



**“Collaborative National Planning for an Inclusive and Effective Conservation Approach to reaching Global Biodiversity Framework Target 3”**

**G0037**

**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

**01/05/2022**

**GEF Agency: WWF US**

**Lead Executing Agency: WWF-US, Conservation Strategy Fund**

## 1. Introduction

Significant progress has been made in area-based conservation over the past century – particularly through conservation by Indigenous Peoples (IP) and local communities (LCs), and with the advent of protected areas (PAs) and landscape- and seascape-scale approaches. However, governments have, as a rule, underinvested in the legal protection and management of protected areas and OECMs. Around 4,900 or 33% of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) remained without protected area coverage in 2019. Moreover, the majority of PAs are state-governed and the PA networks have tended to be underfunded, leading to levels of management being insufficient to halt degradation ('paper parks').

Over the past twenty years, the area-based conservation paradigm has been changing. The 'new paradigm for protected areas' emerged as the concept of 'governance' was expanded to include IPLCs as legitimate governance authorities, in addition to state and private actors, under all management types. The area-based conservation paradigm took a further step forward when Parties to the CBD included reference to 'other effective area-based conservation measures' (OECMs) in Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. As we look towards 2022, the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (COP 15) is likely - through adoption of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework - to mark a further recognition of the role of diverse actors and sites within and beyond protected areas to inclusive and effective area-based conservation.

The Draft Target 3 of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is currently framed in the following way: *Ensure that at least 30 percent of land areas and of sea areas globally , especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.* Target 3 will incentivise countries to work towards increasing their area coverage of PAs and OECMs towards or exceeding the final agreed percentage target. This will require a range of governance and management approaches at the site-to-network level and the application of policy interventions, systems, tools, and partnerships that catalyze change and facilitate impact at scale.

The project proposes to support country planning to inclusively and effectively meet or exceed GBF Target 3. Project partners will develop an easily accessible guide to developing inclusive and effective national level plans to achieve Target 3. In five countries, the project will support a series of in-country consultations and workshops with a wide range of stakeholders relating to GBF Target 3 to discuss local-to-national level priorities, review data, gaps analysis and develop national plans. As part of this, project partners will support in-country assessment and documentation of baseline data and gaps assessment relating to enabling conditions for Target 3, setting out what exists and what additional data are required to support work towards Target 3 and then facilitate analysis of those findings to address selected, prioritized (non-exhaustive) data or knowledge gaps. These activities and output will feed into broader multi-stakeholder consultations about local-to-national priorities for Target 3, designed to be inclusive, with a focus on right-based approaches to conservation, and to plan for effective, connected and climate resilient systems of PAs and OECMs. This will result in 5 national plans for achieving or exceeding GBF Target 3.

The following are the main components of the present project:

**Project Objective:** Support country planning to inclusively and effectively meet or exceed GBF Target 3.

**Component 1: Develop inclusive and effective national level plans to achieve Target 3.**

**Outcomes 1.1:** Strengthened country planning/ capacity to meet/exceed GBF Target 3.

**Outputs 1.1.1:** A guide for countries to develop an inclusive and effective plan to meet or exceed GBF Target 3.

**Outputs 1.1.2:** National plans for five countries (developed through inclusive processes).

**Component 2: Knowledge products and M&E.**

**Outcomes 2.1:** Knowledge products are developed and shared with relevant rights holders and stakeholders to contribute to knowledge management.

**Outputs 2.1.1:** Capacity support and presentation materials for use by country representatives at the GEF Assembly in June 2022.

**Outputs 2.1.2:** Accessible project lessons and KM products and their dissemination, including dissemination of the guide and reports from 1.1.

**Outcomes 2.2:** M&E plan implemented for adaptive management.

**Outputs 2.2.1:** A monitoring and evaluation system, mainstreaming gender equality, to gauge the project's implementation progress and impact.

## 2. Regulations and Requirements

### Government Policies and Regulations

The project will select five GEF eligible countries to develop inclusive and effective plans towards meeting or exceeding Target 3. Currently the project is still in the selection process for the five countries. The project will follow any national legal policies and regulations pertaining to stakeholder engagement applicable to this project, including public consultation and disclosure requirements.

### WWF Standard on Stakeholder Engagement

The WWF GEF Agency requires all GEF projects to comply with 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](#). Stakeholder engagement is an overarching term that encompasses a range of activities and interactions with stakeholders throughout the project cycle and is an essential aspect of good project management.

The WWF Standard on Stakeholder Engagement requires the Executing Agency to engage stakeholders throughout the life of the project; communicate significant changes to project stakeholders and consult on potential risks and impacts; establish a grievance redress mechanism and register, and respond to grievances throughout project execution; and disseminate information in a way that is relevant, transparent, objective, meaningful, and easily accessible. The Standard on Stakeholder Engagement promotes an inclusive process to support the development of strong, constructive and responsive relationships that help to identify and manage risks, and which encourage positive outcomes for stakeholders and project activities.

The project will comply with WWF and government restrictions to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. During field visits and in-country travel, all attempts to practice social distancing will be made, as well as the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

### 3. Project Stakeholders

The project acknowledges that a key factor to accomplish Target 3 is the principle that countries' national-level planning processes are inclusive; i.e., that they are rights-based and include the full and effective participation of all relevant rights-holders and stakeholders. It is also imperative that existing or new protected areas and newly identified OECMs are governed and managed in ways that meet principles of equity, including recognition, procedure and distribution (CBD Decision 14/8, Annex II, 2018).

Stakeholder engagement is central to the objective of the project to support collaborative planning for an inclusive and effective conservation approach to Global Biodiversity Framework Target 3. Throughout the full process, stakeholder engagement will be a focus and include relevant **government ministries, national and international NGOs, IP federations/representation, local community leaders, and other key sectoral and interest groups**. Stakeholder engagement, including workshops and dedicated follow up, will capture perspectives, needs, gaps, and barriers related to area conservation and expansion, and promote: discussion about how to ensure inclusive processes required to advance national 30x30 Target 3 agendas; identification of challenges and sensitives; and discussions on appropriate processes for inclusivity. Stakeholders will require specific engagement strategies, and this may include the use of social media and high-impact messaging.

Additionally, project partners will support country representatives to present progress at the GEF Assembly in June 2022 and potentially at CBD COP 15 (if it occurs within the project period and side events are held). Project partners will also ensure that all project outputs, including lessons, are disseminated widely. A monitoring and evaluation system will be in place throughout, incorporating gender mainstreaming, to gauge the project's implementation progress and impact.

**During the design stage, project partners have identified broad categories of stakeholders, as well as their expected interest in the project and their expected participation, listed below. During the implementation stage of this project, each country will identify specific actors.**

Stakeholder Type	Description	Interests in the Project	Type of Engagement
<b>Global Stakeholders</b>	<p>International Organizations with a high level of engagement with intergovernmental processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC).</li> <li>• International NGOs such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).</li> <li>• GEF Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group.</li> <li>• Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy.</li> <li>• UNDP.</li> <li>• Bilateral supporters such as the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. (BMZ), KfW, AfD.</li> </ul>	<p>Global organizations are supporting countries in their goals for conservation, including GBF Target 3. For example, WCMC is supporting countries to report PAs and OECMs, including through a recent Bezos Earth Fund grant focusing on The Andes and the Congo Basin.</p> <p>International NGOs are working in specific regions to support Target 3-related activities. Bilateral aid agencies are providing funding to countries to support Target 3-related activities.</p> <p>These organizations will be identified and engaged in the project, for example in global consultations and reviewing key documents from the project. In countries where these organizations have significant presence and interest in supporting Target 3, and as identified by government and key stakeholders as appropriate, they will be invited to the stakeholder engagement process under Output 1.1.2.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtual webinar and focus group discussions to critically engage with the issues at the start of the project.</li> </ul>
<b>Governments</b>	<p>Relevant governmental agencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry/department acting as the CBD national focal point.</li> <li>• Local government entities, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Governments in the five selected countries will be engaged as a key partner of the project. Governments are interested in the contributions that protected and conserved areas can make to CBD goals, including GBF Target 3, and their Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Climate Agreement and towards meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtual webinar and focus group discussions to critically engage with the issues at the start of the project.</li> <li>• A peer-review process to obtain feedback from a representative cross-section of audiences for the guide. (Component 1).</li> <li>• Series of in-country consultations and workshops with a wide range of stakeholders relating to GBF Target 3 to review data, gaps analysis and develop national plans (Component 1).</li> </ul>

Stakeholder Type	Description	Interests in the Project	Type of Engagement
<b>Communities and Indigenous Peoples</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Communities.</li> <li>Federations.</li> <li>Indigenous Peoples.</li> </ul>	<p>Communities and Indigenous Peoples in the five selected countries will be engaged as a key partner of the project.</p> <p>Many Indigenous Peoples and local communities are interested in leading and partnering on rights-based conservation within their territories and areas, and will be exploring how to contribute to GBF Target 3.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Virtual webinar and focus group discussions to critically engage with the issues at the start of the project.</li> <li>A peer-review process to obtain feedback from a representative cross-section of audiences for the guide. (Component 1).</li> <li>Series of in-country consultations and workshops with a wide range of stakeholders relating to GBF Target 3 to review data, gaps analysis and develop national plans (Component 1).</li> </ul>
<b>Community-based Organizations</b>	<p>Community based organization (CBO) refers to a non-profit organization aimed at making desired improvements to a community's social health, well-being, and overall functioning.</p>	<p>Main community based organizations in the five selected countries will be engaged as a key partner of the project.</p> <p>Local analysis, compensation, community support, alternative livelihoods, education, and governance must all be addressed in order for increased protected areas to be implemented effectively.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Virtual webinar and focus group discussions to critically engage with the issues at the start of the project.</li> <li>A peer-review process to obtain feedback from a representative cross-section of audiences for the guide (Component 1).</li> <li>Series of in-country consultations and workshops with a wide range of stakeholders relating to GBF Target 3 to review data, gaps analysis and develop national plans (Component 1).</li> </ul>
<b>NGOs - international and local (listing only international NGOs due to not having defined the countries)</b>	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Nature Conservancy.</li> <li>Conservation International.</li> <li>World Conservation Society.</li> <li>The National Geographic Society.</li> <li>The Sierra Club.</li> <li>Greenpeace.</li> </ul>	<p>Donors and conservation NGOs are supporting both the global movement for 30x30 and individual countries' progress. Some key organizations are working actively on Target 3 by leading initiatives as <a href="#">the Campaign for Nature</a>, which is a partnership of the Wyss Campaign for Nature, National Geographic Society, and a growing coalition of more than 100 conservation organizations around the world. Specifically, the Campaign for Nature is calling on world leaders to:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Virtual webinar and focus group discussions to critically engage with the issues at the start of the project.</li> </ul>

Stakeholder Type	Description	Interests in the Project	Type of Engagement
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ commit to protecting at least 30% of the planet by 2030;</li> <li>○ help mobilize financial resources to ensure protected areas are properly managed; and,</li> <li>○ approach biodiversity conservation in a way that fully integrates and respects indigenous leadership and indigenous rights.</li> </ul>	
<b>Philanthropic Organizations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Bezos Earth Fund (BEF).</li> <li>● Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.</li> <li>● Ben and Lucy Ana Walton.</li> <li>● The Pew Charitable Trusts.</li> </ul>	Donors and conservation NGOs are supporting both the global movement for 30x30 and individual countries' progress.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WWF country offices will work with the relevant actors to bring together through inclusive consultations and workshops a wide range of rights holders and stakeholders -to discuss the issues relevant to developing national level plans for GBF Target.</li> </ul>
<b>Academia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Universities at the national level.</li> </ul>	Biodiversity research generates critically important knowledge for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)'s goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WWF country offices will work with the relevant actors to bring together through inclusive consultations and workshops a wide range of rights holders and stakeholders -to discuss the issues relevant to developing national level plans for GBF Target.</li> </ul>
<b>Private Sector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ecotourism Business.</li> <li>● Financial institutions.</li> <li>● Agribusiness.</li> <li>● Private companies.</li> <li>● Producers' associations.</li> <li>● Microfinance agencies and banks.</li> </ul>	Conservation areas generate economic benefits (for example, revenue from nature tourism and ecosystem services), making PAs/Nature as an independent economic sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WWF country offices will work with the relevant actors to bring together through inclusive consultations and workshops a wide range of rights holders and stakeholders -to discuss the issues relevant to developing national level plans for GBF Target 3.</li> </ul>

Stakeholder Type	Description	Interests in the Project	Type of Engagement
<b>Multilaterals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Climate Investment Funds (CIF).</li> <li>● Green Climate Fund (GCF).</li> <li>● Global Environmental Facility (GEF).</li> </ul>	<p>Multilaterals are interested in supporting innovative models that provide long-term funding for protected areas to governments, NGOs and Indigenous Peoples, and local communities accountable for measured outcomes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WWF country offices will work with the relevant actors to bring together through inclusive consultations and workshops a wide range of rights holders and stakeholders -to discuss the issues relevant to developing national level plans for GBF Target.</li> </ul>
<b>Program &amp; Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● World Bank GEF-6/7 Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program.</li> <li>● WB-GEF GWP.</li> <li>● UNEP-GEF.</li> <li>● Congo Basin Programs.</li> <li>● Earth for Life.</li> <li>● Enduring Earth.</li> <li>● Project Finance for Permanence (PFP).</li> <li>● Legacy Landscapes Fund.</li> <li>● The Blue Nature Alliance to Expand and Improve Conservation.</li> <li>● Pristine Seas.</li> <li>● GEF CI/ IUCN.</li> </ul>	<p>A series of PFPs are under development and implementation, which are building financial and management capacity for area-based conservation in target geographies around the world. PFPs empower local partners, align resources and efforts toward a specific conservation goal, improve management effectiveness and institutional capacities, and directly address the challenges and threats to protected and conserved areas to generate long term conservation results.</p>	<p>The proposed Target 3 GEF Project will coordinate and build off some existing best-practice, wide reaching knowledge sharing platforms, to disseminate results.</p> <p>The project will coordinate with and learn from the following programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Amazon Region Protected Areas for Life Project (ARPA).</li> <li>● Forever Costa Rica.</li> <li>● Bhutan For Life .</li> <li>● Peru’s Natural Legacy.</li> <li>● Heritage Colombia.</li> </ul>

#### 4. Summary of any previous stakeholder engagement activities

In late-October of 2021, WWF-US was requested to be the GEF Agency and lead execution of a project with the Conservation Strategy Fund to ‘design a model for national 30x30 blueprints and test and apply it in 5-8 selected GEF-eligible countries.’ This includes supporting countries to present their progress at the GEF Assembly (mid-2022) and finalize the work by April 2023.



Currently, the project has held initial meetings with WWF Offices and will engage with Country GEF Operational Focal Points, CBD Focal Points, and relevant lead Ministries. Below is a summary of the meetings and conversations held prior to project approval.

Dates	Participants	General Concerns and Commentaries	How concerns were addressed
<p><b>Oct 28 – Dec 13<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p>Meetings with eight WWF Country Offices. WWF-US, Conservation Strategy Fund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How much support will each country receive?               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will they have access to experts and staff?</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Timing is tight for stakeholders’ engagements, creating a pre-plan for June GEF Assembly and finalizing a document of a plan/strategy by December 2022.</li> <li>● Government involvement requires a lot of effort on the part of country offices.</li> <li>● Working through the pandemic and covid impacts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Given the very short timeframe for project development (under two months), the five participating countries will be selected early in implementation. A selection process and criteria for selection of the 5 countries has been developed and agreed upon, as follows.</li> <li>● The selection criteria will take into account the respective Government’s willingness to generate plans for Target 3 in the short project timeframe.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Oct 28</b></p>	<p>GEF, STAP, WWF-US, and Conservation Strategy Fund.</p>	<p>Discussion on the general objectives of the study, with the goal of presenting the study at the next GEF Assembly in May/June 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Need to think about taking previous global studies down to the country level.</li> <li>● Political will and how to address subsidies and turning those into incentives rather than the current perverse incentives.</li> <li>● Consider the role of protected and conserved areas to ensure rights of local communities to access land and resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hold virtual consultations with in-country representatives from WWF and CSF to assess against the full list of criteria,</li> <li>● Hold virtual consultations with relevant government ministries, GEF OFPs and CBD Focal Points to discuss the project and gauge willingness and interest to engage.</li> <li>● The selection criteria takes into account Commitment to IPLC approaches, such as ICCAs and OECMs, and leadership in IPLC conservation.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Nov 2</b></p>	<p>GEF, STAP, WWF-US, and Conservation Strategy Fund.</p>	<p>Conversation on how to build 5 cases for the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ IPLC engagement as part of the process.</li> <li>○ Even where we have data we are limited - ARPA is 15% of Amazon and only PAs - not the whole country and not OECMs.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is the purpose - is it a campaign to get countries to want to do 30x30? Or is it a technical pathway to understand how to get to 30x30?</li> <li>● Every PFP is totally different because it's bottom up, and reflects individual countries' needs. (Unless framework means broad actions?). And expanding 30x30 (beyond NPA and specific geographic focus) would likely make this even more varied country to country.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A selection process and criteria for selection of the 5 countries.</li> <li>● WWF country offices will work with the relevant governmental agencies and other relevant actors to bring together through inclusive consultations and workshops a wide range of rights holders and stakeholders - such as other government departments, IPLC representatives and federations, private actors, academics and NGOs/CBOs, with a cross-cutting focus on gender - to discuss the issues relevant to developing national level plans for GBF Target 3.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Nov 22</b></p>	<p>WWF-US and GEF Sec.</p>	<p>Conversations on Table B:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It benefits the work to do some specific highlights and elements; what does inclusive mean within the frame? What does it mean for IPLC to be in the driver's seat? Make the most of having a global stage to highlight issues.</li> <li>● Inclusion of marine areas - how to represent that in Table B. Marine areas are often under separate programs, e.g., LMEs, UNEP, or UNDP. We need to be mindful of those frameworks and how to engage those. Include how to manage that complexity in the Guide.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The selection criteria take into account to commitment to IPLC approaches, such as ICCAs and OECMs, and leadership in IPLC conservation,</li> <li>● Countries can use the evolving text of Target 3 to guide the focus of this section, that should also consider the drivers of biodiversity loss (direct exploitation of organisms, climate change, pollution and invasive non-native species) and issues related to inclusive and effective conservation, including human rights and land tenure of IPLCs.</li> <li>● The proposed alternative scenario is focused at the national level and involves a substantially more inclusive and effective approach to area-based conservation as the basis for achieving or exceeding Target 3 of the GBF. There are comprehensive, nationally-tailored plans of action, taking account of data and analysis needs, gaps, barriers, budget, inter alia, to guide country efforts</li> </ul>

			<p>to achieve Target 3 objectives and guidance with respect to development of such plans. These plans will include the identification of key terrestrial and marine areas that could contribute to achieve the 30x30 target at the national level, as well as all the potential land and sea areas that could be added and further contribute to achieve the target.</p>
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## 5. Stakeholder Engagement Plan

To achieve the goal of advancing implementation and the achievement of Action Target 3 of the draft GBF, each project component has a strong stakeholder focus. Stakeholder engagement processes will be central to the development of blueprints to ensure ownership and buy-in amongst government, private sector, IPLCs, and the public. Different stakeholders will require different engagement strategies including the use of social media and high-impact messaging.

Given the very short timeframe for project development (under two months), the five participating countries will be selected early in implementation. A selection process and criteria for selection of the 5 countries has been developed and agreed upon:

### Process:

- Develop a long list of countries that meet the goals of geographic representation of the GEF client countries and some level of commitment towards Target 3,
- Hold virtual consultations with in-country representatives from WWF and CSF to assess against the full list of criteria,
- Create a short list with a balance of: geographic representation, and an LDC, a SIDS, and a MIC,
- Hold virtual consultations with GEF OFPs and CBD Focal Points to discuss the project, and
- Finalize the list of 5 countries.

### Selection Criteria:

- Government willingness to generate plans for Target 3 in the short project timeframe,
- Likelihood of engagement of civil society and IPLCs in the project and good relationship and attitude of government and project partners to civil society and IPLCs,
- Commitment to IPLC approaches, such as ICCAs and OECMs, and leadership in IPLC conservation,
- WWF office capacity (and CSF reach) to facilitate the project implementation in-country, especially the stakeholder engagement,
- Availability of technical expertise in-country to do the required analyses,
- Strong commitment to Target 3 (high ambition coalition member),
- Low risk of political turnover or instability in the project period,
- Capacity to influence other countries, and
- Availability of relevant data
- Contributes to representation of the GEF client country diversity: terrestrial, marine, LDC, SIDS, UMIC, MIC, mega-diverse..

Some of the main stakeholder engagement activities are described below:

### Component 1: Develop inclusive and effective national level plans to achieve Target 3

- Virtual webinar and focus group discussions at the global level to critically engage with the issues at the start of the project.

- Facilitate a peer-review process to obtain feedback from a representative cross-section of right holders and stakeholders, including IPLCs.

WWF country offices will collaborate with relevant governmental agencies (e.g., a ministry/department acting as the CBD national focal point) and other relevant actors to bring together a diverse range of rights holders and stakeholders - including other government departments, IPLC representatives and federations, private actors, academics, and NGOs/CBOs - to discuss issues relevant to development of plans. A stakeholder analysis will be completed at an early stage of the project, with direct linkages to the project Stakeholder Engagement Plan. The work will be guided by a short, 5 page document, produced by the project partners that set out the key elements of planning for GBF Target 3 in ways that are inclusive and deliver effective conservation outcomes (as outlined in Output 1.1.1).

Subject to reasonable national-level flexibility and considerations such as COVID, the consultation process at the national level, under Output 1.1.2 will involve the following phases:

- *Awareness and capacity*: consultations will first focus on right holder and stakeholder-specific workshops where certain groups require awareness raising and/or capacity building to enable them to engage with the issues. This will likely include IPLC groups.
- *Issue identification*: consultations to identify key opportunities as well as issues that need to be discussed or barriers that need to be resolved to support inclusive and effective GBF Target 3 plans.
- *Issue engagement*: consultations to address the issues and/or barriers identified in phase 2.
- *Development of plans*: consultations and working groups to develop a draft GBF Target 3 plan.
- *Inclusive review*: consultations among all key rights holders and stakeholders to provide feedback on the draft plan.
- *Finalisation*: Agreement by all relevant rights holders and stakeholders.

The meetings will be held in ways that make them as accessible as possible to the relevant rights holder and stakeholders, i.e., not held only in the respective capital cities. Rapporteurs will ensure all proceedings are recorded and participants in all activities should be documented. This work will begin immediately when the project is agreed and should end just before the end of the project.

#### **Component 2: Knowledge products and M&E**

- Knowledge products are developed and shared with relevant stakeholders to contribute to knowledge management.
- All the national plans, guides, and related reports will be hosted and disseminated by governmental agencies of the 5 selected countries. They will decide the most effective and inclusive manner to disseminate these reports and their main findings with relevant stakeholders in each country, and these may include emails to at least the people who attended the consultative processes and other relevant individuals and bodies, national level in person or virtual information sharing sessions, and/or the development of multimedia products to share the plans.

## 6. Resources and Responsibilities

The PMU in WWF-US will be responsible for planning and budgeting for stakeholder engagement. In each country, the WWF Office, in coordination with the government, will be responsible for facilitating and documenting stakeholder engagement.

The WWF GEF Agency is responsible for oversight. The Project Management Unit (PMU), particularly the Program Officer, is responsible for executing the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and overall compliance with the WWF Standard on Stakeholder Engagement. Moreover, the WWF Country Offices will be responsible for supporting the implementation of the appropriate and inclusive consulting process for each selected country. As stakeholder engagement is a core part of project activities, the budget for stakeholder engagement activities has been incorporated into the project budget.

## 6. Grievance Mechanism

The grievance mechanism is designed to enable the receipt of complaints of affected women and men and public concerns regarding the environmental and social performance of the project. In short, the aim of the mechanism is to provide people fearing, or suffering, adverse impacts with the opportunity to be heard and assisted. It is designed to address the concerns of the community(ies) with a particular project, identify the root causes of the conflicts, and find options for the resolution of grievances. Therefore, it is an essential tool to foster good cooperation with project stakeholders and ensure adequate delivery of previously agreed-upon results.

This mechanism is designed to:

- Address potential breaches of WWF's policies and procedures;
- Be independent, transparent, and effective;
- Be accessible to project-affected people;
- Keep complainants abreast of progress of cases brought forward; and
- Maintain records on all cases and issues brought forward for review.

**The Project Management Unit (PMU) will be responsible for informing project-affected parties about the grievance mechanisms.** Contact information of the staff member responsible for the grievance mechanism in the PMU will be made publicly available.

### **WWF GEF Agency Grievance Mechanism**

Project-affected communities and other interested stakeholders may raise a grievance at any time to the WWF GEF Agency. Contact information of the WWF GEF Agency will be made publicly available.

A grievance can be filed with the Project Complaints Officer (PCO), a WWF staff member fully independent from the WWF GEF Agency, who is responsible for the WWF Accountability and Grievance Mechanism and who can be reached at:

**Email:** [SafeguardsComplaint@wwfus.org](mailto:SafeguardsComplaint@wwfus.org).

**Mailing address:**

Project Complaints Officer Safeguards Complaints,  
World Wildlife Fund  
1250 24th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Complaints may be submitted in the Affected Party's native language and should include the following information:

- Complainant's name and contact information;
- If not filed directly by the complainant, proof that those representing the affected people have authority to do so;
- The specific project or program of concern;
- The harm that is or may be resulting from the project;
- The relevant Environmental and Social Safeguards policy or provision (if known);
- Any other relevant information or documents;
- Any actions taken so far to resolve the problem, including contacting WWF;
- Proposed solutions; and
- Whether confidentiality is requested (stating reasons).

The PCO will respond within 10 business days of receipt, and claims will be filed and included in project monitoring.

Stakeholders may also submit a complaint online or over the phone through an independent third-party provider at <https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/59041/index.html> or <https://report.whistleb.com/en/wwf>.

## 7. Monitoring and Reporting

Progress against the Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be monitored and reported on throughout implementation.

The following comprises the monitoring and reporting activities to be undertaken with respect to stakeholder engagement **by the PMU**:

- During project inception this SEP will be shared with the recipient countries for their review and suggested revisions. The review will ensure that the list of project stakeholders and methods of engagement remain appropriate.
- Activities related to stakeholder engagement will be documented and reported by the PMU every 6 months in a Project Progress Report (as part of regular reporting). The project Results Framework and Annual Work Plan and Budget will track beneficiaries of the project and activities related to the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.
- Stakeholder Engagement activities and progress will be monitored through the following indicators:
  - Indicator SEP 1: Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, indigenous peoples and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase on an annual basis

- Indicator SEP 2: Number persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase (on an annual basis)
- Indicator SEP 3: Number of engagements (e.g. meeting, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)

The **WWF GEF Agency** will undertake annual supervision missions to ensure compliance, and report on progress against the Stakeholder Engagement Plan annually to the GEF through Project Implementation Reports.



### Appendix 1: Stakeholder Analysis Template

This template will be filled in during the project implementation by each WWF office.

<b>Stakeholder Type</b>	<b>Stakeholder Name</b>	<b>Interest/Involvement in the Project</b>	<b>Project Effect on Stakeholder / Stakeholder Influence on the Project</b>
<b>Government of ____</b>			
<b>Communities and Indigenous People</b>			
<b>Community Based Organizations</b>			
<b>NGOs</b>			
<b>Private Sector</b>			
<b>GEF Multilaterals</b>			