some form of management planning (PA management plan, IP management plan, wetland management planning process)	Count hectares of landscape that are connected to NRW and KMPA and under some form of management plan (Indigenous lands with plans in place, NRW under plan, Iwokrama, KMPA)	EPA						1,883,800 ha
	<u>Core Indicator 6:</u> Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated (metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent)	This indicator refers to the total reduction of GHG emissions and enhancement of sinks and reservoirs reported in tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e).	GFC carbon assessment tool	GFC		0				847,406
	<u>Core Indicator 11:</u> Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment.	Direct beneficiaries are all individuals receiving targeted support from the project. Targeted support is the intentional and direct assistance to individuals or groups who are aware that they are receiving that support and/or who use the specific resources. Cumulative	Count beneficiaries of targeted support (through meeting / workshop minutes, surveys)	PMU, PAC, GFC	Gender	0		100 (40% women)	300 (40% women)	700 (40%+ women)
1.1. Strengthened protected area management effectiveness	<u>Core Indicator 1.2:</u> Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness	Number of hectares of protected area whose management has been improved	METT	PAC		-				611,000
	Total METT score of KMPA	Total METT score (GEF funding + baseline)	Calculate METT Score annually	PAC		76		78	80	83

	<p>Total score of KMPA relevant METT indicators</p> <p>7. Is there a management plan or equivalent and is it being implemented? 7a. The management planning process allows adequate and equal opportunities for stakeholders to influence management</p> <p>9. Do you have enough information to manage the area?</p> <p>11. Do the people managing the area have the necessary knowledge and skills?</p> <p>15. Are equipment and facilities sufficient for management needs</p> <p>30. Are indigenous people involved in management decisions?</p> <p>31. Do local communities living in or near the protected area have input to management decisions?</p>	Score: Score based on METT assessment of relevant indicators	Calculate METT Score annually (using METT version 4-1), out of 18 points	PAC		(2020 score: 11/15)			13	15
	Status of plans for sustainable natural resource use	Plans - resource-use map, land-use plan, to be developed in a participatory way		PAC		-		KAP survey	Resource Use map	Land use plan agreed by PAC and Indigenous Communities
	% of community members that believe they have a role in decision making	Decision making –based on KAP survey definition	KAP Survey	PAC	By gender	42%				65%
	% of community members that say they have received any benefit from the PA	Benefit: equipment/infrastructure, training and employment	KAP Survey	PAC	By community, gender	10.1%				15%
2.1 Increased areas of forests and watersheds	Core Indicator 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices	This indicator captures the total area of landscapes under improved practices, including in production sectors, that lead to	Total sub-indicators below	PMU		-				901,800

brought under SLWM Practices	(hectares; excluding protected areas)	improved environmental conditions and/or for which management plans have been prepared and endorsed and are under implementation.								
	4.1. Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity	Landscape area being managed to benefit biodiversity, but which is not certified	Area under improved planning	PMU		-				900,000
	4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems	Landscape area that is in production (e.g., agriculture, rangeland, and forests) and whose soil, air, and water are managed in a sustainable manner	Area under sustainable practices (from 2.1.5 activities)	PMU		-			500	1,800
	Status of NRW planning process	Status – advancement of planning process for NRW (Component 2)	Assess meeting minutes and plans delivered on schedule	PMU				MSP formed and operational Data gathering and assessments completed	NRW spatial analysis prepared Goals/vision agreed by MSP	Planning process complete, with governance frameworks for decision making – approved by MSP members via consensus process
	Level of representation on multi-stakeholder platform and decision-making mechanisms	Level of representation – key stakeholders are represented on the MSP, including community representatives, and government representatives	Assess representation on MSP compared to stakeholder analysis	PMU	Gender		MSP TOR incorporates gender, stakeholder analysis	100% of stakeholders prioritized through stakeholder analysis has representation on MSP	80% of stakeholder representatives attend each meeting	85% of stakeholder representatives attend each meeting
	# of priority barriers being mitigated through small grants program (Output 2.1.5)	Categories of barriers include: - Capacity building - Monitoring and management - Livelihoods - Productive practices - Degradation / restoration - Planning	Count number of barriers mitigated based on adequate reporting of results from small grant recipients	PMU		0				2
3.1 Strengthened regulatory frameworks for natural resource conservation/sustainable use	Status of revised PA Act	PA Act = revisions to PA Act based on recommendations, developed through a consultative and participatory approach	Assess gap analysis; Cabinet paper	PAC		-		Legislation gaps identified and recommendations	Draft revised texts in consultations with relevant	Presentation of revised PA Act to Cabinet

									stakeholders	
4.1. Strengthened monitoring and evaluation system	% M&E plan implemented in a timely manner	M&E plan implemented: delivery of M&E activities on time, reporting (PPR, PIR, QFR, AWP&B, RF tracking, PCR), annual reflection workshop, Mid-term evaluation, Terminal evaluation	Assess delivery of M&E activities against M&E workplan	PMU Project Staff SEAF-DEC		0	100%	100%	100%	100%
4.2 ASL regional cooperation and knowledge sharing	Level of engagement in ASL regional project Not cumulative	Level of engagement: <u>Level 1</u> = No participation <u>Level 2</u> = Minimal participation – provide reporting documents and the provision of information for program website <u>Level 3</u> = Above, and participation in ASL training events and annual conference	Score of 1-4	PMU		1	3	3	3	3

Annex B: Response to Project Reviews if applicable

GEFSEC COMMENTS - JUNE 2019	
Comments	Response
Comments were received from the GEFSEC on April 10th (included in the GEF Review Sheet https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/web-documents/10198_IP_Amazon_ReviewSheet.pdf). Further comments were submitted on April 29. The team adjusted the comments in the PDF and clearance for inclusion at the June 2019 work program was granted.	
GEFSEC Pending Comments	
By the time of CEO endorsement, please ensure that the baseline projects, as well as the amount of the baseline investments, are elaborated fully for each child project.	The baseline has been fully elaborated for the Guyana Child Project.
By the time of CEO endorsement, and as the child projects are analyzed, please refine and expand the incremental reasoning with the additional information that will be made available through the project design process.	The incremental reasoning and project's impact in terms of global environmental benefits was further addressed in the project document in section 3.1.
By the time of CEO endorsement please ensure that each of the child project's georeference is clearly presented both for targeted protected areas and productive landscapes.	Please refer to Annex E of the GEF Datasheet, including the map and georeferences of the intervention areas.
By the time of CEO endorsement, please ensure that each child project takes into consideration the approved Policy on Stakeholder Engagement as well as the corresponding Guidelines.	The Guyana Child Project was prepared in line with GEF Policy on Stakeholder Engagement and WWF-US procedures. A Stakeholder Engagement Plan was prepared and will be disclosed as part of the safeguards process prior to Agency Approval.
By the time of CEO endorsement, please ensure that the role of the private sector is fully articulated with regards to the forestry value chains referenced in the PFD.	Please refer to part II.4 of the GEF Datasheet.
By the time of CEO endorsement, please ensure that each child project elaborates a risk management strategy.	The risk management strategy elaborated for the project is described in Section 3.4 of the Project Document.
STAP COMMENTS - MAY 28, 2019	
Comments	
<p>STAP Overall Assessment - MINOR STAP welcomes this project proposal from the World Bank for the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes (ASL) II Impact Program. In the long term, the program envisions a "...landscape mosaic of well-managed protected areas and indigenous territories, with sustainable use in the surrounding landscapes (to) conserve biodiversity and assure the required connectivity for key ecosystems and species to adapt to climate change" (p. 60).</p> <p>This is a realistic and well-conceived objective, and the components of this program should make a strong contribution to achieving this. But in some respects, the program description is rather unclear and confusingly written at times. It is not clear how the proposed interventions will effectively address the root causes behind environmental degradation in this region (particularly incentives for illegal deforestation). Much of the language in the theory of change is general and vague, encompassing a very broad array of possible interventions (e.g. "governance and incentives for protected and productive landscapes are enhanced through adoption</p>	The design of the Guyana Child Project has taken into account the aspects raised here. Please see detailed responses to the issues raised in this summary section in the sections below.

<p>of national policies and strategies which support sustainable development and aim to minimize deforestation and loss of ecosystem services"), making it difficult to discern a sharp conceptual analysis. The adoption of the "land sparing" approach is not adequately justified, given that the benefits of this approach accrue only when tied to robust governance mechanisms that ensure that intensification does indeed avert further deforestation. A number of innovations are identified in the PFD, including policy, institutional, business model, technological and financing innovations. In some cases, only the need for innovation is identified, e.g. with respect to forest product trade and re beliefs/awareness changing. STAP is pleased to see that the ASL will make use of recently-developed planning tools such as the Spatial Planning for Protected Areas in Response to Climate Change (SPARC) to take into consideration future projected changes due to climate change.</p> <p>The underlying assumption is that by working across (almost) the entire Amazon Basin, the likelihood of success will be greater due to coordinated efforts, sharing of information, etc. For this reason, the role of the coordinating entity will be very important – not only to arrange meetings and workshops – but to share data, lessons learned and to monitor progress on the ground in a way that serves to increase overall knowledge sharing and transparency. In this respect, the use of open source, publicly accessible spatial data such as information on forest cover, water quality, etc. will be useful as well as innovative.</p> <p>The risks identified in the PFD are fairly standard, and they appear manageable within the program framework. However, the PFD states that the major risk related to economic powerful drivers of deforestation (extractive industries, agribusiness, etc.) will be mitigated by integrated landscape planning. This seems hopeful - the risk of leakage is very real and the participation of countries in the program in and of itself is not likely act as a mitigation measure. However, this could be helped by the shared, transparent data from satellite remote sensing and other sources. Clear consideration of how to deal with this risk as a major barrier to transformation is necessary.</p> <p>Overall STAP finds this project has a reasonably strong likelihood of making large-scale positive change; however, as written it does not convincingly demonstrate that the suite of interventions proposed will address root causes of deforestation in the Amazon.</p>	
<p>Part I: Project Information</p>	
<p>Project Components</p>	
<p>A brief description of the planned activities. Do these support the project's objectives? * The logical linkage between the activities and how these target the root causes/threats is not clearly articulated.</p>	<p>The project description follows the ASL Program's ToC, and its activities have been designed to address the priority environmental threats in the country's Amazon region. A project-specific ToC (narrative and diagram) has been developed and is presented in Section 2.2 of the Project Document.</p>
<p>Outputs</p>	
<p>Is the sum of the outputs likely to contribute to the outcomes? Specific outputs are not listed for each of the Outcomes; however, examples are given for each Component such as surveys, risk assessments, legal protocols, innovative technologies, technical extension extension services, etc. These are meant to be indicative and so it's not possible to know if, combined, they will contribute to the stated outcomes as it will likely be very country and site specific.</p>	<p>The GEF Datasheet summarizes the outputs and the outcomes of the Guyana Child Project and a detailed description is available in the Project Document in Section 2.2.</p>
<p>Part II: Project justification</p>	
<p>1. Project description.</p>	

1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description)	
Is the problem statement well-defined? There are some issues here.	Please see specific responses below.
<p>*weak land tenure for indigenous people/local communities is mentioned once as a root cause, but then this is never returned to, even in discussions of the expanding agricultural frontier, deforestation and IWT, despite the fact that land grabbing of indigenous land is part of this phenomenon, and the strong evidence indigenous-titled lands more effectively resist deforestation.</p> <p>* More broadly, the discussion on peoples of the Amazon, the extent of their occupation (including in lands subject to forestry), and how they use and rely on forest resources, is very minimal.</p>	
<p>*In the explanatory paragraphs (1-17) also, the issue of wild animal overexploitation (including wildmeat) should presumably be addressed - it is a primary cause of biodiversity loss in the Amazon, quite distinct from deforestation. It is a subset of overexploitation but quite distinct from timber harvesting. This should also be raised as an issue linked to extractives expansion and accompanying infrastructure - roads are generally associated with enabling and expanding wildmeat hunting.</p>	<p>Overexploitation of wild animals was identified as a threat in the project landscapes, and is described in Section 1.2 of the Project Document. Wildlife trafficking has also been identified as a potential area for knowledge exchange with the other participating countries to the ASL.</p>
<p>Are the barriers and threats well described, and substantiated by data and references? Barriers: This (p 40 onward) is not setting out barriers to change/transformation so much as articulating how the program will address drivers, and mainly proximate drivers. Barriers are what makes it hard to do this.</p>	<p>The barriers were refined in the project description for the Guyana child project.</p>
2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects	
<p>Is the baseline identified clearly? *para 50 suggests countries' efforts have dramatically slowed the rate of deforestation, and yet earlier information presented in the PFD makes clear that deforestation has been going steeply up in recent years (see Fig 1)? (And Amazon has just announced deforestation is 20% up on last year). So if these efforts are not working, it would be good to be clear on why these are not working if this project is to learn relevant lessons and have a high likelihood of success.</p>	<p>Since submission of the PFD, the context of deforestation in Guyana has been described in the Project Document.</p>
<p>*the info in this section doesn't tell us much about what the actual expected trajectories of deforestation etc are in these countries</p>	<p>The Guyana Child Project has a clear target of GHG emission reductions, based on avoided deforestation through improved planning and management practices.</p>
<p>Are the lessons learned from similar or related past GEF and non-GEF interventions described: *The program is building on experiences from ASL1, and indicates in certain cases it has learned lessons from these e.g. in component 1, on financing of protected areas. It also sets out a number of general lessons learned "how" to implement the program e.g. building trust, using a common language. However, given the experience from ASL1 and from other work, it would be good to have more explicit lessons learned reflected here about the "how" i.e. activities. What has been learned in previous projects about what works, and what doesn't? How has this shaped the components of the program? Or given ASL2 largely continues and expands ASL 1, did everything work well and as planned to deliver reduced deforestation etc? If so, can this be said explicitly.</p>	<p>The annual report (available from http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/407141582652061822/64857-ASL-Progress-Report-2018-19-FEB11.pdf) includes a chapter on emerging lessons from ASL, which were used for shaping the ASL2 child projects.</p>

3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project	
<p>What is the theory of change? There is no clear description of how the proposed actions will tackle and change root causes. Much of the language in the TOC is rather general and vague, encompassing a very broad array of possible interventions (e.g. "governance and incentives for protected and productive landscapes are enhanced through adoption of national policies and strategies which support sustainable development and aim to minimize deforestation and loss of ecosystem services"), making it hard to discern a sharp conceptual analysis. The Theory of Change only partly addresses root causes in a convincing way. In some activities it seems to address proximate drivers rather than tackling underlying root causes. *It would be helpful to include a diagram for the problem statement, showing how root causes lead to drivers, and then a different diagram for the TOC. Currently these are rather confusingly combined into one.</p>	<p>The Guyana Child project was designed to tackle the root causes and proximate drivers prioritized by Guyana for the ASL, as was advised by STAP. The activities and TOC are described in the project document.</p>
<p>*One element which is clearly needed in the region but which seems to fall between component 1 and component 2 is support for sustainable forest enterprises and sustainable use within PAs, many of which are indigenous territories (in which people depend on use of the forest). Where does this fit in?</p>	<p>Sustainable forest or other land use activities within PAs is included in the project's component 1, which will aim to improve natural resource use within the PA. The KMPA is an IUCN Category VI PA and is accessed by indigenous communities that live nearby for traditional use.</p>
7) innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up	
<p>Is there a clearly-articulated vision of how the innovation will be scaled-up, for example, over time, across geographies, among institutional actors? *There is a vision of how these innovations will scale in various ways, although more explicit consideration of forms of scaling and the barriers likely to be encountered in each would be welcome.</p>	<p>Project Innovation and scaling up have been described in Section 3.6 of the Project Document.</p>
<p>2. Stakeholders. Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase: Indigenous people and local communities; Civil society organizations; Private sector entities. If none of the above, please explain why. In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.</p>	
<p>Have all the key relevant stakeholders been identified to cover the complexity of the problem, and project implementation barriers? The project describes the roles of various stakeholders throughout the PFD and states that participant countries will be conducting consultations with key stakeholders for their areas, including indigenous people, local communities, NGOs, private sector, etc. Therefore it is likely (but should be confirmed) that this information will be developed more fully during PPG stage and before the actual projects are initiated.</p>	<p>A Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been prepared by the project and is included in the submission package.</p>
<p>What are the stakeholders' roles, and how will their combined roles contribute to robust project design, to achieving global environmental outcomes, and to lessons learned and knowledge? See above</p>	<p>See above.</p>

<p>3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. Please briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis). Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes/no/ tbd. If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality: access to and control over resources; participation and decision-making; and/or economic benefits or services. Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators? yes/no /tbd</p>	
<p>Have gender differentiated risks and opportunities been identified, and were preliminary response measures described that would address these differences? Each country project will develop gender sensitive strategies during project preparation.</p>	<p>A Gender Action Plan has been prepared, based on an analysis of risks and opportunities, and will be implemented as part of the project. The Gender Action Plan is included in the submission.</p>
<p>6. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other related initiatives</p>	
<p>Is there adequate recognition of previous projects and the learning derived from them? There is little evidence presented here that the project is learning from experience in what types of intervention work in practice to combat deforestation etc (not just "how").</p>	<p>The annual report (available from http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/407141582652061822/64857-ASL-Progress-Report-2018-19-FEB11.pdf) includes a chapter on emerging lessons from ASL, which were used for shaping the ASL2 child projects.</p>
<p>Have specific lessons learned from previous projects been cited? There are some 'lessons learned' discussed throughout the PFD which are interesting, such as the importance of ex-ante land occupation planning processes (para 42.) and para 110 lists several lessons learned from implementation of ASL 1 and other projects in the region; however, as mentioned previously these are mainly related to the overall process of developing a large-scale program.</p>	<p>Please see earlier answer regarding lessons learned.</p>
<p>USA COMMENTS - JULY 3, 2019</p>	
<p>Comments</p>	
<p>Risk assessment. It will be important that the child projects more fulsomely assess and incorporate risk (including a monitoring and tracking component) from infrastructure planned as part of the Initiative for the Integration of the Regional Infrastructure of South America (IIRSA) plan, including the planned trans-amazon railway.</p>	<p>The ASL Guyana Child Project will monitor infrastructure risks in the project landscape, the project aims to improve planning and governance mechanisms to mitigate such risks.</p>
<p>NORWAY - DENMARK COMMENTS - MAY 18, 2019</p>	
<p>Comments</p>	
<p>General</p>	
<p>The Program Framework Document (PFD) for Phase II of the program suggests adding four additional countries; Bolivia, Ecuador, Guyana and Suriname. We would like more background and analysis regarding this decision, as well as more information about the GEF's and the different agencies' collaboration with stakeholders and governments in the different countries.</p>	<p>WWF Guianas has a history of good collaboration in Guyana, both with government partners, communities, and the CSO/NGO network. WWF-US was</p>

	selected as the Implementing Agency for the ASL Guyana Child Project.
As the space for donor follow-up and seeking additional information is limited, we recommend that country focal points invite donors for an information session in the specific capitals describing the experiences from phase 1 and presenting the new activities under phase 2.	The project can present activities and share information with donors through ASL-organized events. The Guyana team is also willing to host donors within the capital to present the project activities under phase 2.
GUYANA	
There is little information on country level in this project. It is not clear about where the project aims to work, how they will work, which players they will team up with and how. There is little information on an activity/ output level. Links with the current work being done on REDD+ through the Norway-Guyana agreement, and current projects undertaken in the country should be mentioned. For example- the MRV project being done through CI/Guyana Forestry Commission could be extremely relevant here.	<p>The project has been well elaborated, with detailed activities presented in the Project Document.</p> <p>The project will link to work on REDD+ through the Norway-Guyana agreement (the first agreement has expired, the Government of Guyana has expressed interest in a second agreement), and MRVS Phase Three, which will include annual routine reporting on forest carbon emissions.</p>

Annex C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG) (If requesting for PPG reimbursement, please provide details in the table below:

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
Technical Consultant: Jake Emmerson Bicknell	32,625	23,001	
Lead Consultant: EcoAdvisors, Inc.	70,142	44,342	
Internal Program Agreement with WWF-Guianas (includes gender consultant, stakeholder engagement consultation,	37,233	37,293	35,364

workshop/travel costs for consultations, ProDoc development)			
Safeguards Consultant	10,000		10,000
Total	150,000	104,636	45,364

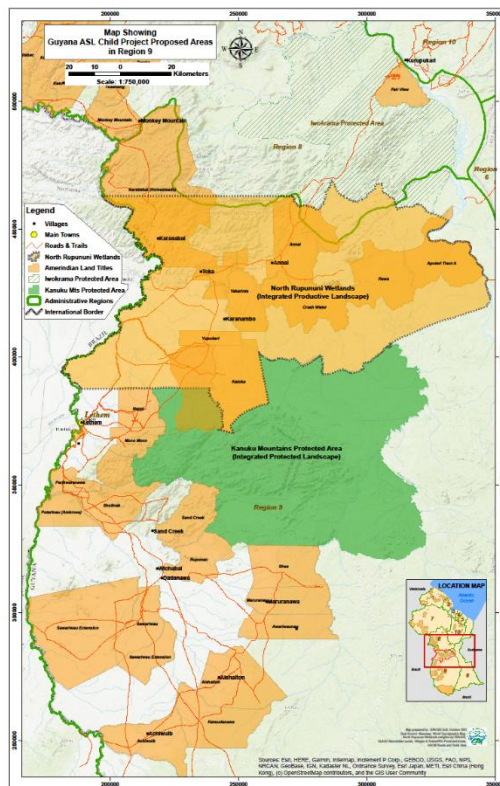
Annex D: Calendar of Expected Reflows (if non-grant instrument is used)

N/A

Annex E: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

Please attach the geographical location and map of the project area, if possible.

- Kanuku Mountains Protected Area: 3.17682° N, -59.5957° W
- North Rupununi Wetlands: 4.035903° N, -59.311544° W



Annex F: GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Core Indicator 1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use				611,000		
	<i>Hectares (1.1+1.2)</i>						
	<i>Expected</i>			Achieved			
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE		
		<i>800,000</i>	<i>611,000</i>				
Indicator 1.1	Terrestrial protected areas newly created						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares				
			<i>Expected</i>		Achieved		
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE		
		<i>800,000</i>					
		Sum	<i>800,000</i>				
Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE		
	<i>Kanuku Mountains Protected Area</i>	41049	VI	611,000		<i>611,000</i>	
		Sum	<i>611,000</i>		<i>611,000</i>		
Core Indicator 4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)				901,800		
	<i>Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)</i>						
	<i>Expected</i>			Expected			
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE		
		<i>40,000</i>	<i>901,800</i>				
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity						
			Hectares				
			<i>Expected</i>		Achieved		
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE		
			<i>40,000</i>				
		Area 'B'					
		North Rupununi Wetlands		<i>900,000</i>			
Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems						
			Hectares				
			<i>Expected</i>		Achieved		
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE		
			<i>1,800</i>				
Core Indicator 6	Greenhouse gas emission mitigated				847,406 <i>Metric tons of CO₂e)</i>		
	<i>Expected metric tons of CO₂e (6.1+6.2)</i>						
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE		
	Expected CO ₂ e (direct)	<i>471,500</i>	<i>72,489</i>				
	Expected CO ₂ e (indirect)		<i>774,917</i>				
Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector						
	<i>Expected metric tons of CO₂e</i>						

		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)	471,500	72,489		
	Expected CO2e (indirect)		774,917		
	Anticipated start year of accounting		2024		
	Duration of accounting		6		
Core Indicator 11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment				700
		Number			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Female	280	350		
	Male	420	350		
	<i>Total</i>	700	700		

Annex G: GEF Project Taxonomy Worksheet

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Influencing models			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transform policy and regulatory environments		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convene multi-stakeholder alliances		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrate innovative approaches		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deploy innovative financial instruments		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholders			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Peoples		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Sector		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Capital providers	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Financial intermediaries and market facilitators	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Large corporations	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SMEs	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individuals/Entrepreneurs	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Grant Pilot	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Project Reflow	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficiaries		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Communities		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civil Society		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Based Organization	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Governmental Organization	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academia	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Trade Unions and Workers Unions	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Type of Engagement		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Dissemination	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partnership	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultation	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Participation	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Awareness Raising	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Public Campaigns	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Behavior Change	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity, Knowledge and Research			

	<input type="checkbox"/> Enabling Activities		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity Development		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge Generation and Exchange		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Targeted Research		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Learning		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theory of Change	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adaptive Management	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indicators to Measure Change	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge and Learning		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge Management	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity Development	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Learning	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder Engagement Plan		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender Equality			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender Mainstreaming		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficiaries	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Women groups	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sex-disaggregated indicators	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender-sensitive indicators	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender results areas		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and control over natural resources	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Participation and leadership	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access to benefits and services	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity development	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Awareness raising	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge generation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Focal Areas/Theme			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated Programs		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Commodity Supply Chains (¹² Good Growth Partnership)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Commodities Production
			<input type="checkbox"/> Deforestation-free Sourcing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Screening Tools
			<input type="checkbox"/> High Conservation Value Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> High Carbon Stocks Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Soybean Supply Chain
			<input type="checkbox"/> Oil Palm Supply Chain
			<input type="checkbox"/> Beef Supply Chain
			<input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder Farmers
			<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptive Management
		<input type="checkbox"/> Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Resilience (climate and shocks)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Production Systems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Agroecosystems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Land and Soil Health
			<input type="checkbox"/> Diversified Farming
			<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Land and Water Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder Farming
			<input type="checkbox"/> Small and Medium Enterprises
			<input type="checkbox"/> Crop Genetic Diversity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Food Value Chains
			<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Dimensions
			<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-stakeholder Platforms
		<input type="checkbox"/> Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration	

			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Food Systems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Restoration
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Commodity Production
			<input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Land Use Planning
			<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Landscapes
			<input type="checkbox"/> Food Value Chains
			<input type="checkbox"/> Deforestation-free Sourcing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder Farmers
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Cities	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated urban planning
			<input type="checkbox"/> Urban sustainability framework
			<input type="checkbox"/> Transport and Mobility
			<input type="checkbox"/> Buildings
			<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal waste management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Green space
			<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Biodiversity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Food Systems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Energy efficiency
			<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Financing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Global Platform for Sustainable Cities
			<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Resilience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected Areas and Landscapes	
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial Protected Areas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal and Marine Protected Areas
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Productive Landscapes
			<input type="checkbox"/> Productive Seascapes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Based Natural Resource Management
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mainstreaming	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Extractive Industries (oil, gas, mining)
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry (Including HCVF and REDD+)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism
			<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & agrobiodiversity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries
			<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure
			<input type="checkbox"/> Certification (National Standards)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Certification (International Standards)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Species	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal Wildlife Trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Threatened Species
			<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife for Sustainable Development
			<input type="checkbox"/> Crop Wild Relatives
			<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Genetic Resources
			<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Genetic Resources
			<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock Wild Relatives
			<input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Alien Species (IAS)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biomes	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Mangroves
			<input type="checkbox"/> Coral Reefs
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sea Grasses
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rivers
			<input type="checkbox"/> Lakes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tropical Rain Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Tropical Dry Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Temperate Forests
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grasslands
			<input type="checkbox"/> Paramo
			<input type="checkbox"/> Desert
		<input type="checkbox"/> Financial and Accounting	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Payment for Ecosystem Services

			<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting
			<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Trust Funds
			<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Finance
		<input type="checkbox"/> Supplementary Protocol to the CBD	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Biosafety
			<input type="checkbox"/> Access to Genetic Resources Benefit Sharing
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forests		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Forest and Landscape Restoration	
			<input type="checkbox"/> REDD/REDD+
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest	
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amazon
			<input type="checkbox"/> Congo
			<input type="checkbox"/> Drylands
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Degradation		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Land Management	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem Approach
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community-Based NRM
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Livelihoods
			<input type="checkbox"/> Income Generating Activities
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Agriculture
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Pasture Management
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Forest/Woodland Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Fire Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Drought Mitigation/Early Warning
		<input type="checkbox"/> Land Degradation Neutrality	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Land Productivity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Land Cover and Land cover change
			<input type="checkbox"/> Carbon stocks above or below ground
		<input type="checkbox"/> Food Security	
	<input type="checkbox"/> International Waters		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ship	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Aquifer
			<input type="checkbox"/> River Basin
			<input type="checkbox"/> Lake Basin
		<input type="checkbox"/> Learning	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent toxic substances	
		<input type="checkbox"/> SIDS : Small Island Dev States	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Research	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Pollution	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent toxic substances
			<input type="checkbox"/> Plastics
			<input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient pollution from all sectors except wastewater
			<input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient pollution from Wastewater
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Plan preparation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Action Plan Implementation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Large Marine Ecosystems	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Marine Protected Area	

	<input type="checkbox"/> Biomes	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mangrove
		<input type="checkbox"/> Coral Reefs
		<input type="checkbox"/> Seagrasses
		<input type="checkbox"/> Polar Ecosystems
		<input type="checkbox"/> Constructed Wetlands
	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemicals and Waste	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mercury	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Artisanal and Scale Gold Mining	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Coal Fired Power Plants	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Coal Fired Industrial Boilers	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cement	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Ferrous Metals Production	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ozone	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Organic Pollutants	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sound Management of chemicals and Waste	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Waste Management	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste Management
		<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Waste
		<input type="checkbox"/> e-Waste
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emissions	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Disposal	
	<input type="checkbox"/> New Persistent Organic Pollutants	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Polychlorinated Biphenyls	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Plastics	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Eco-Efficiency	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides	
	<input type="checkbox"/> DDT - Vector Management	
	<input type="checkbox"/> DDT - Other	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Emissions	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Open Burning	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Best Available Technology / Best Environmental Practices	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Green Chemistry	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Change	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Adaptation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Finance
		<input type="checkbox"/> Least Developed Countries
		<input type="checkbox"/> Small Island Developing States
		<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Risk Management
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sea-level rise
		<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Resilience
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate information
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem-based Adaptation
		<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptation Tech Transfer
		<input type="checkbox"/> National Adaptation Programme of Action
		<input type="checkbox"/> National Adaptation Plan
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mainstreaming Adaptation
		<input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector
		<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation
		<input type="checkbox"/> Complementarity
		<input type="checkbox"/> Community-based Adaptation
		<input type="checkbox"/> Livelihoods
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Mitigation	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land Use
		<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Efficiency
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Urban Systems and Transport
		<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Transfer

			<input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy
			<input type="checkbox"/> Financing
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enabling Activities
		<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Transfer	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer
			<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Endogenous technology
			<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Needs Assessment
			<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptation Tech Transfer
		<input type="checkbox"/> United Nations Framework on Climate Change	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Nationally Determined Contribution