Annex H: Child Projects

Country	Project Title
Regional	Transformational Change in Sustainable Forest Management in Transboundary Landscapes of the Congo Basin
Cameroon	Integrated management of Cameroon's forest landscapes in the Congo Basin
Central African Republic	Scaling up ecological corridors and transboundary connectivity through integrated natural resources management in the Ngotto Forest landscape and Mbaéré-Bodingué National Park
Democratic Republic of Congo	Community-based forested management in the Grand Kivu and Lake Tele-Tumba
Equatorial Guinea	Transforming and scaling up results and lessons learned in the Monte Alen and Rio Campo Landscapes through an inclusive Landscape-scale approach, effective land use planning and promotion of local governance
Gabon	Transforming Forest Landscape Governance in Minkebe/TRIDOM
Republic of Congo	Integrated Community-Based Conservation of Peatlands Ecosystems and Promotion of Ecotourism in Lac Télé Landscape of Republic of Congo

GEF-7 CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT

CHILD PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Child Project
PROGRAM: IP SFM Congo

Child Project Title:	Transformational Change in Sustainable Forest Management in Transboundary Landscapes of the Congo Basin
Country:	Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo (ROC)
Lead Agency	UNEP
GEF Agency(ies):	IUCN, UN Environment, World Bank, WWF, UNDP

INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
SFM IP: Promoting effective coordination for sustainable forest management	GEFTF	8,192,366	65,963,000
Total Project Cost		8,192,366	65,963,000

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: Catalyze Transformational Change in Transboundary Landscapes by Scaling Best Practices and Innovations at a Regional Level

Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. Integrated Transboundary Land Use Planning	TA	1.1. Land use decisions in three transboundary landscapes in the Congo Basin are based on integrated land use management plans (ILUMPs) developed in a consultative manner and based on economic valuation	1.1.1 Development of CBSL land use planning methodology through a consultative process 1.1.2. Training conducted for national stakeholders of the 6 basin countries on the above methodology 1.1.3. Regional Learning and Leadership Group on ecosystem services mainstreaming established and capacitated to implement the political and technical process to secure ILUMPs that include ecosystem services 1.1.4. ILUMPs developed for critical areas of 2-3 transboundary landscapes that are not covered by national child projects 1.1.5. Five transboundary[1] ILUMPs consulted, elaborated and endorsed by COMIFAC for implementation	GEFTF	1,900,000	17,810,010

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[1] The CBSL program focuses on a few transboundary landscapes in the heart of the Congo Basin namely, TNS, TRIDOM, Cuvette Centrale/ LTLT, Grand Kivu, Monte Alén–Monts de Cristal, and Campo Ma'an-Rio Campo. The Grand Kivu area includes the Maiko, Tayna and Kahuzi-Biega protected areas, and the Itombwe community reserve. This area shares a border with several countries (Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania) which are not part of the CBSL, so the focus on ILUMPs for this transboundary area will only be on the Democratic Republic of Congo's side.

Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
2. Addressing Wildlife Crime and the Conservation of Elephants and Great Apes	TA	2.1. Enhanced capacity in the six basin countries for addressing wildlife crime	2.1.1. Creating and/or strengthening the networks between the six basin countries and across agencies in single countries to ensure the effective criminalization and prosecution of wildlife crime 2.1.2. Raising the awareness of trade, customs and related law enforcement[2] organizations about wildlife crime 2.1.3. Supporting enforcement agencies with technological and forensic advances to improve the deterrence, detection and prosecution of wildlife crime along the trade chain 2.1.4. Annual meetings of the GEF 7 Global Wildlife Program attended by the six basin countries' representatives on wildlife crime	GEFTF	1,400,000	15,831,120
		2.2. Conservation of great apes and forest elephants is dealt with on a regional level	2.2.1. Small, competitive grants for on-the-ground projects that respond to immediate threats are implemented 2.2.2. Long-term technical advisory support to strengthen cross-border capacity to effectively manage wildlife population is implemented			
3. Local Community, Forest Dependent People and Private Sector Empowerment	TA/Inv	3.1. Enhanced capacity of local communities, forest-dependent people, and private sector to implement and scale SFM projects in the Congo Basin	3.1.1 Study conducted and guidelines developed on how to empower local communities and forest-dependent people in decision making on SFM aspects (including land tenure, rights and access) in the Congo Basin 3.1.2. Study conducted and recommendations made on how private sector financing of SFM in the Congo Basin can be elevated (e.g., impact investing in SFM activities of local communities and forest-dependent people) 3.1.3. Small grant facilities/micro credit schemes that support SFM	GEFTF	1,128,000	15,171,490

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[2] For example, national narcotics/drugs agencies/bureaus can possible detect illegal wildlife items in search for narcotics and drugs.

Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
			and community and forest dependent people empowerment are established, with priority support areas and access requirements identified 3.1.4. Platform established as one-stop shop for community access to financing (impact investing, small grants, micro credit) with a portfolio of projects under implementation.			
4. Knowledge Management	TA	4.1. National and transboundary stakeholders use enhanced knowledge for CBSL SFM on-the-ground actions	4.1.1. Existing tools and knowledge resources repackaged, enhanced, and made available through online portal (ref. 5.1.5.) 4.1.2. Four annual CBSL regional knowledge sharing and capacity development workshops 4.1.3. Training workshops on priority CBSL/SFM topics at regional level 4.1.4. Regional Congo Basin exchange visits on SFM 4.1.5. CBSL/SFM online Communities of Practice (CoPs) are developed and enhanced through increased membership & diversity of users	GEFTF	1,375,000	7,255,930
		4.2. Enhanced knowledge on current and potential impact of climate change on Congo Basin targeting policy interventions	4.2.1. Studies on current and potential climate change impacts on the Congo Basin focusing on biodiversity loss; findings feed in to land use planning methodology development exercise (ref. 1.1.1.) 4.2.2. Strategies and policy briefs developed on the mitigation of CC impacts on the biodiversity of Congo Basin			
5. Program Coordination and Communication	TA	5.1. Improved coordination among program stakeholders and other donors, and increased knowledge and awareness of CBSL program and lessons among national decision-	5.1.1. CBSL Coordination Unit, Program Steering Committee, and Program Advisory Committee are established and operational 5.1.2. CBSL program and project level M&E system is established, tracking measurable progress at country and regional levels, and feeding back into adaptive management of the CBSL program strategy	GEFTF	2,000,000	6,596,300

Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
		makers and the global audience	5.1.3. Development and implementation of a CBSL Partnership Strategy 5.1.4. Development and Implementation of CBSL Communication and Outreach Strategy 5.1.5. Information system and CBSL web portal developed and functional			
Subtotal				GEFTF	7,803,000	62,664,850
Project Management Cost (PMC)				GEFTF	389,366	3,298,150
Total Project Cost					8,192,366	65,963,000

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: (N/A)

INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment mobilized	Amount ($)
Multilateral agency	European Union	Grant	Investment mobilized	38,350,000
Other	CAFI	Grant	Investment mobilized	7,000,000
NGO	Conservation Justice	Grant	Investment mobilized	5,016,000
Other	GRASP	Grant and In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,050,000
GEF Agency	UNEP	Grant and In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	10,480,000
GEF Agency	AFDB	TBD	TBD	
NGO	Rainforest Alliance	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,000
Other	UNEP -WCMC	Grant	Investment mobilized	3,567,000
Total Co-financing				65,963,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified: Investments other than recurrent costs were counted as investments mobilized.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
UNEP	GEFTF	Regional		IP SFM Congo	8,192,366	737,313	8,929,679
Total GEF Resources					8,192,366	737,313	8,929,679

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

Yes ☒ If yes, PPG funds **have to be requested via the Portal** once the PFD is approved
No ☐ If no, skip this item.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
UNEP	GEFTF	Regional		IP SFM Congo	200,000	18,000	218,000
Total PPG Amount					200,000	18,000	218,000

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS (SEE DETAILED NOTES IN ANNEX A)
Provide the relevant sub-indicator values for this project using the methodologies indicated in the Core Indicator Worksheet provided in Annex A and aggregating them in the table below. Progress in programming against these targets is updated at the time of CEO endorsement, at midterm evaluation, and at terminal evaluation. Achieved targets will be aggregated and reported at any time during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	2,356,114 ha
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)	7,724,200 ha
5	Area of **marine habitat under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	
	Total area under improved management (Hectares)	10,080,314 ha
6	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated** (metric tons of CO2e)	635,734,248 tCO2e
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	To be provided at CEO Endorsement

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicators targets are not provided.
Contribution to Aichi targets:
Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society; Targets 1, 2, 4
Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use; Targets 5, 6, 7
Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species & genetic diversity; Targets 11, 12
Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services; Targets 14, 15

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Regional Context (*maximum 500 words*)

Describe the country's relevant environmental challenges and strategic positioning relative to the systems transformation proposed for the program, including relevant existing policies, commitments, and investment frameworks. How are these aligned with the proposed approach to foster impactful outcomes with global environmental benefits?

Located in Central Africa, the Congo Basin is the earth's second largest area of contiguous moist tropical forests, stretching from the Gulf of Guinea in the west to the Rift Valley in the east. It spans over six countries namely – Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and the Republic of Congo (ROC). Of the basin's 530 million hectares of land, 300 million are covered by forests. More than 99% of the forested land is primary or naturally regenerated forest as opposed to plantations, and 46 percent is lowland dense forest. The area is one of the most important centers of biodiversity on the planet harboring 1 of every 5 species. The forest harbors the most diverse assemblage of plants and animals in Africa including 400 mammal species, 1,300 bird species, 336 amphibian species and 400 reptile species; 20,000 plant species are recorded of which 8,000 are endemic. The region also hosts the largest population of Forest Elephants (*Loxodonta africana*[3], IUCN Red List Category EN). The Congo Basin covers almost the entire distribution range of the Western Lowland Gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*, IUCN Red List Category CR), the entire range of Bonobo (*Pan paniscus*, IUCN Red List category EN) and a large part of the range of Chimpanzee (Pan troglotytes, IUCN Red List category EN)[4]. The forests are also critical for buffering the effects of climate change. Recent estimates suggest that the Congo Basin sequesters more than 60 billion metric tons of carbon, more than all the tropical forests of the Amazon and Asia combined.[5] Industrial logging represents an extensive land use in the area, with about 44 million hectares of forest under concession (8.3 percent of the total land area), and contributes significantly to revenues and employment. Unlike other tropical regions, where logging activities usually entail a transition to another land use, logging in the Congo Basin is highly selective and extensive and production forests remain permanently forested. The Congo Basin forests are home to about 90 million people and support livelihoods for more than 75 million people from over 250 ethnic groups who rely on local natural resources for food, nutritional health, and livelihood needs.

Existing policy context and project alignment: COMIFAC has a Sub-regional Convergence Plan which is the reference and coordination framework for all interventions in the conservation and sustainable management of forest ecosystems in Central Africa. It also contributes to reinforcing the actions undertaken by COMIFAC Member States and other development actors. Following the first edition

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[3] Preliminary genetic evidence suggests that there may be at least two species of African elephants, namely the Savanna elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) and the Forest Elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*). A third species, the West African Elephant, has also been postulated. The African Elephant Specialist Group believes that more extensive research is required to support the proposed re-classification. Premature allocation into more than one species may leave hybrids in an uncertain conservation status (IUCN SSC African Elephant Specialist Group 2003). For this reason, this assessment was conducted for the single species as currently described, encompassing all populations. https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/12392/3339343#taxonomy
[4] GRASP & IUCN (2018). Report to the CITES Standing Committee on the Status of Great Apes. United Nations Environment Programme Great Apes Survival Partnership, Nairobi, and International Union for Conservation of Nature, Gland.
[5] Dargie, G. C., Lewis, S. L., Lawson, I. T., Mitchard, E. T. A., Page, S. E., Bocko, Y. E., Ifo, S. A. (2017). *Age, extent and carbon storage of the central Congo Basin peatland complex.* Nature 542 (7639): 86-90.

adopted in February 2005, a second edition for the ten-year period 2015-2025 was drawn up following a review process that led to its validation in July 2014 by the Ministers of COMIFAC. With a vision and a goal, the second Convergence Plan includes a strategic framework in six priority areas of intervention and three transversal axes.[6] The proposed 5 components of the regional child project respond to these 6 priority areas and transversal axes. In addition, COMIFAC is finalizing a gender strategy; during project development alignment with this strategy will be ensured.

2. Project Overview and Approach (*maximum 1250 words*)

   a) Provide a brief description of the geographical target(s), including details of systemic challenges, and the specific environmental threats and associated drivers that must be addressed;

The regional child project will undertake activities at the regional level and at the transboundary site level. The geographical target of regional actions is the 6 Congo Basin countries, while the geographical focus of site-level actions will be on 2-3 transboundary landscapes specifically focusing on those sections of the landscape that are not covered by the land use planning exercises under national child projects[7].

The major environmental problems of the Congo Basin are forest cover loss and loss of biodiversity, due to clearing for agriculture, formal and informal logging, bushmeat trade, poaching, etc.. It is also estimated that the threats will increase exponentially in the future. The Congo Basin forests may be at a turning point, heading toward higher deforestation rates. While they have been mainly "passively" protected by chronic political instability and conflict, poor infrastructure, and poor governance thus far, there are signs of increasing pressure from a variety of sources, including mineral extraction, road development, agribusiness, and biofuels, in addition to subsistence agricultural expansion and charcoal collection.

Long-term solution and barriers: In order to effectively address the root causes, the long-term solution is to conserve globally important biodiversity in Key Biodiversity Areas, and implement policies to foster sustainable land management and restoration of native vegetation cover across the Congo Basin. There are several barriers at the regional and national level that would need to be addressed (see Annex B for details):

Barrier 1: Lack of national and transboundary land use planning and using available technology and processes to scale land use planning and implementation practices

Barrier 2: Lack of a uniform, harmonized approach in dealing with wildlife crime and the conservation of elephants and great apes

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[6] The priority areas of intervention are: (i) Harmonization of forest and environmental policies; (ii) Management and sustainable development of forest resources; (iii) Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; (iv) Combating the effects of climate change and desertification; (v) Socio-economic development and multi-stakeholder participation; (vi) Sustainable financing. The transverse axes are: (i) Training and capacity building; (ii) Research and Development (iii) Communication, Awareness, Information and Education.

[7] At this stage, based on the resources available under the regional project and rough estimates of the cost of undertaking land use planning, the regional project will only be able to develop land use plans for 2-3 landscapes namely, the ROC sectors of TRIDOM and TNS, as well as the Gabon sector of the Monté Alen-Mont de Cristal landscape.

Barrier 3: Involvement of local communities and forest dependent people, as well as the private sector is not optimal in order to scale interventions

Barrier 4: Lack of knowledge of the importance of the Congo Basin in terms of global environmental benefits and the threats that impact its viability of providing these benefits and services

Barrier 5: Lack of coordination and communicating best practices among the Congo Basin countries, donors and executing agencies

b) Describe the existing or planned baseline investments, including current institutional framework and processes for stakeholder engagement and gender integration;

Both the Yaoundé declaration of 1999 and the conservation treaty of 2005 legally recognize COMIFAC as the only decision-making body of forests for the Central African region. In addition to COMIFAC, many institutions and NGOs have relevant activities dealing with sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation at a regional level. These include CBFP, CAFI, Eagle Network, CBI, GRASP, REPALEAC, among others (see Annex C for details). Baseline investments are being undertaken by various entities in different countries of the basin, but these are largely confined to single sectors with little cross-sectoral emphasis.

c) Describe how the integrated approach proposed for the child project responds to and reflects the Program's Theory of Change, and as such is an appropriate and suitable option for tackling the systemic challenges, and to achieve the desired transformation with multiple global environmental benefits; and

The regional child project responds to the program's Theory of Change insofar as it directly addresses a key driver for program success (see Theory of Change diagram attached to the Program Framework Document) namely: greater inter-country dialogue, coordination, and collaboration exists so that all basin countries have shared capacities and approaches to promote sustainable development in the Congo Basin, and innovations from child projects (technological, financial, business model, policy, and institutional) are shared to facilitate scaling. The regional child project specifically enhances the transformational impact of the CBSL IP by supporting activities that are most effective when implemented at the regional scale (methodology development, etc.), by scaling up successful pilots across the basin, and completing land use planning in 2-3 transboundary landscapes where critical sections may not be covered by national projects.

d) Describe the project's incremental reasoning for GEF financing under the program, including the results framework and components.

In the baseline scenario, site-level interventions to address threats and root causes of the loss in forest cover and biodiversity are likely to continue in different countries of the basin. However, coordinated actions by all 6 basin countries particularly in key transboundary areas are unlikely to occur. A continuation of the current sectoral approach to conservation and sustainable use, as well as the lack of integration of emerging future threats such as climate change and infrastructure expansion will mean that the Congo Basin forest ecosystem will continue to face severe degradation pressures and global environmental values will be compromised. The alternative scenario, is to build on the various site-level interventions by introducing a regional approach – one that builds shared

capacities and methodologies for cross-sectoral and integrated land use planning, wildlife crime, community and private sector engagement, and knowledge management. GEF financing will help catalyze this alternative scenario and leverage co-financing from other partners.

The objective of the regional child project is to catalyze transformational change in transboundary landscapes by scaling best practice and innovations at a regional level. This will be achieved by sustainably manage forest landscapes in the Congo Basin by undertaking transformative regional actions for transboundary land planning and management, governance systems strengthening, sustainable land uses in production and community areas, and optimizing ecosystem services and livelihoods for IPLCs. The project will also create space for "countries to align their actions" through interactive planning, knowledge exchange and learning (i.e. bottom up priorities). The child project will be developed during preparation along five components (see Annex C for details on components):

Component 1: Integrated National and Transboundary Land Use Planning

The focus of this component will be on developing land use planning methodology that integrates systems thinking and natural capital valuation in decision making, and providing the technical support to ensure land use planning exercises under the national projects implement this methodology. Training will be provided on the methodology and a Regional Learning and Leadership Group to oversee and smooth the implementation of the plans. Further, the regional project will develop land use plans, based on this methodology, for 2-3 transboundary landscapes specifically in sectors of the landscape not covered by national projects[8]. Countries selected different landscapes with not all focusing on land use planning in the different landscapes.

Component 2: Addressing Wildlife Crime and the Conservation of Elephants and Great Apes

This component will invest in breaking the trade and transportation links that enable the illegal trafficking of wildlife in the Congo Basin. The component will support the creation and/or strengthening of networks addressing wildlife crime and raise the awareness and capacity of law enforcement and trade and custom agencies in the region. Further, in order to ensure the continued conservation of iconic threatened species especially Forest Elephants and the Great Apes represented in the Congo Basin, the project will provide support to implementation of actions under existing conservation strategies such as small, competitive grants for on-the-ground projects that respond to immediate threats, and long-term support to strengthen cross-border capacity to effectively manage wildlife population. The need for updating the existing conservation strategy for forest elephants will be assessed during the PPG.

Component 3: Local Community, Forest-Dependent People and Private Sector Empowerment

This component will address the elevation of community (local communities and forest-dependent people) and private sector as key proponents in the implementation of Sustainable Forest Management strategies in the Congo Basin, and to scale up SFM activities of these stakeholders across the basin. Studies will be conducted on the empowerment of local communities and forest-dependent people in decision-making and in the role the private sector plays in Sustainable Forest Management.

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[8] At this stage, based on the resources available under the regional project and rough estimates of the cost of undertaking land use planning, the regional project will only be able to develop land use plans for 2-3 landscapes namely, the ROC sectors of TRIDOM and TNS, as well as the Gabon sector of the Monte Allen-Mont de Cristal landscape.

Recommendations and future strategies will be defined and mechanisms and supporting structures that upscale investment from private sector in SFM. A portfolio of all financing available to local communities and forest-dependent people will be compiled as well as all CBOs in the region. A platform easing the creation of partnerships between local communities, forest-dependent people and private sector will be created.

Component 4: Knowledge management to innovate and scale up best practices

Component 4 aims to facilitate knowledge exchange and capture lessons learned amongst program participants and others to build capacities and enhance the impact of project interventions (see Annex C and Section 3 below). Existing tools and knowledge resources on the CBSL will be repackaged, enhanced, and made available through online portal, four annual CBSL regional knowledge sharing and capacity development workshops will be held, training workshops on priority CBSL/SFM topics at regional level will be conducted and regional Congo Basin exchange visits on SFM organized. CBSL/SFM online Communities of Practice (CoPs) will be developed and enhanced. Studies will be supported on current and potential climate change impacts on the Congo Basin focusing on biodiversity loss and strategies and policy briefs developed on the mitigation of CC impacts on the biodiversity of Congo Basin.

Component 5: Program Coordination and Communication

This component will coordinate and maintain extensive and continued stakeholder consultations at national and regional level to support components of the program. This will be done through the establishment of formal consultative mechanisms namely: (i) Program Steering Committee and (ii) Advisory Committee involving other major donors investing in the Congo Basin and technical experts to ensure that investments are synergistic. A CBSL program and project level M&E system will be established ad a CBSL Partnership Strategy and Communication and Outreach Strategy developed and implemented. An information system and CBSL web portal will also be developed and functional.

3. Engagement with the Global / Regional Framework (*maximum 500 words*)

Describe how the project will align with the global / regional framework for the program to foster knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis of experiences. How will the proposed approach scale-up from the local and national level to maximize engagement by all relevant stakeholders and/or actors?

This project is the "anchor" for the entire CBSL program, and therefore create much needed platform for ensuring that the "whole of the program" is greater than "sum of the country child projects".

Knowledge sharing, learning and synthesis of experience is an important part of the regional child project. Component 4 aims to facilitate knowledge exchange and capture lessons learned amongst program participants and others to build capacities and enhance the impact of project interventions. This component aims to facilitate knowledge exchange and capture lessons learned amongst program participants and others to build capacities and enhance the impact of project interventions. This component includes organization of an annual meeting to bring together child project leaders to exchange knowledge, learning, and engage in an idea exchange forum. This annual meeting will serve as an important mechanism for child project leaders to network, present project results, obtain input from peers and get inspired by hearing from leading practitioners and conservation visionaries. During

project preparation, a repository, or online platform, will be identified to store/disseminate knowledge products and facilitate collaboration. This component will include the capture and dissemination of SFM lessons learned in the Congo Basin and elsewhere and best practices. Specifically, various activities will be conducted to disseminate existing lessons learned and capture lessons learned from child project activities. A process will be established for the Program to enable child projects to capture and disseminate lessons learned on their projects and to consolidate this information across the portfolio. A portfolio approach to capturing and disseminating will facilitate identification of best practices, important lessons, and innovative solutions to scale the most effective solutions across the Program. In order to deal with one of the most pressing threats to the Congo basin, namely Climate Change, the project will work closely with the Congo Basin Institute (CBI) to expand to all six countries their current work in Cameroon and Gabon. The work will entail (i) map environmentally-associated genomic and phenotypic variation in a broad range of species to identify areas of high turnover where species capacity to adapt was greatest and assess how these areas of elevated turnover overlap with hotspots of species richness and protected areas; (ii) evaluate how evolutionary adaptation, phenotypic plasticity and landscape connectivity might mediate future threats; (iii) develop an integrated prioritization scheme that ranks candidate areas for protection on their evolutionary potential, connectivity, estimated socioeconomic costs, and degree of threat; and (iv) promote education, training and capacity building in sets relevant to the program. This will be accomplished by leveraging existing networks of scientists and students (including from Cameroon and Gabon) to train students and researchers from other countries in the region to assist with carrying out the sampling, analyses, and mapping. Professional development workshops will be a key part of the strategy. Further, results will be integrated into national integrated conservation plans and where appropriate into the transboundary integrated land use planning of the landscapes targeted in Component 3 of this project and the plans to be formulated in the other child projects.

Annex A: GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Core Indicator 1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use						*(Hectares)*
				Hectares (1.1+1.2)			
				Expected		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness (see note 1 below)						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
					Endorsement	MTR	TE
Odzala-Kokoua NP (TRIDOM)			*1,354,600*				
Ntokou-Pikounda NP(TRIDOM)			*427,200*				
Lossi Gorilla Reserves (TRIDOM)			35,000				
Nouabale-Ndoki (*TNS*)			*419,314*				
Monts de Cristal			*120,000*				
		Sum	2,356,114				
Core Indicator 4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)						*(Hectares)*
				Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)			
				Expected		Expected	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (see note 2 below)						
				Hectares			
				Expected		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		ROC sector of TRIDOM		*4,916,200*			
		ROC sector of TNS		*1,728,000*			
		Gabon sector of MAMC		*1,080,000*			
		Sum		7,724,200			
Core Indicator 6	Greenhouse gas emission mitigated						*(Metric tons of CO₂e)*
				Expected metric tons of CO₂e (6.1+6.2)			
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)			635,734,248 tCO2e			
	Expected CO2e (indirect)						
Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (see note 4 below)						
				Expected metric tons of CO₂e			
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)						
	Expected CO2e (indirect)						
	Anticipated start year of accounting						
	Duration of accounting						
Core Indicator 11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment (see note 3 below)						*(Number)*
				Number			
				Expected		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Female					
		Male					
		Total					

Notes:

1. Component 2 of the regional child project (wildlife crime, implementation of great apes/forest elephant conservation strategies) will impact this indicator through activities in the listed PAs in the TRIDOM, TNS and LTLT landscapes

2. Component 1 through ILUMPs will lead to improved practices in 2-3 landscapes (Gabon sector of Monte Allen-Mont de Cristal; ROC sector of TRIDOM, ROC sector of TNS)

3. Component 1 will have direct beneficiaries inasmuch as IPLCs will participate in the planning process to generate ILUMPs. However, it is primarily Component 3 that will have direct beneficiaries of sustainable income-generating activities. At this stage it is difficult to provide the number of beneficiaries. During the PPG, once there is better definition of the communities where the regional project will focus, this number can be provided.

4. Assumptions for estimating tCO2e emissions reductions:

Tool used:	FAO-EXACT Tool version 7.2
Continent:	Africa
Climate:	Tropical Moist
Soil type:	LAC
Project implementation phase:	4 years
Capitalization phase:	16 years
Duration of accounting:	20 years

Module 2: LUC; Section 2.2 Afforestation and Reforestation

Type of vegetation planted:	Forest Zone 1
Previous land use:	Degraded land
Fire use:	No
Area reforested:	300 ha

Module 5: Management; Section 5.1 Forest Degradation and Management

Forest Zone 1:	Tropical Rainforest
Area degraded:	7,724,200 (area covered by ILUMPs)
Initial state of degradation:	Low
Without project state:	Low
With project state:	Very Low
Fire occurrence, periodicity:	No

Note: Assumptions for state of degradation (initial, w/o project, w/ project) have been made for the entire landscape. However, in reality the state of degradation will vary in different areas of the landscape. During project development this analysis will be refined accordingly.

RESULTS: Based on best-guess estimates of total area to be impacted by the regional child project, and on the 20-year duration of accounting suggested by the EXACT tool, the total emissions reduction expected to be generated are approximately 635,734,248 tCO2e

Annex B: Barriers

Barrier 1: Lack of national and transboundary land use planning and using available technology and processes to scale land use planning and implementation practices: Many of the child projects will be developing conservation and/or land use plans for the specific project sites that the country is targeting through this program. Without a standard methodology on how to develop these plans, the chances of having plans with variant degrees of quality are high – further, seeing that all the targeted landscapes are transboundary, there is indeed a need to use the same methodology in the design of the plans, but also collaborate in the design so that the end result is a transboundary landscape integrated land use plan rather than two or three country land use plans of sections of the landscape. Further, the landscapes are complex systems and in order to make informed decision about the future use of land, such decisions should be based on solid systems thinking approaches. There is therefore the need to fully integrate systems thinking in the methodology for land use planning in the Congo Basin. One such aspect that will inform the decision making and the manner in which the system will react to decisions is the economic evaluation of land uses and the communication of such values to decision makers. In many of the Congo Basin countries there is a lack of capacity in natural capital economic evaluation and its integration in land use decisions. There is also a need to discuss at a macro level the constraints and priorities of different sectors in order to prevent a stand-alone plan not supported by e.g. agriculture, mining or infrastructure development sector. Continual dialogue with sector leaders as well as training are needed to ensure transboundary integrated land use plans that will be implemented.
Barrier 2: Lack of a uniform, harmonized approach in dealing with wildlife crime and the conservation of elephants and great apes: A major immediate critical threat for African elephants, great apes and other endangered wildlife is large-scale poaching and the organized networks and trafficking that generate the illegal wildlife trade. Although national laws and international treaties throughout their range protect threatened species, the enforcement of these laws has historically been very weak if existing at all and has provided little or no deterrent value. In fact, the problem of weak law enforcement and judiciary ineffectiveness is one of the most serious underlying causes perpetuating the increase in poaching in particular and wildlife crime in general. A major reason for the lack of enforcement and application of the wildlife law throughout Africa is the widespread corruption. In order to deal with wildlife crime throughout the region, a harmonized approach across all the countries in legislation and its enforcement is required. Also, it is important to break the trade and transportation links that enable the trafficking of illegal wildlife. For domestic markets, interventions need to work across the trade chain, from where the species is poached to where it is finally laundered into markets. There is also a need to directly link the work in the region and individual countries to the Global Wildlife Program of GEF 7 in order to continue dealing with international trade and ensuring the six countries of the Congo Basin continue input into this important program and vice versa.
Barrier 3: Involvement of Communities and Private Sector not optimal in order to scale interventions: Historically, most conservation actions in developing countries have focused on strengthening the protection of biodiversity-rich areas, against local populations' access. International action has supported the Government as a central player in attempting to reinforce regulatory measures and the organization of surveillance. Very few means have been mobilized on the involvement of populations and the development of economic activities. This approach has hardly given any convincing results. In many cases, the approach has alienated communities from wildlife and the areas that are conserved for wildlife conservation. There is therefore a need to incorporate community perspectives in sustainable forest management in order for wildlife, forest and people to benefit. Many of the approaches will involve private sector and the role private sector can play in community empowerment should be elevated. Further, in order to scale sustainable forest management approaches involving the private sector should be mainstreamed. Public funding will always be limited and to look at ways to use private sector funding as a means to an end should be investigated and

encouraged. A number of small grant facilities and credit mechanisms have been established which community organizations can access for funding, including the GEF's own Small Grant Program. Although we have seen some improvement in the coordination between the various platform, coordination can still be improved. Further, in many cases community-based organizations lack the capacity to interact will all the funds/facilities and to identify the best funding/loan for its particular purpose. A coordination/advisory platform among grant facilities and micro credits schemes is needed to overcome this barrier.

Barrier 4: Lack of knowledge of the importance of the Congo Basin in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and the threats that impact its viability of providing these benefits and services:
Many innovative practices are and will be tested in the Congo basin countries both in public and private sector. These practices are mostly done in the sector with little involvement from other players, also the information and lessons learnt are mostly not shared widely. If this program will have an impact at scale, there is a need to move beyond this silo approach and share knowledge, lessons learnt and know-how widely among stakeholders, sectors and countries. Currently, the knowledge regarding some of the threats impacting the Congo Basin and its ability to continue deliver ecosystems services e.g. changes that will occur under different climate change scenarios is limited. In order to prudently deal with these threats, certain information gaps need to be addressed urgently. For example, traditional conservation prioritization efforts have focused on identifying and protecting threatened regions containing high species richness and endemism. However, such approaches alone have been shown to be ineffective in capturing regions where evolutionary processes are actively producing and maintaining diversity.[9] [10] [11] Research has shown that heterogeneous landscapes such as the vast ecotone that flanks the Congolese forest and adjacent savanna and montane gradients both harbor important adaptive variation. With 30% of African plant and animal species at risk of extinction if the average rise in global temperature exceeds 1.5˚C, there is great need to model the impact of climate change and devise appropriate strategies to minimize loss of biodiversity.

Barrier 5: Lack of coordination and communicating best practices among the Congo Basin countries, donors and executing agencies:
Various coordinating mechanisms currently exist, including COMIFAC, CBFP and CAFI. COMIFAC represents an important body responsible for decision-making on forests for the Central African Region, which includes the 6 target Congo Basin countries but also four other countries (Chad, Sao Tome and Principe, Rwanda and Burundi). The Congo Basin Forest Partnership works in close relationship with COMIFAC with the objective of promoting the conservation and sustainable management of the Congo Basin's forest ecosystems. There is therefore a need to integrate the GEF 7 Congo Basin Sustainable Landscapes within these three important coordination mechanisms, but also to ensure the executing agencies of projects within the CBSL program meet separately in order to stimulate greater inter-country dialogue, coordination and collaboration so that all of the basin countries can have shared capacities and approaches to promote sustainable development in the Congo Basin. There is also a need to communicate the importance of the Congo Basin to policy-makers and citizens in the target region as well as to the wider global audience.

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[9] Mitchell, B. J., Morgan, A.A., Pokempner and Gonder, M. K. (2015). *Chimpanzee population genetic structure in Cameroon and Nigeria is associated with habitat variation that may be lost under climate change*. BMC Evolutionary Biology 15:2.

[10] Freedman, A. H., Thomassen, H. A., Buermann, W., Smith, T. B. (2010). *Genomic signals of diversification along ecological gradients in a tropical lizard.* Molecular Ecology 19: 3773 – 3788.

[11] Zhen, Y., Harrigan, R. J., Ruegg, K. C., Anderson, E. C. Ng, T. C., Lao, S., Lohmueller, K. E., Smith, T. B. (2017). *Genomic divergence across ecological gradients in the Central African rainforest songbird (Andropadus virens).* Molecular Ecology 26 (19), 4966 – 4877.

Annex C: Regional project components

Component 1: Integrated National and Transboundary Land Use Planning
The focus of this component will be on the following landscapes which have been identified as transboundary landscapes that the child projects will work on: Sangha Tri-National (TNS) landscape, the Tri-National Dja-Odzala-Minkebe (TRIDOM) landscapes, the Cuvette Centrale Peatlands landscape, Grand Kivu landscape[12], Monte Alén-Monts de Cristal landscape and Campo Ma'an-Rio Campo landscape. UN Environment will together with partners, including CBI and University of Bergen, Norway, develop a land-use planning methodology that integrates systems thinking and natural capital economic valuation into decision-making. Once the methodology has been finalized and agreed in a regional workshop, the various child projects will take the lead in developing national land use plans. Training will be provided by this regional component on the methodology. This component will also bring the planners for regional coordination meetings focusing on the landscapes e.g. separate meeting for each landscape. Technical specialist will be requested to join based on the requirements of countries and the advancement of the plans. In order to oversee and smooth the development of the various land use plans, a Regional Learning and Leadership Group in Ecosystem Services Mainstreaming will be established under the auspices of COMIFAC. The leadership group will comprise country representatives from Finance/Planning/Development, Environment/Biodiversity and 'bridging' people from local research bodies, cross-sectoral initiatives etc. to provide both national and international opportunities for these diverse stakeholders to build trusting relationships and understand one another's constraints and priorities. There will be a supported national process to analyze the political and economic context, to prioritize entry points and define and implement mainstreaming interventions so as to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem values into national and sectoral development strategies, policies, plans and/or regulations in the participating project countries. National activities will be complemented by physical and virtual meetings, co-development of tools and guidance, and regional experience and lessons sharing amongst key technical and policy officials.

Component 2: Addressing Wildlife Crime and the Conservation of Elephants and Great Apes
This component will invest in breaking the trade and transportation links that enable the illegal trafficking of wildlife in the Congo Basin. For domestic markets in the six Congo Basin countries, interventions will work across the trade chain, from where a species is first poached, to where it is finally laundered into markets, will be centered on intelligence-led policing and will focus on (i) creating and/or strengthening the networks between the six countries and across agencies in single countries to ensure the effective criminalization and prosecution of illegal wildlife crime; (ii) raise the awareness of trade and customs organizations in combating wildlife crime and introduce techniques and help them acquire tools for combating it; and (iii) supporting enforcement agencies with technological and forensic advances – from DNA to spatial mapping – to improve the deterrence, detection and prosecution of wildlife crime along the trade chain. In order to address the international illegal wildlife trade, the CBSL program will ensure strong links with the GEF 7 Global Wildlife Program and facilitate interaction between the six Congo Basin countries representatives and the GWP's countries representatives. Congo Basin countries' representative will attend annual GWP meetings and participate in capacity building exercises of the GWP. Further, in order to ensure the continued

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[12] The Grand Kivu area includes the Maiko, Tayna and Kahuzi-Biega protected areas, and the Itombwe community reserve. This area shares a border with several countries (Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania) which are not part of the CBSL, so the focus on ILUMPs for this transboundary area will only be on the Democratic Republic of Congo's side.

conservation of iconic threatened species especially Forest Elephants and the Great Apes represented in the Congo Basin, the project will provide support to implementation of actions under the existing conservation strategies[13] such as small, competitive grants for on-the-ground projects that respond to immediate threats, and long-term support to strengthen cross-border capacity to effectively manage wildlife population. This will be detailed during project preparation. For Great Apes, strategies/studies on the promotion and implementation of sustainable ecotourism of great apes (including lifting barriers at political/institutional level (i.e. visas) and on Great Apes' health (in particular in relation to Ebola/Anthrax) and the setting up of a regional network to deploy early warning systems are possibilities. This will be undertaken under the auspices of GRASP. Some activities will also be implemented pending available funding. For forest elephants, there may be a need to update the 2005 strategy (this will be clarified during the PPG phase).

Component 3: Local Community, Forest-Dependent People and Private Sector Empowerment
This component will address the elevation of community (local communities and forest-dependent people) and private sector as key proponents in the implementation of Sustainable Forest Management strategies in the Congo Basin, and to scale up SFM activities of these stakeholders. Firstly, a study will be conducted to determine the current best practice and recommend future strategies on how to empower local communities and forest-dependent people in decision-making on SFM aspects (including land tenure, rights and access) in the Congo Basin. During the study, exchanges among actors will also be strengthened to guide the optimization of regulatory frameworks and effective implementation of community-based forest management in the Congo Basin (in accordance with COMIFAC Convergence Plan). A detailed study will also be launched, and recommendations put forward regarding the role the private sector currently plays in Sustainable Forest Management. Companies' strategies (e.g. Taylor Guitars) will be reviewed and lessons learned on how to upscale approaches. Innovative technologies to improve productive systems in community forestry and further mechanisms and supporting structures (e.g. Man & Nature, Rainforest Alliance, Nature+) that upscale investment of private sector in Sustainable Forest Management will be identified and recommendations made to increase such investment to ensure scaling SFM in the Congo Basin. A portfolio of all financing available to local communities and forest dependent people targeting SFM will be compiled. It will include private sector, small grants facilities/schemes and micro credit schemes. For each financing access point, information regarding priority areas support is/will be provided and fund access requirements will be detailed. Information regarding community-based organizations will also be made available and all information will be accessible on-line. A platform under the auspices of REPALEAC (or similar organization – to be discussed during PPG) will be established that will act as a 'one-stop shop' for easing the communication, access of financing and creation of partnerships between local communities, forest dependent people and the private sector,

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[13] Existing strategies include:
1. Great Apes strategy (a Publication from Arcus Foundation);
2. IUCN, 2014. Regional action plan for the conservation of western lowland gorillas and central chimpanzees 2015-2025
3. Central African Elephant Conservation Strategy (IUCN, 2005); which may need to be updated
4. Maisels F & all (2013). Devastating Decline of Forest Elephants in Central Africa. PLoS ONE 8(3): e59469. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0059469
5. Maldonado, O., Aveling, A., Cox, D., Nixon, S., Nishuli, R., Merlo, D., Pintea, L. & Williamson, E.A. (2012). Grauer's Gorillas and Chimpanzees in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. (Kahuzi-Biega, Maiko, Tayna and Itombwe Landscape): Conservation Action Plan 2012 – 2022. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group, Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation & Tourism, Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature & the Jane Goodall Institute. 66pp
6. IUCN & ICCN (2012). Bonobo (Pan paniscus): Conservation Strategy 2012 – 2022. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group & Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature. 65 pp

but also for CBOs to access funds for SFM and for private sector to more easily enter SFM support in the Congo Basin. The platform will also facilitate Public-Private-Community Partnership where applicable.

Component 4: Knowledge management to innovate and scale up best practices
This component aims to facilitate knowledge exchange and capture lessons learned amongst program participants and others to build capacities and enhance the impact of project interventions. This component includes organization of an annual meeting to bring together child project leaders to exchange knowledge, learning, and engage in an idea exchange forum. This annual meeting will serve as an important mechanism for child project leaders to network, present project results, obtain input from peers and get inspired by hearing from leading practitioners and conservation visionaries. During project preparation, a repository, or online platform, will be identified to store/disseminate knowledge products and facilitate collaboration. This component will include the capture and dissemination of SFM lessons learned in the Congo Basin and elsewhere and best practices. Specifically, various activities will be conducted to disseminate existing lessons learned and capture lessons learned from child project activities. A process will be established for the Program to enable child projects to capture and disseminate lessons learned on their projects and to consolidate this information across the portfolio. A portfolio approach to capturing and disseminating will facilitate identification of best practices, important lessons, and innovative solutions to scale the most effective solutions across the Program. In order to deal with one of the most pressing threats to the Congo basin, namely Climate Change, the project will work closely with the Congo Basin Institute (CBI) to expand to all six countries their current work in Cameroon and Gabon. The work will entail (i) map environmentally-associated genomic and phenotypic variation in a broad range of species to identify areas of high turnover where species capacity to adapt was greatest and assess how these areas of elevated turnover overlap with hotspots of species richness and protected areas; (ii) evaluate how evolutionary adaptation, phenotypic plasticity and landscape connectivity might mediate future threats; (iii) develop an integrated prioritization scheme that ranks candidate areas for protection on their evolutionary potential, connectivity, estimated socioeconomic costs, and degree of threat; and (iv) promote education, training and capacity building in sets relevant to the program. This will be accomplished by leveraging existing networks of scientists and students (including from Cameroon and Gabon) to train students and researchers from other countries in the region to assist with carrying out the sampling, analyses, and mapping. Professional development workshops will be a key part of the strategy. Further, results will be integrated into national integrated conservation plans and where appropriate into the transboundary integrated land use planning of the landscapes targeted in Component 3 of this project and the plans to be formulated in the other child projects.

Component 5: Program Coordination and Communication
This component will coordinate and maintain extensive and continued stakeholder consultations at national and regional level to support components of the program. This will be done through the establishment of a formal consultative mechanism, the Program Steering Committee among GEF Implementing Agencies, that will be chaired by UN Environment. A coordinating and advisory platform with other major donors investing in the Congo Basin and technical experts will also be established to ensure that investments are synergistic. This coordination will benefit from funding from this component and will aim at promoting the landscape management of forests and ecosystem beyond borders and/or test solutions to shared threats to maintain healthy ecosystems or conserving biodiversity. This component will maintain extensive and continued stakeholder consultations among the implementers of each child project under the Program. This will also include coordinating activities with on-going GEF projects related to the Program, and with investments and initiatives funded by

other donors. A CBSL Communications and Outreach Strategy and a Partnership Strategy will be developed and implemented to ensure the importance of the Congo Basin and the work of the program reaches the relevant audiences. A monitoring and evaluation system will be developed to track progress of all child projects and to support adaptive management.

GEF-7 CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT

CHILD PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZED CHILD PROJECT

PROGRAM: IP SFM CONGO

Child Project Title:	Integrated management of Cameroon's forest landscapes in the Congo Basin
Country:	Cameroon
Lead Agency	UN Environment
GEF Agency(ies):	WWF-US

INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-1-1	GEFTF	6,405,505	51,082,750
CBSL IP	GEFTF	3,202,752	25,541,375
Total Project Cost		9,608,257	76,624,125

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: Transform Cameroon's globally important forests in the Congo Basin through an integrated landscape approach, to secure their ecological integrity and the livelihoods of forest dependent people

Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. Mainstreaming integrated landscape planning and management	TA	1.1. Improved inter-sectoral planning and application of tools (e.g. natural capital assessment, land use change and driver analyses) for integrated land-use planning,	1.1.1. A natural capital mapping/valuation and land use change and driver analysis carried out for the Mintom and Ngoyla council areas[1] (1,000,000 ha)[2] . 1.1.2. Integrated landscape plans developed for the Mintom and Ngoyla council areas, through a multi-stakeholder process, as part of the operationalization of the 2011 Framework Law on LUP	GEFTF	1,372,608	11,392,388
		1.2. Enhanced capacity of local communities, indigenous population, CSOs and local governance entities to effectively	1.2.1. Agreements (e.g. MoUs, certificates) signed between government, private sector operators and IPLCs[3] to secure IPLC tenure and access			

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[1] Justification: Part of the TRIDOM transboundary landscape; MINEPAT already prioritized the Southern and Eastern region for LUP of which the N-M councils form part. The specific areas are biodiversity rich, presence of IP , ongoing reflection about the allocation of land for carbon, PAs, agriculture, mining, with potentially highly conflicting interests from multiple stakeholders, including IPLCs. The area is furthermore in the transboundary zone.

[2] GIS expert to confirm area

[3] IPLC – Indigenous people and local communities, taken here in the broadest sense, but with focus on indigenous people, women and youth

		engage in sustainable landscape management and NR-based value chains	rights to identified spaces and resources 1.2.2. IPLCs, CSOs, private sector actors and local governance entities trained on basic roles, rights, tools and approaches related to integrated landscape planning			
2. Advancing Sustainable Forest Management	TA and investments	2.1. Increased adoption and implementation of effective models for SFM resulting in benefits for both ecosystems and communities	2.1.1 National forest certification standards for government procurement rules and procedures developed and adoption process by relevant authorities facilitated 2.1.2 Assessment of opportunities and development of a plan for Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) enterprises (with priority on TRIDOM and TNS) 2.1.3 Feasibility assessment and business plan for FSC group certification of community forest initiatives 2.1.4 Scalable models of community-private sector-public sector partnerships established and delivering tangible benefits, including restoration and income generation from community forests (e.g. linked to Ebony project with Taylor Guitars, cooperation with the Cocoa sector, or REDD+ related, or outputs 2.1.2. and 2.1.3)	GEFTF	3,202,752	22,784,776

		2.2. Enhanced capacity of local communities and indigenous population to effectively engage in SFM	2.2.1. Training and awareness raising program for local communities (IPs in particular) developed and rolled out regarding their role in SFM, including their access, use and benefit sharing rights 2.2.2. Target IPLC groups (including women and youth groups) trained and provided with technical assistance to develop and negotiate mutually beneficial partnerships for sustainable forest-based livelihoods enhancing initiatives (e.g. timber, NTFP, fuelwood) including engagement in output 2.1.4			
3. Promoting sustainable wildlife management	TA and investments	3.1. Improved management effectiveness and sustainable use of wildlife resources through the adoption of PPP and community-based management models for wildlife management in and around protected areas	3.1.1. At least two PPP agreements for PA Management in Campo Ma'an, Lobeke and Nki NP negotiated and defined[4] 3.1.2. Community-private sector-public sector co-management agreements established and operationalized to strengthen sustainable wildlife management in community hunting zones[5], with clear incentive and benefit-sharing systems to support local communities and IPs involvement in wildlife management 3.1.3. Monitoring system established to support adaptive management of PAs and wildlife corridors	GEFTF	2,287,680	18,987,313

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[4] Agreements would include provisions for shared strategic governance and delegated operational management
[5] CHZ 2 and 3 around Lobeke and CHZ 14 around Boumba Bek

		3.2. Increased capacity and enabling conditions for IPLCs participation in wildlife crime management in targeted sites	3.2.1. Law enforcement agents and IPLC groups provided training and small field equipment to undertake wildlife crime abatement operations with respect for human rights 3.2.2. Grievance, Redress Mechanism (FGRM) set up in TRIDOM, TNS and Campo 3.2.3. Wildlife corridors identified, mapped and the free and informed prior consent process documented with IPLCs on the management implications of identified corridors documented 3.2.4. An inclusive (with IPLCs) surveillance system with clear guidelines and benefit sharing mechanisms for participatory management set up to secure the integrity of targeted wildlife corridors			
4. Improving benefit generation from biodiversity through sustainable tourism development	TA and Investments	4.1. The sustainable tourism (ST) value chain strengthened to promote sustainability and increase benefits top communities and the economy at large	4.1.1. Habituated gorilla groups and other upgraded sustainable tourism products and services involving IPLCs developed 4.1.2. Marketing and communication tools developed to increase visibility and access to IPLC tourism products and services	GEFTF	1,372,608	11,392,388

		4.2. Equitable business partnerships mutualize competencies and generate benefits to IPLCs from sustainable tourism development	4.2.1. Public-Private-council/IPLC-Partnership (PPCP) models developed and operationalized to generate benefits from feasible sustainable tourism packages 4.2.2. Target IPLC groups (including women and youth groups) trained and mentored on tourism business and entrepreneurship 4.2.3. Equitable benefits distribution plans for the tourism sector in place and being implemented, with a specific focus on IPLCs			
5. Monitoring and Evaluation, Knowledge Management	TA	5.1. Adaptive management ensured and key lessons learned and exchanged nationally and at transborder levels	5.1.1. Project progress continuously monitored and mid-term and final evaluation conducted 5.1.2. Project achievements and results documented and KM products prepared for replication and scaling up 5.1.3. Active participation of key stakeholders in CBSL program facilitated[6]	GEFTF	915,072	7,594,926
			Subtotal	GEFTF	9,150,720	72,151,791
			Project Management Cost (PMC)	GEFTF	457,537	3,797,462
			Total Project Cost		9,608,257	75,949,253

INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount ($)
Recipient Country Government	Government of Cameroon	Grant + in-kind	Recurrent expenses	1,800,000
Recipient Country Government	Government of Cameroon	Grant	Investment mobilized	69,336,126
GEF Agency	WWF US	In-kind	Recurrent expenses	1,125,127

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[6] Budget will be allocated for participation the global IP framework events and activities

Civil society organization	WWF Cameroon	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,688,000
Civil society organization	Various (LZS, AWF, IUCN, TRAFFIC)	Grant + in-kind	Investment mobilized	2,000,000
Total Co-financing				75,949,253

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified. The bulk of investment mobilized is funding through Government-led, mostly donor-funded projects and programs (see annex D). Co-financing listed above includes only secured funding, recognizing that there are opportunities for further co-financing that have not yet been confirmed.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
WWF-US	GEFTF	Cameroon	Biodiversity	BD STAR	6,405,505	576,495	6,982,000
WWF-US	GEFTF	Cameroon	Multifocal Area	CBSL IP	3,202,752	288,248	3,491,000
Total GEF Resources					9,608,257	864,743	10,473,000

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)
Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

Yes ☒ If yes, PPG funds **have to be requested via the Portal** once the PFD is approved

No ☐ If no, skip this item.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
WWF-US	GEF TF	Cameroon	Biodiversity	BD STAR	200,000	18,000	218,000
WWF-US	GEF TF	Cameroon	Multifocal Area	CBSL IP	100,000	9,000	109,000
Total PPG Amount					300,000	27,000	327,000

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS
Provide the relevant sub-indicator values for this project using the methodologies indicated in the Core Indicator Worksheet provided in Annex B and aggregating them in the table below. Progress in programming against these targets is updated at the time of CEO endorsement, at midterm evaluation, and at terminal evaluation. Achieved targets will be aggregated and reported at any time during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	1,737,921
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)	4,788,555
5	Area of **marine habitat under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	

	Total area under improved management (Hectares)	6,526,476
6	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated** (metric tons of CO2e)	11.5 t/ha/yr or 1.5 billion t CO_{2eq} over 20-year period[7]
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	8,500 male and 8,000 female

Contribution to Aichi targets:
- Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society: Targets 1, 2, 4
- Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use: Targets 5, 7
- Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity: Targets 11, 12
- Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services: Targets 14, 15

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Country Context (maximum 500 words)
Describe the country's relevant environmental challenges and strategic positioning relative to the systems transformation proposed for the program, including relevant existing policies, commitments, and investment frameworks. How are these aligned with the proposed approach to foster impactful outcomes with global environmental benefits?

Cameroon's development vision is to become an emerging country by 2035. The drive towards large-scale infrastructure and extractive investments to power this growth, however, threatens the country's ecological future in the absence of an integrated land use plan. In 2011, Cameroon adopted the Orientation Law on Land-use and Sustainable Development providing for land-use planning at local, national and sectorial levels and in 2013 launched the development of a national land use masterplan and two regional land use plans for the East and South Regions. These processes aimed to promote sustainable management of natural resources and minimize land-uses conflicts.

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[7] Calculated using the FAO EXACT tool (version 7.2). Parameter used are: General: Continent: Africa; Climate: Tropical Moist; Soil type LAC; Project implementation phase: 4 years; Capitalization phase: 16 years; Duration of accounting: 20 years. Module 5: Management; Section 5.1 Forest Degradation and Management: Forest Zone 1: Tropical Rainforest; Area degraded: Assumed 6,526,476 ha; Initial state of degradation: Low; Without project state: Moderate; With project state: Very Low; Fire occurrence, periodicity: Yes; once/year, 5% of area burnt.

Globally, Cameroon has demonstrated political commitment to conserve biodiversity and contribute to the efforts against climate change through signature and ratification of the CBD, SDGs, UNFCCC and Paris Agreement. These global frameworks have largely shaped Cameroon's commitment to transformational change domestically and in the Congo Basin. Cameroon is also an active party to a number of regional agreements, including COMIFAC, CBFP, REPAR, and OCSFA, which lay out a framework for regional cooperation and coordination related to forest, wildlife and broader ecosystem management. Additionally, the country has signed two transboundary cooperation agreements with neighboring Central African Republic, Gabon, and the Republic of Congo to tackle transnational wildlife crime and ensure effective law enforcement and management: the Sangha Tri-National (TNS) agreement and the Tri-National Dja- Odzala-Minkebe (TRIDOM) agreement. A third agreement is underway with Equatorial Guinea.

The integrated landscape approach promoted under this Child Project will accelerate the development and implementation of the national land use masterplan, and related sub-plans for the East and South Regions. The project will build on the processes led by the Technical Operation Units (TOU) for Southeast, Campo Ma'an and Ngoyla-Mintom.

The Child Project will furthermore build off the National Sustainable Development Strategy, which has the goal to promote the incorporation of the environmental dimension into different policies and strategies. The National Sustainable Development Strategy is complemented by the Rural Sector Development Strategy which aims to ensure sustainable management of natural resources including environmental benefits.

At the sectoral level the Project will contribute to various policies and plans including the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the Forestry and Wildlife Regulations, the National Forest Investment Plan and the Rural Sector Development Strategy. The Project will generate green jobs in support of the medium-term development strategy and its sequel for the country becoming and emerging economy by 2035, the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper.

Finally, the Project will help Cameroon deliver on its various commitments under the CBD, SDG and UNFCCC and will contribute to Cameroon's Nationally Determined Contributions to the Paris Agreement. At the sub-regional level, it will help Cameroon deliver on its commitments to COMIFAC and other sub-regional structures to which Cameroon is a member, including the TRIDOM and TNS Transboundary Agreements.

2. **Project Overview and Approach (maximum 1250 words)**
a) **Provide a brief description of the geographical target(s), including details of systemic challenges, and the specific environmental threats and associated drivers that must be addressed;**

The project targets Cameroon's southern trans-frontier forest belt, which stretches from the Rio Campo seascape on the coast, across the Cameroon segments of the Tri-National Dja- Odzala-Minkebe (TRIDOM) and Sangha Tri-National (TNS) landscapes towards the east. With a 97% forest cover and a deforestation rate of 0.2% per decade (1990-2010) the Campo-TRIDOM-TNS landscape represents one of the most intact forest blocks in the Congo Basin, locking up vast amounts of carbon and hosting rich biodiversity. The landscape includes diverse habitats such as tropical forests and wetlands (including swamp forests and periodically flooded forests), viable populations of faunal assemblages, and rare and endangered species such as forest elephants, gorillas, chimpanzees, and several antelope species.

Throughout the project area, local communities and indigenous people depend heavily on forest resources. This includes both Indigenous groups and other community groups[8]. Their way of life is inextricably linked to the forest. Women and girls, in particular, are closely dependent on natural resources, yet are weakly associated with the management of the resources and the decision-making processes that affect them.

A map of the project area is presented in Annex B.

The main systemic challenges being faced in the target area are:
- Forest degradation driven by unsustainable logging and conversion of forest land for agricultural purposes, artisanal and industrial mining and new infrastructure development.
- Declining wildlife populations linked to wildlife crime and land use change/habitat fragmentation.
- Extreme poverty and tensions between local and indigenous people and protected area strategies linked to non-inclusive governance and inadequate benefit-sharing mechanisms.
- Poor inter-sectoral planning and management of natural capital, hampering appropriate valuation and trade-offs between sectoral interests.
- The absence of sustainable natural resource-based finance and income-generating opportunities leading to an under-appreciation of existing natural capital values.

Annex C presents a systematic problem analysis of the environmental problems, threats, and drivers in the project area.

b) Describe the existing or planned baseline investments, including current institutional framework and processes for stakeholder engagement and gender integration;

Cameroon has made great strides conserving its transboundary forest and wildlife landscapes in the southern part of the country. It established a network of protected areas as well as cooperation agreements with bordering countries on the transboundary management of their shared ecosystems. The national land use plans for the East and South Regions provide a strong basis for the development of this Project.

The target landscape has been subject to a large range of conservation-related projects and initiatives over the years, including considerable Government investments and bilateral and multi-lateral programs. Based on an initial assessment of current (ongoing and confirmed) projects and Government investments in the region, the total baseline is estimated at US $76,624,126. For a full list of baseline projects and initiatives, see Annex D. Key baseline initiatives include the National Zoning Plan and the East and South Regional Zoning Plans, the Program for Integrated Land-use Management of the Dja Mining Belt and the Adjacent Border area, the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI), the 2020 Forest and Wildlife Sub-sector strategy and the Campo Ma'an ecotourism development program.

The project will be supported by existing institutional structures. The Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection will be the lead executing agency for this project. The Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) will be a key stakeholder as the mandated institution for the management of wildlife and forest resources in the country. Other key sectors include Agriculture (MINADER), Land Affairs (MINDCAF), Social Affairs (MINAS), Energy and Water (MINEE) Finance (MINFI), Mining (MINIMIDT) and

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[8] In light of the complexities and sensitivities between different ethnic groups, a community engagement strategy will be developed during the project PPG phase to define appropriate multi-ethnic and inter-ethnic engagement measures.

Public works (MINTP). Finally, the Ministry of External Affairs will provide an important role in linking to neighboring countries.

A range of other stakeholders will play a key role in the project, either as beneficiaries or as active participants/partners. Stakeholders include Indigenous People and Local Communities (IPLCs). The Constitution of the Republic of Cameroon recognizes the rights of indigenous people. The Country adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007 and created a Platform of Indigenous Peoples for the REDD + process in 2018. An agreement was recently signed between the Government of Cameroon and the Baka IPs regarding greater access rights and joint management of some national parks[9].

In line with its national gender policy, Cameroon is committed to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, with an emphasis on strengthening the role of women in the sustainable management of forests. A project-specific gender strategy will be completed during project development. The strategy will specify measures for ensuring equitable access and control of natural resources, participation and decision making, and socio-economic benefits and services. It will include indicators and gender disaggregated monitoring.

c) Describe how the integrated approach proposed for the child project responds to and reflects the Program's Theory of Change, and as such is an appropriate and suitable option for tackling the systemic challenges, and to achieve the desired transformation with multiple global environmental benefits; and

The Child Project supports the CBSL Theory of Change, including integrated land-use planning (Component 1); sustainable forest and wildlife management (Component 2); participatory natural resources management and benefit sharing mechanisms (Component 3); and cross-cutting issues such as capacity building, knowledge management and transboundary cooperation (Component 4).

The project area has High Forest Cover and Low Deforestation (HLFD), with unique flora and fauna. By addressing the drivers of forest loss and degradation in a holistic, integrated approach, the project will generate multiple global environmental benefits, including biodiversity conservation, land degradation, carbon sequestration and improving overall climate resilience (see Core Indicators).

d) Describe the project's incremental reasoning for GEF financing under the program, including the results framework and components.

The proposed project builds upon a strong national commitment to forest landscape management and restoration. Despite this commitment, weaknesses in inter-sectoral planning and management approaches, as well as related capacity challenges, remain barriers to achieving sustainable landscape level conservation goals.

The project aims to bring a new set of tools and approaches such as natural and social capital assessment, land use change and driver analyses to Cameroon, which will enable the Government and partners to work towards integrated landscape planning and management.

The project will be based on five mutually reinforcing components:

Component 1: Mainstreaming integrated landscape planning and management. This component includes:

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[9] http://initiatives-afrik.com/cameroon-indigenous-peoples-access-right-into-the-forest-granted

- Application of integrated land-use planning for priority areas within the landscape[10].
- Promotion of tools such as natural capital assessment, land use change and driver analyses.
- Improving institutional, policy, legal and financial enabling conditions for sustainable land-use planning and management, capacity building for local communities, IPs and CSOs.

Component 2: Advancing SFM. The objective of this component is to reduce net forest lost in forest landscapes while conserving biodiversity and local livelihoods, through:
- Promoting models for SFM, including community forest initiatives, PPPs and non-timber forest products.
- Enhancing forest governance, including regulatory instruments for forest value chains, payment for environmental services and improved access and benefit sharing.
- Benefit-generation from sustainable forest management, e.g. through REDD+.

Component 3: Promoting sustainable wildlife management. The objective of this component is to ensure that key wildlife populations are stabilized and increasing, through:
- Developing and supporting PPP models for wildlife management areas.
- Strengthening wildlife law enforcement through capacity building on human and IP rights in anti-poaching activities, etc.
- Promoting participatory wildlife management, including wildlife management in corridors.

Component 4: Improving benefit generation from biodiversity through sustainable tourism development. The project will:
- Develop sustainable tourism opportunities for Campo.
- Support the development and implementation of participatory (community/private sector) tourism models.

Component 5 focuses on coordination, cooperation, and M&E, including knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis and communication of experiences nationally and regionally (see following section).

The above approaches will be tailored to different parts of the landscape, in coordination with neighboring countries. A key focus will be on sectors falling within the border regions and wildlife migration corridors.

3. Engagement with the Global / Regional Framework (maximum 500 words)
Describe how the project will align with the global / regional framework for the program to foster knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis of experiences. How will the proposed approach scale-up from the local and national level to maximize engagement by all relevant stakeholders and/or actors?

Component 5 of Cameroon's CBSL Child Project focuses on coordination, cooperation, and M&E, including knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis and communication of experiences nationally and regionally. The key elements are summarized below.

Coordination

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[10] Focus on the Mintom and Ngoyla council areas, which is part of the TRIDOM transboundary landscape; MINEPAT already prioritized the Southern and Eastern region for LUP of which the Ngoyla-Mintom councils form part. The specific areas are biodiversity rich, presence of IP, ongoing reflection about the allocation of land for carbon, PAs, agriculture, mining, with potentially highly conflicting interests from multiple stakeholders, including IPLCs. The area is furthermore in the transboundary zone.

The Project Management Unit will ensure consistent coordination with the CBSL IP through program-level calls and information sharing. At the national level, inter-agency cooperation and coordination will be mainstreamed throughout the project components. Finally, the Project Steering Committee will be designed to ensure both efficient decision-making and will include key stakeholders from the national/landscape level.

Monitoring & Evaluation

The project's Monitoring and Evaluation framework will include project-specific indicators and GEF Core Indicators that will contribute to the wider CBSL Impact Program. An annual reflection workshop will be organized with landscape and national level stakeholders to evaluate the child project's strategies and approach. Bi-annual (6 monthly) reporting, a midterm evaluation, and a terminal evaluation will track project-level progress and allow for learning and synthesis of experiences.

Knowledge Management and Learning

The project will develop a knowledge management strategy during project development to ensure knowledge is appropriately (i) captured, (ii) analyzed, (iii) shared and incorporated into the project strategy when relevant. A key focus of the knowledge management strategy will be documenting lessons/steps from the project. The project will develop knowledge products that will be shared with the wider CBSL Learning Network, and the project team and stakeholders will participate in learning and experience exchange events organized under this umbrella.

More specifically, the project has allocated budget to attend regional learning events organized by the CBSL Program Coordination Project. The project will finance specific exchange visits with other CB countries. These activities will be designed in close coordination with CBSL partner countries to maximize learning and information exchange during the life of the project.

Communications

A communications strategy will be developed during project development to support knowledge management and information sharing. Communications products such as a project website will be developed and linked to the CBSL IP. Information will be disseminated to local, landscape, national, and regional level stakeholders.

Annex A

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Core Indicator 1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use					_1,737,921 ha_
				Hectares (1.1+1.2)		
				Expected		Achieved
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Total area under PA status as per indicator 1.2			_1,737,921_			
Indicator 1.1	Terrestrial protected areas newly created						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category		Hectares			
				Expected		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			(select)				
			(select)				
			Sum				
Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
					Endorsement	MTR	TE
Boumba Bek	308624	II National Park	236,176	69%			
Campo Ma'an	1242	II National Park	260,944	69%			
Dja	1240	VI PA with sustainable use of natural resources	526,624	72%			
Lobéké	1245	II National Park	217,854	70%			
Mengame	308636	VI PA with sustainable use of natural resources	26,710	48%			
NKI	30674	II National Park	312,965	66%			
NGOYLA	555622119	VI PA with sustainable use of natural resources	156,648	48%			
		Sum	1,737,921				
Core Indicator 4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)						_4,788,555_
				Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)			
				Expected		Expected	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Total area under improved practices			_4,788,555_			
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity						
				Hectares			
				Expected		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Wildlife corridors between protected area and their peripheral zones.		218,000			
		Area under community forests		596,860			
		Area under forest concessions		3,797,736			
		Sum		4,612,596			

Indicator 4.2	Area of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations				

Third party certification(s): *FSC*		Hectares			
		Expected		Achieved	
	Area currently under FSC certified logging concessions	PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		120,959			

Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems				
		Hectares			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Area currently under cocoa production	55,000			

Indicator 4.4	Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided				
Include documentation that justifies HCVF		Hectares			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Core Indicator 6	Greenhouse gas emission mitigated				**1.5 billion t CO2eq over 20-year period**
		Expected metric tons of CO$_2$e (6.1+6.2)			
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)	11.5 t/ha/yr or 1.5 billion t CO2eq over 20-year period			
	Expected CO2e (indirect)				

Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (see note below)				
		Expected metric tons of CO$_2$e			
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)				
	Expected CO2e (indirect)				
	Anticipated start year of accounting				
	Duration of accounting	*20 yr*			

Core Indicator 11	**Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**				*16,500*
		Number			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Female	*8,000*			
	Male	*8,500*			
	Total	*16,500*			

Note on Core Indicator 6: Calculated using the FAO EXACT tool (version 7.2). Parameter used are: <u>General</u>: Continent: Africa; Climate: Tropical Moist; Soil type LAC; Project implementation phase: 4 years; Capitalization phase: 16 years; Duration of accounting: 20 years. <u>Module 5: Management; Section 5.1 Forest Degradation and Management:</u> Forest Zone 1: Tropical Rainforest; Area degraded: Assumed 6,526,476 ha; Initial state of degradation: Low; Without project state: Moderate; With project state: Very Low; Fire occurrence, periodicity: Yes; once/year, 5% of area burnt.

Map of the project area

Annex C

Problem analysis

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Underlying factors

- Dependence on natural resources for livelihoods
- Population pressure and growth
- Climate change
- Market demand for forest and wildlife products
- Poor institutional governance and corruption
- Limited education and awareness

Key barriers

Poor inter-sectoral planning
- Inadequate institutional coordination
- Lack of integrated landuse planning tools and systems

Weak transboundary cooperation
- Poor trade tracking and customs systems
- Lack of cross-border coordination

Market, policy and institutional failures of SFM
- Lack of incentives for sustainable forest value chains
- Poor market, PES and benefit sharing regulations

Poor wildlife crime management
- Inadequate enforcement capacity & systems
- Inadequate coordination and strategies

Poor community and private sector engagement
- Absence of sustainable business case
- Poor participatory management models

Poor revenue generation from biodiversity
- Absence of benefit sharing mechanisms
- Lack of viable income generation activities

Direct threats

- Landuse changes
- Unsustainable use and extraction of natural resources
- Unsustainable economic activities (mining, agr, etc)
- Conflicts between resource users

Environmental problem/impact

- Land degradation
- Loss of forests and forest health
- Loss of wildlife and biodiversity

Consequences

- Loss of ecosystem services
- Climate change
- Loss of livelihood opportunities
- Loss of economic opportunities

The key environmental problems to be addressed by the project are:

- <u>Forest degradation</u> mainly driven by unsustainable logging and conversion of forest land for agricultural purposes. Meanwhile, artisanal and industrial mining, and new infrastructure development are increasing at a high rate, and seriously threatening intact forests in the near-term.

- <u>Declining populations of emblematic species</u> such as primates and elephants linked to wildlife crimes and land use change/habitat fragmentation.

- <u>Land degradation</u> resulting from the conversion of forest for other land uses as well as the wide-spread application of unsustainable agricultural practices such as shifting cultivation and slash-and-burn

The project aims to tackle the following main drivers:

- <u>Conflicting and isolated sectoral developments accelerate pressures on natural resources.</u> The strong drive towards large-scale infrastructure, extractive investments, and investments into agro-business to already degraded forests as well as agricultural expansion, combined with poorly formulated land and resource use plans and a general lack of integrated, multi-sectoral planning, threatens the ecological future of the landscapes.

- <u>Weak transboundary cooperation.</u> While cross-border agreements with neighboring countries around key biodiversity areas have been signed, their implementation is still lagging behind. Both development and conservation plans do not adequately take into account the transboundary nature of wildlife migration and other biodiversity aspects, as well as illegal trade in forest and wildlife products across borders remains an issue.

- <u>Market, policy and institutional failures of forest management.</u> In the absence of a conducive regulatory framework and market incentives, few industrial holdings, including the logging industry, have adopted best practices of forest management. Also, the artisanal logging sector is increasing aggravating the impact on biodiversity and carbon stocks. Furthermore, the lack of sustainable agricultural practices poses substantial risk of forest land conversion.

- <u>Wildlife crime:</u> Skyrocketing local ivory prices have brought criminal ivory trafficking networks to the project area. Between 2011/12 and 2015, the Boumba Bek National park lost 80% of its forest elephant population, while the Nki national park lost 90%. Elephant poaching not only affects the loss of a charismatic species, but the loss of forest elephants also affects the regeneration of trees and vegetation dependent on elephant dispersal.

- <u>Poor community and private sector engagement:</u> Although the Cameroon Forestry Law and its implementation instruments acknowledge the primordial role of local communities and the private sector in the management of forest and wildlife resources, real appropriation of access and user rights by communities and private sector in conservation is largely absent. Consequently, most conservation areas are still struggling to promote and generate long-term sustainable management and benefit sharing mechanism.

- <u>Poor revenue generation from biodiversity conservation:</u> Sustainable biodiversity conservation can only be achieved if its benefits are widely appreciated and valued. The development of income-generation mechanism from tourism, carbon finance and other sources is therefore crucial to increase revenue generation from biodiversity conservation.

Provisional list of baseline projects and initiatives

Component 1: Integrated landscape planning

Description	Source of funding	Budget (US$)	Timeline	Describe relevance to the project
The National Zoning Plan and the East and South Regional Zoning Plans	Government of Cameroon	3,650,000 USD	2015 - 2020	The Government in 2014 initiated the process for the development of an integrated land-use plan with a National Land-use master plan, which based on diagnostic of the current situation provide perspectives for the development of a national land-use plan, regional land use plans and later cascaded to the local levels with council land use plans. The Government equally launched alongside the development of the National Land-use master plan, regional land use plans with two pilot regions i.e. the South and East Regions. The selection of these two regions can be justified considering that these regions receive far more pressure for different land-uses especially for infrastructure development, extractives, logging, biodiversity conservation, etc. The two regions also constitute part of the TRIDOM landscape.
Program for Integrated Land-use Management of the Dja Mining Belt and the Adjacent Border area	Government of Cameroon (MINEPAT-PADI DJA)	16,345,455 USD (10,909,091 for infrastructure and 5,436,364 for studies)	2017-2030	The Program was set up within the context of the Mbalam iron ore industrial mining exploitation project and concern 11 council areas around the Dja Faunal Reserve, the Ngoyla-Mintom Forest Block and the Nki National Park. Its overall objective is to improve the living conditions of the local populations as well as enhance cross-border exchanges through integrated land use management that involves construction of socio-economic infrastructures for local development as well as providing institutional support within the context of industrial mining in the concerned regions.
LandCam Project (CED)	EU	3,636,364 USD	2017 - 2021	The project's main objectives support the effective engagement in local communities and stakeholders in government planning processes, with as its key objectives:

Description	Source of funding	Budget	Timeline	Relevance
				• To strengthen capacity and pilot approaches in selected sites that enable stakeholder voices to be heard and rights to be secured • To create spaces for more informed, effective and inclusive dialogue on designing and implementing reforms, and • To track land and natural resource governance, including legal reforms, and share lessons nationally and internationally.
Cameroon Mining Sector Technical Assistance Project	World Bank	USD 30,000,000	2011 - 2021	The objective of the Mining Sector Capacity Building Project for Cameroon is to improve (i) the efficiency and transparency of mining sector management; and (ii) the frameworks for sustainable mining development.
Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI)	World Bank	1,250,000 USD	2016 - 2018	A preparatory grant to develop Cameroon's National Investment Framework for REDD+
National Programme for Participatory Development (PNDP) Phase 3	MINEPAT+ Multi-donor	87, 830, 000 USD Component 1 (support to local development)	2018-2022	The Program Development Objective in its third phase is to strengthen the management of local public finance as well as participatory development processes within the local councils to ensure the provision of sustainable and quality socio-economic infrastructure and services. The program has the following components: Support to local development and support to the decentralization Process.
Cartographie et gouvernance forestière dans le bassin du Congo	APIFED (Rainforest UK)	220,000 USD	2019-2022	Cartographie des espaces et des ressources des communautés autour de certains projets structurants. 2ème phase en cours de négociation

Component 2: Sustainable Forest Management

Description	Source of funding	Budget (US$)	Timeline	Describe relevance to the project
2020 Forest and Wildlife Sub-sector strategy	Government+	9,000,000	2020-2025	Reference strategy for Government investments on wildlife management
WWF TRIDOM Landscape program	WWF	1,360,000	2019-2024	TRIDOM landscape
National FSC standard development group	PPECF/WWF/FSC		2015-2021	Development National Forest Stewardship Standards with the participation of ANOR
ECOFAC 6 and 7	EU	4,520,000	2017-2022	Protected area management, law enforcement, livelihoods. Ongoing. TRIDOM

IUCN	Green Climate Fund	10,000,000	2020-2024	Securing Permanent Forests to Combat Climate Change and Enhance National and Local Economies in Cameroon (provisional)
Sustainable Agriculture	Rainforest Alliance	1,000,000	2019-2024	
Sustainable cocoa production	IDH		2020-2024	Sustainable commodity production
	FOND COMMUN (MINFOF)	33 900 000 (For Component 2, 3 & 4)	2019-2024	Counterpart funds
Projet d'appui à la Protection et à la préservation de la réserve de biosphère du Dja par la promotion de l'agriculture durable dans Cinq (05) villages de la commune de Somalomo, Département du Haut-Nyong , Région de l'Est Cameroun	AFAIRD	184 000	2019-2020	1- Contribuer à vulgariser les pratiques agro-écologiques visant à réduire les émissions de CO2, et renforçant la résilience au changement climatique 2- Contribuer à lutter contre l'exploitation abusive des ressources forestières et fauniques par la construction d'une digue humaine de surveillance du patrimoine et autonomisation socioéconomique de la femme et de la famille sur le chantier de la gouvernance et du développement locale durable

Component 3: Sustainable Wildlife Management

Description	Source of funding	Budget (US$)	Timeline	Describe relevance to the project
2020 Forest and Wildlife Sub-sector strategy	Government	4,500,000	2020-2025	Reference strategy for Government investments on wildlife management
Campo Ma'an landscape FEDEC Trust Fund	African Wildlife Foundation	600,000	2020-2025	Supports the management of Campo Ma'an NP.
WWF TRIDOM Landscape program	WWF	1,360,000	2020-2025	TRIDOM landscape
EU ECOFAC TRIDOM	EU	2,385,291	2019-2022	TRIDOM landscape
EU ECOFAC 6	ZSL	2,260,000	2020-2022	TRIDOM landscape
Sangha Tri-National Trust Fund	KFW-AFD	2,085,000	2020-2025	TNS landscape: support the effective management of the Lobeke National Park
WWF TNS program	WWF	600,000	2020-2025	TNS landscape
Private Sectors (Safari, logging, …)			2020	Implement social and environmental safeguards
IUCN	Green Climate Fund	10,000,000	2020-2024	Securing Permanent Forests to Combat Climate Change and Enhance National and Local Economies in Cameroon (provisional)
CAWFHI	UNESCO EU	800,000 euros	2021-2023	Protection of World Heritage Sites –TRIDOM and TNS

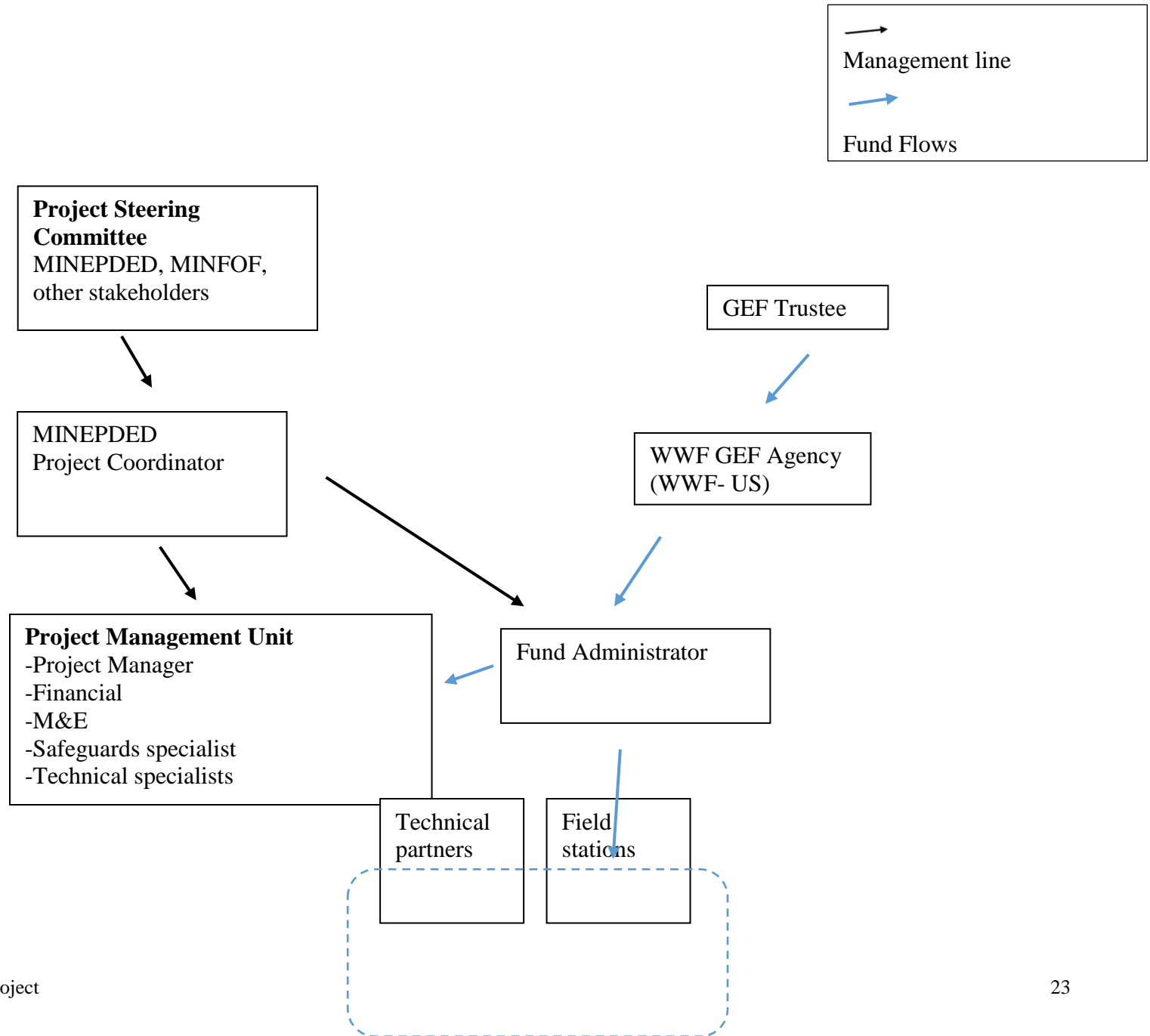|	EU UNODC	1,000,000	2020-2024	Formation des magistrats à Djoum
Sangha Tri-National Trust Fund	?	2,100,000	2020-2025	TNS landscape: support the effective management of the Lobeke National Park
WWF TNS program	WWF	600,000	2020-2025	TNS landscape

Component 4: Sustainable Tourism

Description	Source of funding	Budget (US$)	Timeline	Describe relevance to the project
Project "Gestion et mise en œuvre du plan de développement, et suivi de l'éco-tourisme au parc national de Campo Ma'an et sa zone périphérique»	KfW (MINFOF-MINTOUL-AWF-WWF)	1,820,000 US$	2019-2022	The goal of this project is the populations of great apes and elephants in the Campo Ma'an National Park are increased or stabilized as per 2014 level and contributing to improved livelihoods of the surrounding communities. The overall objective of this project is to secure great ape and elephant populations in CMNP by increasing the effectiveness of law enforcement efforts while continuing to develop the foundation for conscientious gorilla-based tourism, which carries great potential to improve the livelihoods of the local communities. The implementation of this project will enable the success of gorilla habituation and tourism, which can represent a valuable conservation tool, generating much needed income for the management of the park (support to habituation and health staff costs, etc.), providing benefits to the local population living near the Dipikar Island (approx. 2,900 individuals) through benefit sharing of future tourism revenue, and raising local and international support for the protection of the area and its gorilla population.
Conservation programme in the Campo Ma'an national Park and it periphery	**FEDEC Trust Fund**.	600 000	2018-2024	The goal is to 'Strengthen the participative protection system of the park and its peripheral zone in a context of integrated management of the space in order to maintain its biodiversity, habitats and contribute to local development '. Five objectives have been defined to achieve this goal:

				-protection of endangered species (elephants, great apes, sea turtles) and their habitats, -community management of natural resources and poverty reduction; -cross-border management of Campo-Ma'an / Rio-Campo; -management of marine ecosystems, -climate change (protection of the integrity of mangrove ecosystems in the Ntem estuary).
Bengo Project	WWF Germany	736,000 US	2017-2021	This project therefore proposes a 'one health approach' to attain optimal health for people, by ensuring that wildlife in Congo Basin ecotourism sites are also monitored for early detection of potential outbreaks. Continuous on-site human health monitoring, veterinary monitoring and real time investigation of disease and death in great apes and wildlife will be used to aid in the early detection of pathogens
Ecotourism promotion and REDD+ in Cameroon forest Councils	APIFED/MINTOUL	1 360 000 USD	2020-2025	Improve livelihood of local communities with touristic activities in meyomessi, meyomessala, Mintom, Djoum , Oveng, Somalomo, Lomié, ambam councils …
Community base tourism at Ebodje	CUSO/MINTOUL	15 000 000 USD (for the 1st phase which goes to 2019)	2017-2024	Development of ecotourism products in the Ebodje (25 km from campo) area and construction of infrastructures

Institutional Governance

Management line

Fund Flows

Project Steering Committee
MINEPDED, MINFOF, other stakeholders

GEF Trustee

MINEPDED
Project Coordinator

WWF GEF Agency
(WWF- US)

Project Management Unit
-Project Manager
-Financial
-M&E
-Safeguards specialist
-Technical specialists

Fund Administrator

Technical partners

Field stations

GEF-7 CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT

CHILD PROJECT TYPE: Full-size Child Project
PROGRAM: IP SFP Congo

Child Project Title:	Scaling up ecological corridors and transboundary connectivity through integrated natural resources management in the Ngotto Forest landscape and Mbaéré-Bodingué National Park
Country:	Central African Republic
Lead Agency	UNEP
GEF Agency(ies):	WB

INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
BD 1-1	GEFTF	1,014,251	1,500,000
BD 2-7	GEFTF	1,014,251	1,500,000
CCM 2-7	GEFTF	507,125	8,400,000
LD 1-2	GEFTF	2,028,502	11,600,000
LD 1-4	GEFTF	507,125	1,500,000
IP SFM Congo	GEFTF	2,535,627	3,000,000
Total Project Cost		**7,606,881**	**27,500,000**

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: improving integrated natural resources management and sustainable rural livelihoods in the Ngotto Forest landscape and Mbaéré-Bodingué National Park (PNBM)						
Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
Institutional support	Technical Assistance	Enhanced policy and institutional frameworks for integrated landscape management and conservation in CAR	Capacity building and expert support for authorities and stakeholders. Areas of focus for support include: - enabling frameworks (policies, legal, technical tools etc.) for integrated natural resource management (Ngotto) and protected areas (PNMB); - data collection and management on natural capital (biodiversity, carbon etc.); - development of monitoring indicators on natural capital management.	GEFTF	1,521,376	9,158,000

Conservation	Investment	Enhanced protection of natural capital in the targeted landscape	Conservation investments and actions. Areas of focus for support include: - anti-poaching activities by the forest and environment administrations and local communities (PNMB, Ngotto); - enhanced conservation practices by the private sector (e.g. logging companies) (Ngotto); - infrastructure (e.g. trails, guard stations etc.), equipment and management & planning tools supporting protected areas (PNMB).	GEFTF	2,662,408	3,572,000
Local development	Investment	Enhanced alternatives livelihoods and private sector opportunities in the targeted landscape	Investment in income generating, sustainable economic activities involving communities and the private sector. Areas of focus for support include: - pilot participative approaches for community-based natural resources management; - sustainable value chain development; - ecotourism infrastructure etc.	GEFTF	3,060,865	13,395,000
Subtotal				GEFTF	7,244,649	26,125,000
Project Management Cost (PMC) 5%				GEFTF	362,232	1,375,000
Total Project Cost					7,606,881	27,500,000

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: (N/A)

INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount ($)
Donor Agency	World Bank (International Development Association)	Grant	Investment Mobilized	10,000,000
Donor Agency	World Bank (Forest Carbon Partnership Facility)	Grant	Investment Mobilized	3,800,000
Donor Agency	World Bank (Central African Forest Initiative)	Grant	Investment Mobilized	700,000
Donor Agency	French Development Agency	Grant	Investment Mobilized	7,000,000

Donor Agency	World Wide Fund for Nature	Grant	Investment Mobilized	6,000,000
Total Co-financing				**27,500,000**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified.

The above listed indicative sources of co-financing for Investment Mobilized were identified through discussions with government and partners based on current and planned projects and programs supporting the objective and outcomes of the proposed child project.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
WB	GEFTF	CAR	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	2,540,106	228,610	2,768,716
WB	GEFTF	CAR	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	1,334,776	120,130	1,454,906
WB	GEFTF	CAR	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	1,196,372	107,673	1,304,045
WB	GEFTF	CAR	Multifocal Area	IP SFM Congo	2,535,627	228,206	2,763,833
Total GEF Resources					**7,606,881**	**684,619**	**8,291,500**

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested? Yes

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
WB	GEFTF	CAR	Biodiversity	IP SFM Congo	61,270	5,514	66,784
WB	GEFTF	CAR	Land Degradation	IP SFM Congo	32,196	2,898	35,094
WB	GEFTF	CAR	Climate Change	IP SFM Congo	28,858	2,597	31,455
WB	GEFTF	CAR	Multifocal Area	IP SFM Congo	61,162	5,505	66,667
Total PPG Amount					**183,486**	**165,14**	**200,000**

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

Provide the relevant sub-indicator values for this project using the methodologies indicated in the Core Indicator Worksheet provided in Annex B and aggregating them in the table below. Progress in programming against these targets is updated at the time of CEO endorsement, at midterm evaluation, and at terminal evaluation. Achieved targets will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	458,196
2	**Marine protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	0
3	Area of **land restored (**Hectares)	0

4	Area of **landscapes under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	1,214,400
5	Area of **marine habitat under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	0
	Total area under improved management (Hectares)	1,672,596
6	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated** (metric tons of CO2e)	400,000
7	**Number of shared water ecosystems** (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management	0
8	Globally over-exploited **marine fisheries** moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)	0
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)	0
10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of **POPs to air** from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	0
11	Number of **direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender** as co-benefit of GEF investment	22,000

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicators targets are not provided.

Areas in indicator 1 include the PNMB (960 km²), the Dzanga-Ndoki National Park (1,222 km²) and the Dzanga Sangha Reserve (3,359 km²). Areas of landscapes under improved practices in indicator 4 include the Ngotto Forest (7,144 km²) and the forest corridor between the Ngotto Forest and the Dzanga-Sangha Protected Zone (APDS, about 5,000 km²). Estimates on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) mitigation are based on data from Global Forest Watch (https://www.globalforestwatch.org/) and an indicative target for reduction in forest cover loss of 20%. The number of direct beneficiaries, which is based on data from the 2003 census in the Ngotto Forest area, is conservative given the lack of more recent data and that the targeted landscape is broader than the Ngotto Forest alone (although Ngotto is the focus).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Country Context (*maximum 500 words*)

Describe the country's relevant environmental challenges and strategic positioning relative to the systems transformation proposed for the program, including relevant existing policies, commitments, and investment frameworks. How are these aligned with the proposed approach to foster impactful outcomes with global environmental benefits?

The Central African Republic (CAR) is a landlocked country covering an area of 622,984 km² with a mostly rural population estimated at 5.1 million. CAR is an extremely poor country, which has suffered repeated cycles of violence. CAR's forests cover nearly 15% of the country, including 9,250,000 ha of closed-canopy forests. Dense rainforests occupy nearly 9% of the country's territory and are split into two blocks: the southwest massif (3,787,777 ha) including 2,608,700 ha of productive forests with exploitation permits, and the southeast covering 1,600,000 ha of non-productive forests though subject to illegal logging. Protected areas cover 6,814,200 ha, or 11% of the country's territory. The Dzanga-Sangha Protected Zone (APDS) in southwest CAR is exceptionally rich in biodiversity, including many rare and endemic species (western lowland gorilla and chimpanzee, forest and savannah elephant, reptiles, birds etc.). Other areas in the southwest forest massif, in particular the Mbaéré-Bodingué National Park and surrounding Ngotto Forest, present significant biodiversity patterns but remain institutionally isolated from the APDS, thus limiting continuity with the biological richness of the broader Sangha Tri-National (TNS) zone.

There were approximately 1 million inhabitants in the forest prefectures of southwestern CAR in 2003. Indigenous populations are in Lobaye, Sangha Mbaéré, and Mambéré-Kadei prefectures and mainly composed of individuals of the Aka group, also called Bayaka. Like in other areas in the sub-region, Indigenous populations are marginalized from the socioeconomic fabric of communities, and their total numbers are hard to estimate as no comprehensive census has been carried out. CAR's forest is challenged by many drivers of environmental degradation. Recurring military-political crises, insufficient investment capacity by the State, and the lack of consistency between sectoral policies and institutions are all factors preventing a common understanding of the challenges presented by conservation and sustainable exploitation of natural resources and consequently preventing an effective response to those challenges. However, it is important to note that the project intervention zone is the most stable and secure region in the country, thus ensuring the best chance of success.

To align more effectively with the multilateral Central African management of forests and natural resources, the country has committed to incorporating key international and regional processes – including Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Aichi targets under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Conference on Dense and Humid Forests Ecosystems of Central Africa (CEFDHAC), Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) and Convention 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. The Central Africa Forest Commission (COMIFAC) provides CAR with a platform for dialogue and consultation to facilitate the region-wide implementation of the conventions and initiatives adopted to realize member states' common vision of conservation and sustainable management of the forests of the Congo Basin. Completing this framework is the Congo Basin Forestry Partnership (CBFP), which enables a set of governmental and non-governmental players, including the private sector and civil society, to collaborate on safeguarding the Basin. CAR is an active member of cross-border cooperation effort with Cameroon and the Republic of Congo embodied in the Sangha Tri-National (TNS) zone and has signed a cooperation agreement to this effect.

2. **Project Overview and Approach (***maximum 1250 words***)**

a) *Provide a brief description of the geographical target(s), including details of systemic challenges, and the specific environmental threats and associated drivers that must be addressed;*

The targeted area (here referred to as "TNS+ Landscape") is in Southwest CAR and covers the forest continuum spreading from the Dzanga-Sangha Protected Zone (APDS), formally part of TNS, up to the Ngotto forest (see map in Annex b):

- Mbaéré-Bodingué National Park (PNMB): covers 960 km² in Sangha-Mbaéré Prefecture. The flood-prone forests along PNMB's two main rivers are recognized as Ramsar wetlands of major international importance.

- Ngotto Forest (PNMB buffer zone): covers 7,144 km² in the Lobaye and Sangha-Mbaéré prefectures on the border with the Republic of Congo. Ngotto Forest is divided into three forest exploitation concessions.

- Forest corridor between Ngotto Forest and the APDS: forms a 5,000 km² strip in Sangha-Mbaéré Prefecture and covers two to three forest concessions.

- APDS: consists of two contiguous forest regions, the Dzanga-Ndoki National Park (1,222 km²) and the Dzanga Sangha Reserve (3,359 km²) that includes a 490 km² zone set aside exclusively for community hunting, the rest being covered by two logging permits since 2014.

Systemic challenges facing the targeted landscape include recurring military-political crises, lack of consistency between sectoral policies, poor coordination between national and local institutions, insufficient investment capacity by the State, institutional and organizational weaknesses of support structures – including local communities, and weaknesses in the cross-border. Climate fluctuations and climate change exacerbate the vulnerability of populations and forest ecosystems to these factors. In addition, the target landscape faces specific drivers of environmental degradation including itinerant slash-burn agriculture practices, anarchic (semi-)artisanal mining operations, uncontrolled expansion of felling, fishing, and harvesting by rural populations, and presence of armed rebel groups in forest areas weakening government oversight and overall governance. The country's land use planning issues are exacerbating environmental degradation.

b) *Describe the existing or planned baseline investments, including current institutional framework and processes for stakeholder engagement and gender integration;*

The following has been noted in the area:

- The PNMB is institutionally isolated and disconnected from the APDS network and the overall TNS landscape. It is currently managed by the forest administration which does not have adequate resources for the Park's operational and development needs (i.e. 5/6 agents lacking communication and transportation means and thus unable to perform field work).

- The dependence of communities on natural resources due to deep poverty and the area's isolation leads to a great deal of poaching and overexploitation of natural resources in the PNMB and surrounding area. Without this project's intervention, maintaining the corridor will be severely threatened and will eventually lead to the Ngotto Forest's complete isolation.

- There are gaps in the legal, institutional, and technical frameworks for the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources (Forest Code, Environmental Code). The government's limited human, material, and financial resources prevent effective implementation.

This is especially relevant for the Ministry of Forest and Water, and its 2 Regional Directorates in the area, which oversees forest governance and controls including wildlife and protected areas.

- Although the participative management of natural resources is encouraged in CAR, it faces several challenges, especially the lack of awareness and accountability of local communities, poor technical and financial capacity of national Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for carrying out activities in the field and negotiating with public authorities.

- Discrimination and socio-economic marginalization of young people, women and indigenous populations, also limiting access to natural resources.

c) *Describe how the integrated approach proposed for the child project responds to and reflects the Program's Theory of Change, and as such is an appropriate and suitable option for tackling the systemic challenges, and to achieve the desired transformation with multiple global environmental benefits; and*

The integrated approach proposed by the program aligns with CAR's vision of rational land management to better tackle the drivers of forest loss and degradation and of biodiversity loss. More specifically, the project will bring transformational change through:

- Supporting extremely poor, forest dependent communities with income generating activities that are considerate of natural capital;

- Promoting further economic opportunities and job creation for local communities such as ecotourism;

- Developing conservation investments and actions in the PNMB and Ngotto Forest which are currently subject to high poaching pressure and remain institutionally isolated from the APDS; and

- Anchoring the target geographic zone more firmly in the TNS landscape and cross-border approach – as envisioned by CAR – to boost the resilience of this key forest area.

There is significant potential for a country such as CAR, with extreme poverty and long marginalized, to leverage the program's support and generate long-term and large-scale change. The program will also bolster CAR's cooperation with neighboring countries and partners; by ensuring the connectivity with the forest blocks in Cameroon is maintained, and therefore those in the Republic of Congo and Gabon, the resilience capacity of the forests in the target zone will be greatly reinforced. This change of scale in a major forest landscape in the sub-region will significantly reduce the vulnerability of Congo Basin forest to pressures and threats from the North.

d) *Describe the project's incremental reasoning for GEF financing under the program, including the results framework and components.*

The project will improve integrated natural resources management and sustainable rural livelihoods in the Ngotto Forest landscape and PNBM. Components include:

1. Institutional support: promoting enabling frameworks for integrated landscape management and conservation in CAR. Examples of activities include supporting the development of policy, legal and/or technical instruments for land use planning, participative management of natural resources etc. and the development of sustainable financing mechanisms for protected areas especially the PNMB (e.g. public-private partnership etc.).

2. Conservation: promoting actions and investments for enhanced protection and governance of natural capital in the targeted landscape. Examples of activities include supporting the

management of protected areas (investments in infrastructure such as trails and guard stations, equipment, planning tools etc.); anti-poaching and environmental monitoring involving both the administration and local communities; and supporting forest and mining operators in adopting practices and standards considerate of natural resources (training, equipment etc.)

3. Local development: promoting alternative livelihoods and private sector interventions. The project will support local communities bordering protected areas to set up community structure and prepare/implement local development plans (building on the outcome of the World Bank's and French Development Agency's projects in the area) and integrate issues of rights and tenure and revenue sharing that underpin robust approaches for participative natural resources management (Free, Prior and Informed Consent, FPIC); and develop alternative income-generating activities (e.g. agroforestry) and related value chains that reduce pressure on biodiversity. Partnerships will be considered with international and local expert organization in conducting value/commodity chain analysis studies (including assessments of potential buyers and markets) and in linking rural association/federations and markets/buyers, which could lead to true transformation and achieve impacts on rural livelihoods. Activities will build on past efforts under the ECOFAC project to pilot innovative models for community-based natural resource management such as community safari hunting zones and/or community-logging companies co-management. The project will also support the development of economic activities such as ecotourism with potential for leveraging private sector investment and generating jobs for communities (e.g. maintenance of access roads, building visitor facilities and lodging.).

4. Project management (including project implementation, coordination, supervision, monitoring and evaluation) through a project management unit and a project steering committee. This is the component of the project financed under the "project management costs" identified above.

Activities and outcome indicators specific to disadvantaged groups (Indigenous Populations, women, and young people) will be incorporated into the project design to address their marginalization from the socioeconomic fabric of the community.

Strong operational synergy and co-financing opportunities with several current and future projects will exist – including:

- Natural Resources Governance Project financed by World Bank (USD 10 million, 2018-2022) and the Southwestern Region Development Project (2016-2020) financed by the French Development Agency (USD 7 million) which together support all 21 forest communities in Southwest CAR to establish Local Development Committees and Local Development Plans. This will provide a strong basis for the project to support activities which are consistent with the forest communities' own priorities, and more specifically support the development of Natural Resource Management Plans for communities building on their Local Development Plans established under these two projects.

- Technical and financial support project for the management of the APDS implemented by WWF with support from, among others, the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) (USD 2 million per year). The project includes: managing the APDS complex; developing a tourism program focused on vision tourism and diversification (cultural tourism); community development activities in the area; activities targeting the integration of indigenous people in the program; tourism program and community approach; biodiversity surveys; and support for forestry concessions as part of the certification process. Similar activities will be carried out in the Ngotto Forest and Ngotto-APDS corridor under the proposed project, allowing to cover the whole targeted landscape.

- European Union (EU) program supporting protected zones (APDS and immediate surroundings) (USD 3 million, 2019-2021). This program will support the anti-poaching strategy, sustainable energy generation for local communities, investment in the ecotourism sector, and activities linked to the rights of the indigenous BaAka peoples. Here again, coordination will be ensured to leverage synergies and cover the whole targeted landscape.

- REDD+ Preparation Project (World Bank). With support from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) amounting to USD 3.8 million, CAR has launched the development of a national REDD+ in response. USD 0.7 million from the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) will support the development of a national REDD+ investment framework, providing CAR with a tool for coordinating REDD+ investments and mobilizing financing.

The project will also leverage on lessons learned from component of the ECOFAC program in the same area (1992-2011).

3. Engagement with the Global / Regional Framework (*maximum 500 words*)

Describe how the project will align with the global / regional framework for the program to foster knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis of experiences. How will the proposed approach scale-up from the local and national level to maximize engagement by all relevant stakeholders and/or actors?

The approach proposed by the program aligns with CAR's vision of rational, integrated land management. CAR's project will support incorporating the true value of the country's natural capital in its land use and community development plans to spur transformational change in decision-making at all levels. The actionable knowledge, just-in-time support, and country-to-country exchanges provided by the regional component of the program will be critical to reaching such objective in CAR, where capacity and resources are lower than in other country partners of the program.

Another key appeal of the program for CAR is that it offers a novel regional approach that aims to address the weaknesses in cross-border resource management mechanisms that are hampering the efforts of the countries of the sub-region. CAR's proposed project is designed to benefit from, and to, the transboundary focus of the program. Regarding the TNS landscape, more specifically, CAR will work with neighboring countries to support the regional project in promoting a vision on transboundary landscape management and related instruments for land-use planning, poaching, trafficking etc.

In terms of implementation, CAR's project will capitalize on the extensive experience from WWF programs, REPALEAC and other partners to ensure the best international, regional, and local expertise and processes are leveraged – especially in regards to indigenous peoples and gender issues. It is also expected from the regional component of the program to focus support on the enabling environment for enhancing coordination between the six Congo Basin countries and addressing specific issues which are dependent on enhanced coordination such illegal wildlife crime.

Annex A

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Use this Worksheet to compute those indicator values as required in Part I, item F to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the project will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use					458,196
			Hectares (1.1+1.2)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			100,000			
Indicator 1.1	Terrestrial protected areas newly created					
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Sum				
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
Mbaéré-Bodingué National Park	317281	II	*96,000*	*96,000*			
Dzanga-Ndoki National Park	31458	II	*122,200*	*122,200*			
Dzanga Sangha Reserve	31459	VI	*335,900*	*335,900*			
		Sum	*458,196*	*458,196*			
Core Indicator 2	Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use					*(Hectares)*
			Hectares (2.1+2.2)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	*TE*
Indicator 2.1	Marine protected areas newly created					
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Sum				
Indicator 2.2	Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness					
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score		
				Baseline		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

		Sum				
Core Indicator 3	**Area of land restored**					*(Hectares)*
			Hectares (3.1+3.2+3.3+3.4)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.1	Area of degraded agricultural land restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.2	Area of forest and forest land restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.3	Area of natural grass and shrublands restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.4	Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 4	**Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)**					**1,214,400**
			Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)			
			Expected		Expected	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			1,214,400			
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			1,214,400			
Indicator 4.2	Area of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations					
Third party certification(s):			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.4	Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided					
Include documentation that justifies HCVF			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	

		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Core Indicator 5	**Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity**				*(Hectares)*
Indicator 5.1	Number of fisheries that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations				

Third party certification(s):		Number			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 5.2	Number of large marine ecosystems (LMEs) with reduced pollution and hypoxial				
		Number			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 5.3	Amount of Marine Litter Avoided				
		Metric Tons			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Core Indicator 6	**Greenhouse gas emission mitigated**				*400,000*
		Expected metric tons of CO_2e (6.1+6.2)			
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)	*400,000*			
	Expected CO2e (indirect)				
Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector				
		Expected metric tons of CO_2e			
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)	*400,000*			
	Expected CO2e (indirect)				
	Anticipated start year of accounting	*2021*			
	Duration of accounting	*5 years*			
Indicator 6.2	Emissions avoided Outside AFOLU				
		Expected metric tons of CO_2e			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)				
	Expected CO2e (indirect)				
	Anticipated start year of accounting				
	Duration of accounting				
Indicator 6.3	Energy saved				
		MJ			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 6.4	Increase in installed renewable energy capacity per technology				
		Capacity (MW)			
	Technology	Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Core Indicator 7	**Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management**				*(Number)*

Indicator 7.1	Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation				
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 7.2	Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation				
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 7.3	Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees				
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 7.4	Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products				
			Rating (scale 1-4)			
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating		Rating	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Core Indicator 8	Globally over-exploited fisheries Moved to more sustainable levels			*(Metric Tons)*
Fishery Details		Metric Tons		
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Core Indicator 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)*
		Metric Tons (9.1+9.2+9.3)		
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	PIF stage	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.1	Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type)			
		Metric Tons			
	POPs type	Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.2	Quantity of mercury reduced			
		Metric Tons			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.3	Hydrochloroflurocarbons (HCFC) Reduced/Phased out			
		Metric Tons			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.4	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste			
		Number of Countries			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.5	Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities			
		Technology	Number		

			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.6	Quantity of POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided					
			Metric Tons			
				Expected		Achieved
			PIF stage	Endorsement	PIF stage	Endorsement
Core Indicator 10	**Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources**					*(grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)*
Indicator 10.1	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control emissions of POPs to air					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 10.2	Number of emission control technologies/practices implemented					
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 11	**Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**					*22,000*
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Female	*11,000*			
		Male	*11,000*			
		Total	*22,000*			

Annex B – Map of the targeted landscape: Ngotto Forest and Ngotto-TNS Corridor ("TNS+")
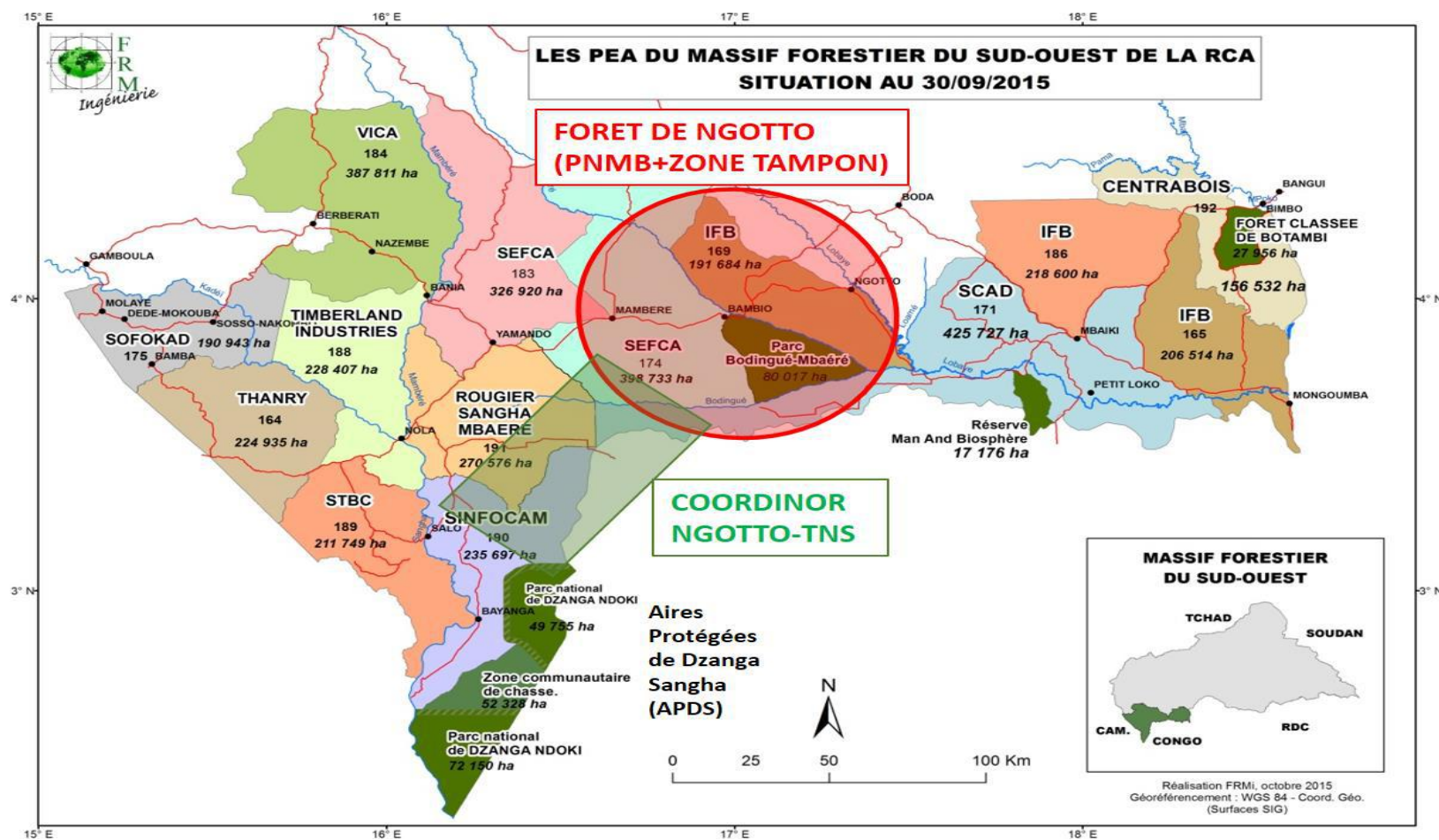
Source: Adapted from FRMi 2016

Child Project Title:	Community-based forested landscape management in the Grand Kivu and Lake Tele-Tumba
Country:	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Lead Agency	(select) UNEP
GEF Agency(ies):	WB (select) (select)

INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
BD-2-7 (select)	GEFTF	6,174,312	55,000,000
BD-1-1 (select)	GEFTF	3,000,000	20,000,000
(select) IP SFM Congo	GEFTF	4,587,156	5,000,000
Total Project Cost		13,761,468	80,000,000

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: To scale up and improve forest landscapes through community-based natural resources management management in targeted transboundary landscapes.						
Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
Component 1: Mainstreaming Integrated Land use Planning (ILP) for conservation and sustainable development	Technical Assistant	Outcome 1.1.: Three Provincial Governments (Equateur, North Kivu and South Kivu) have indicative zoning plans. Outcome 1.2. legislations on Indigenous People and Local Community land tenure and resources user rights promulgated at the national level	Output 1.1.1: ILP methodologies are defined under national orientations and support following local free, informed and prior consent (FPIC); Output 1.1.2. Related LUP information collected with participation of all partners (IPLC , Local Government entities, FAO, WWF, etc.) are consolidated and available under one database; Output 1.1.3: Proposed zoning plan for community based natural resources management (CBNRM) in priority conservation areas is integrated into indicative provincial LUP and tenure rights are recognized to communities on ancestral lands.	GEFTF	2,686,030	15,000,000
Component 2. Ensuring Biodiversity conservation and carbon sequestrati	Technical Assistant	Outcome 2.1: 400,000 ha of conservation areas (other than national PA) in the targeted landscape targeted have an efficient management in order to ensure the protection of the	Output 2.1.1: Effective measures and type of priority conservation areas (eg. ICCA, CFC, CPA, etc.) to meet biodiversity conservation national priorities are defined under participatory process; Output 2.1.2 : More than 600 000 ha of priority	GEFTF	3,917,272	22,000,000

on in forest landscapes		habitat of vulnerable species, the promotion of ecosystem services and the improvement of their connectivity.	conservation area (other than national PA) are identified and integrated under provincial LUP; **Output 2.1.3**: At least, 600 000 ha of priority conservation area are managed using best practices approaches that protect wildlife population, ecosystem services and lead to improved connectivity.			
Component 3: Promoting effective sustainable land use in priority landscape	TA/INV	**Outcome 3.1**: 25% of IPLCs in priority areas implement climate smart best practices with regard to land use.	**Output 3.1.1:** At least 100 sustainable climate smart projects (agroforestry production, animal husbandry, transformation and commercialization are supported under IPLC management with active integration of women and private partners engagement; **Output 3.1.2:** Investments derived from result based payment for ecosystem services contracts are secured by the project and applied to restore, improve carbon stock and biodiversity in at least 500 000 ha of IPLC lands. **Output 3.1.3**. The capacity of IPLC community development committees in project development, implementation, climate best practices and monitoring are strengthened.	GEFTF	5,594,166	25,800,000
Component 4. Improving capacity, knowledge management and trans-boundary collaboration.	TA	**Outcome 4.1**. Tree DRC provinces have the capacity to monitor wildlife trafficking, land use change, SDG progress in priority areas.	**Output 4.1.1:** Four integrated SIG / database system (3 at provincial level, one at national level) put in place in order to manage and share information consolidated; **Output 4.1.2.** Progress towards SDGs in the project area monitored using Rural Development SDG monitoring tool (developed by MRD);	GEFTF	510,000	5,000,000
		Outcome 4.2. The Governance structure (under current treaty) improves Transboundary coordination and	**Output 4.2.1**. Lessons learned on effective conservation approaches as per outputs 2.1.1 and 2.1.3 are consolidated and shared (communicated) both among national stakeholders and regionally.	GEFTF	400 000	5,000,000

		actions against wildlife trafficking.	Output 4.2.2. Project lessons learned and communication are documented and shared at local, national and regional level. Output 4.2.3. The multi-stakeholders cross-border initiatives (put in place by previous project) on: monitoring and enforcing trade regulations, monitoring biodiversity, developing financial mechanisms are improved and strengthened			
			Subtotal	GEFTF	13,107,468	72,800,000
			Project Management Cost (PMC)	GEFTF	654,000	7,200,000
			Total Project Cost		13761468	80,000,000

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: (not apllicable)

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount ($)
GEF Agency	World Bank PARSA	Loan	Investment mobilized	56,000,000
GEF Agency	World Bank CAFI	Grant	Investment mobilized	8,000,000
Donor Agency	WWF-FAO (CAFI)	Grant	Investment mobilized	10,000,000
Donor Agency	WWF (SIDA)	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,500,000
Donor Agency	WWF (DGD)	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,000,000
Civil Society Organization	Civil society organization	In Kind	Recurrent expenditure	500,000
Recipient Country Government	Government contribution	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,000,000
Total Co-financing				80,000,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified.   Cofinancing investment mobilized is through ongoing World Bank financed projects and collaborative initiatives from other donor agencies which contribute to the overall project goals in these transboundary landscapes.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
WB	GEFTF	DRC	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	9, 174,312	825, 688	10,000,000
WB	GEFTF	DRC	Multi focal Area	IP SFM Congo	4,587,156	412,844	5,000,000
Total GEF Resources					13,761,468	1,238,532	15,000,000

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

      Yes ☐   If yes, PPG funds **have to be requested via the Portal** once the PFD is approved[1]

      No ☒   If no, skip this item.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	**Total** c = a + b
Total PPG Amount							

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

Provide the relevant sub-indicator values for this project using the methodologies indicated in the Core Indicator Worksheet provided in Annex B and aggregating them in the table below. Progress in programming against these targets is updated at the time of CEO endorsement, at midterm evaluation, and at terminal evaluation. Achieved targets will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

	Project Core Indicators	Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	1,228,600
2	**Marine protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	0
3	Area of **land restored** (Hectares)	500,000
4	Area of **landscapes under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	700,000
5	Area of **marine habitat under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	0
	Total area under improved management (Hectares)	2,428,600
6	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated** (metric tons of CO2e)	
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	120,000 M: 55,000; F 65,000

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicators targets are not provided.

Areas in indicator 1 encompass current PAs which will experience an improvement in conservation status as a result of the improved living conditions in the community lands surrounding them i.e. in the Grand Kivu landscape: Maiko (1,088,500 ha),

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Tayna (88,600 ha), and Kahuzi-Biega (600,000 ha),   In the LakeTele-Lake Tumba landscape: Lake Télé Community Reserve (440,000 ha), Ngiri Triangle Nature Reserve (540,000 ha) and Tumba-Lediima Nature Reserve (741,000 ha) result of this GEF-7 funding. The lack of recent population census in the DRC would only allow for a crude estimate, an educated guess in assessing direct beneficiaries. The project will contribute to achieving the following Aichi Target- *1*: People are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably, *4:* Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits; *7*. Areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity; *14.* Ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable; 15. ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification. The project will also contribute to the *Sustainable Development Goals, 2, 5, 12 and 15.*

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Country Context (*maximum 500 words*)

Describe the country's relevant environmental challenges and strategic positioning relative to the systems transformation proposed for the program, including relevant existing policies, commitments, and investment frameworks. How are these aligned with the proposed approach to foster impactful outcomes with global environmental benefits?

The DRC covers an area estimated at 234 million hectares. Sixty-seven of the total country area, over 155,5 million hectares is covered by forest of which 99 million are of the moist type. These massive forests provide habitat to an extraordinary diversity of life. Endemic and emblematic species include, Great Apes (chimps, bonobos, gorillas) and the forest elephants, among others. Furthermore, DRC forests provide vital regional and global ecological services as carbon sinks, basin catchments, and regulators of climate. The recently identified peatland area, greater in size than England, sequestering alone some 30 billion metric tons of carbon, or nearly 30% of the world's tropical peatland carbon, the role of these forests in both local and regional rainfall patterns and their influence on large-scale atmospheric circulation reinforces their values of as a global common asset.
 Moreover, they play a significant role in the survival of rural communities by providing them with food, shelter, medicine, spiritual and cultural value . It is estimated that on average, families living in and around forests derive between one-fifth and one-fourth of their income from forest-based sources.
However, they are increasingly coming under pressure from the growing global demand for food, timber, fiber, oil, minerals, ivory and other wildlife derived products which ultimately results in deforestation and forest degradation exacerbated by demographic trends, accelerated urbanization, insecurity of land tenure, and resource user rights.

Although other drivers exist and may become more important in the future, subsistence agriculture and fuelwood harvesting seem currently to be the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation . The general context of the DRC is also particularly difficult with violence, fragility, insecurity, and various related traffics severely weakening the rule of law, and having devastating effects on capacities to manage forests, protected areas, and protect wildlife. Challenges associated with extreme poverty and tensions between local people and protected area management strategies add to the complexity.

Nevertheless, the DRC is engaged in an effort toward the sustainable management of its natural resources based on sustainable environmental principles. To that end, it has embarked on a number of initiatives to promote integrated land use planning with the view to institutionalizing the allocation of land. Progress has been made toward achieving better forest governance, through: (i) the revision of the Forest Code; (ii) the preparation of a national forest policy; (iii) the promulgation of the law on decentralization law and its application decrees; (iv) the effective implementation of the land use planning process for forests and protected areas (leading to the systematic development of management plans); (v) the national reforestation policy with its national reforestation plan and strategy; and (vi) the design of technical standards for reforestation. Furthermore, the country is committed to expanding the amount of land devoted to protected areas and other effective conservation measures . It is actively involved in the CBD implementation and the REDD+ process with, in particular, the valuation of ecosystems services in multiples pilot projects

There is also a constant effort being made towards involving indigenous peoples and local communities in a number of environmental processes and for promoting community forestry by designing a national strategy and various implementing laws to support it (Decree No. 011/27 of May 20, 2011, setting specific rules for allocating forestry conservation concessions; Circular 018/2018, taking into account gender in implementing community forestry policies; Decree 025 of February 9, 2016 on specific provisions related to the management and operations of the forestry concessions of local communities, etc.)

At the regional level, the DRC is also engaged in collaborative anti-poaching effort with the other countries of the region, a protocol was signed between the DRC and the RoC in January 2019 as asubsidiary to the March 21999 Yaoundé Heads of States Summit resolution on Conservation and Sustainable Management of Central Africa's Forest Ecosystems, and the Treaty of 05 February 2005 on the sustainable management of forest ecosystems establishing the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC). The DRC is also a member of the Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration (GVTC) whith Uganda and Rwanda with the goal of sustainable conservation of the Central Albertine Rift biodiversity for long term socio-economic developpement through strategic transboundary collaborative management.

2. Project Overview and Approach (maximum 1250 words)
a) Provide a brief description of the geographical target(s), including details of systemic challenges, and the specific environmental threats and associated drivers that must be addressed;

The DRC will focus on two transboundary landscapes: (1) The Lake Tele-Lake landscape Tumba located between the Republic of Congo and the DRC, and its Tumba-Ngiri-Maindombe Wetland and (2) The Grand Kivu landscape, covering the area including the Maiko, Tayna and Kahuzi-Biega protected areas, the Itombwe community reserve (see maps in annex B). This area shares a border with several countries (Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania). The two landscapes harbor a variety of animal and plant species many of which are endemic to the regions. The first shares the peatland reserve with RoC while the second shares the watershed of the Ruzizi river which feeds into Lake Tanganyika.

A concerted and harmonized legislation and law enforcement between the neighboring countries may help minimize, regional wildlife off-take, timber and charcoal smuggling across borders. Being adjacent to protected areas both landscapes are vulnerable to over-harvesting by local communities who can no longer access the parks.

Systemic challenges facing the areas are diverse: (1)- Illicit logging and illegal traffic in timber and wildlife with neighboring countries; (2)-Peatland and watershed protection; (3) Land cover degradation due to fuelwood extraction and slash and burn agricultural production model and its ensuing consequences such as habitat fragmentation (4) Lack of adequate land use and land management plan; (5) lack of adequate and legitimate institutional capacity and (6) promotion of income generating activities and better livelihoods for local actors and forest dwellers.

Specific issues which will be targeted by the project in both areas include: (1) Viability of ecological corridors; (2) Itinerant slash-and-burn agriculture practices with the aim of stabilizing agriculture- induced land cover change and soil fertility decline. (3) Conflict between land allocation and land uses; (4)- Uncontrolled expansion of logging, illegal hunting and forest over-harvesting.

b) Describe the existing or planned baseline investments, including current institutional framework and processes for stakeholder engagement and gender integration;

The current context is characterized by shortcomings of the policy frameworks to support sustainable development in various sectors and value ecosystem services, weak governance and incapacity of some institutions and governmental entities to establish and enforce legislation for nature conservation and other sustainable development policies and lack of appropriate land use plan. These can only be overcome through a paradigm shift whereby an effective devolution is operated with the aim of empowering local communities, CSOs

and women to tackle the barriers to achieving environmentally, economically and socially sustainable development of these landscapes which revolve around (1) the shortcomings in national policy and legal frameworks for land and natural resources access and utilization, (2) inefficient enforcement of these regulatory frameworks at the national level, limited collaboration and learning from best practices across borders, (3) inappropriate technical capacity incentives for responsible resource utilization.

Baseline investments co-financing is valued at approximatively USD $80,000,000 for a 5-year period. These include investments from institutions directly related to the environment as well as institutions that although focused on sectoral and development policies (e.g., agriculture and road infrastructure) also integrate environmental objectives in their institutional framework. Synergies with these initiatives and projects have been considered to avoid duplication and enhance complementarity on the ground. Key among them are:

Central Africa Forest Initiative (CAFI): With funding from the Norwegian government (of which part funding is counted as co-financing), CAFI will provide the needed synergies through its focus on development of sound land and forest management policies, programs and projects in African countries as part of their low-emission development strategies with focus on communities living conditions and income improvement through increased agricultural productivity while (a) ensuring sustainable management of resources and land, developing perennial crops and strengthening local governance around a holistic vision centered on land use planning; (b) promoting sustainable use and substitution of wood energy; (c) supporting land tenure reform and land use planning; (d) Providing support to Civil society organizations and Forest monitoring system; (e promoting Forest management by Indigenous People.

Agriculture Rehabilitation and Recovery Support Project (PARRSA - US$ 120 million) financed by the World Bank, aims at increasing agricultural productivity and marketing of crops and animal products in targeted areas of the DRC territory. For incremental purposes, direct co-financing contribution is estimated at 56 million of the overall project to support activities for land use planning and ti improve market access.

Protecting Communities and Indigenous Peoples (DGD Funding): With Belgian funding of 6,117,680 USD, the project aims to preserve existing forests either protected or historically belonging to communities (and not yet assigned to forest concessions) through a systemic approach in order to improve well-being and the preservation of communities' natural resources base; support the communities - men and women - in the sustainable development and professionalization of the exploitation of their natural resources.
- Four communities in North Kivu (corresponding to 600 households) have obtained legal recognition of their forests and have adopted sustainable management tools and practices.
- Targeted communities organize themselves to market their produce and equitably share the benefits (charcoal, honey and other non-timber forest products).

Leading the change through civil society capacity building: **Community rights and Environment (SIDA Fund):** This project is funded by the Swedish Agency for International Development Cooperation, (SIDA) (1,5Milions USD) in North and South Kivu and will bring synergies towards: (a) Improving community land management with the aim of stabilizing the slash and burn agricultural front outside protected areas under clear benefit sharing mechanism while clarifying land tenure and resolving conflicts; and (b) Strengthening CBOs and CSOs and raising their capacity to advocate and lobby decision makers for good governance.

c) **Describe how the integrated approach proposed for the child project responds to and reflects the Program's Theory of Change, and as such is an appropriate and suitable option for tackling the systemic challenges, and to achieve the desired transformation with multiple global environmental benefits; and**

In order to have a significant impact in reducing deforestation and promote efficient land use, the Program will be designed following a theory of change that would address key issues across the complex set of drivers of deforestation and barriers for sustainable land use. This theory of change reflects lessons learned from other programs and the current thinking of many organizations, and builds on the notion that if an adequate area of the landscape is conserved under various regimes (protected areas and indigenous lands), if agriculture, degraded and

forest lands are managed sustainably and with zero illegal deforestation tolerance with the full participation and of local and native communities, if national policies and strategies support sustainable development aiming to minimize deforestation and loss of ecosystem services and if regional cooperation & capacity building of key players improves, the protection of significant biodiversity of the two landscapes can be achieved and policies can be changed to promote sustainable land use and restoration of native vegetation cover in the two landscapes. The CBNRM approach theory of change is based on systematically addressing constraints related to land tenure, institutional capacity, human and social capital and the effective participation of local communities and women in decision-making about forest and landscape management in order to foster appropriation by local communities and accountability of government institutions.

The use of CBNRM for local-level management of forests and other natural resources will promote ownership, effective participation and accountability while ensuring efficacy of in addressing resource degradation. CBNRM workshops – jointly facilitated by government structures and the project – ensure that local-level practices are aligned with government policies and goals. This will allow local socio-economic and environmental differences to define the nature and modalities of institutional arrangements for resource management with a national framework. These workshops will occur at the national, provincial, district and basin levels to identify constraints and opportunities for CBNRM. Implementation of community-level plans will also be supported to address community-identified priorities related specifically to sustainable management of rangeland and forest ecosystems to ensure continuous provision of ecosystem goods and services upon which community livelihoods depend.   Tenure rights will be recognized to communities on historically held customary forest properties.   The project will advocate and promote business opportunities addressing environment services, renewable energy and ecotourism. More specifically the project will support the development of economic activities with potential for leveraging private sector investment and generating jobs for communities (e.g. maintenance of access roads, building visitor facilities and lodging).

d) Describe the project's incremental reasoning for GEF financing under the program, including the results framework and components.

Under the baseline scenario, the future development of small- or large-scale agriculture in the two landscapes would take place at the expense of the forests, resulting in increasing negative impacts on national environment values including biodiversity, carbon stocks, forest ecosystem services and benefits to communities. The current baseline provides an extensive area of forest under community and indigenous territories or protected areas management with available funding from government and donors limiting management in PAs more tied to project-cycle funding while community and indigenous territories are under the "tragedy of the commons".

Financing provided by the GEF will lead to strengthening of the regulatory, and institutional framework, ensuring improved biodiversity conservation in production landscapes, effective community-based natural resources management, sustainable provision of ecosystem services, and LDN. The GEF's financing will support specific actions towards ecological restoration, sustainable production (primarily agricultural), conservation on private lands, including the creation of private (community)reserves, as well as the improved agricultural production. These actions will be implemented with an investment of USD $13.7 million from the GEF-7 added to the baseline investments in order to deliver intended outcomes. The project will conduct assessment of both, above and belowground (peatland) carbon pools in targeted areas with the objective of informing future ecosystem services studies.

3. Engagement with the Global / Regional Framework (*maximum 500 words*)

Describe how the project will align with the global / regional framework for the program to foster knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis of experiences. How will the proposed approach scale-up from the local and national level to maximize engagement by all relevant stakeholders and/or actors?

Improving Capacity and Knowledge management: The project will build upon existing national platforms and structures to fully capture the lessons derived from the implementation of this program. Input will be requested from the academic and research institutions, NGOs and CSOs currently working on the issues to be addressed by the Project.

The actionable knowledge, just-in-time support, and country-to-country exchanges provided by the regional component of the program will be critical to reaching such objective in DRC.

Communication: The project will enable the design and implementation of a communication and environmental education strategy with a gender focus that will encourage dialogue between public and private stakeholders, and the development of common terminology that contributes to interinstitutional and intersectoral cooperation and coordination. The strategy will generate increased public awareness about the importance of biodiversity conservation, PAs, the value of ecosystem services, and LDN.

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Annex A

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Use this Worksheet to compute those indicator values as required in Part I, item F to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the project will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Core Indicator 1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use				*1,228,600(Hectares)*
		Hectares (1.1+1.2)			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 1.1	Terrestrial protected areas newly created				
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares		
			Expected		Achieved
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		(select)				
		(select)				
		Sum				
Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness				
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
					Endorsement	MTR	TE
Kahuzi-Biega	II	(select)	*600,000*				
Tayna natural reserve	V	(select)	*88,600*				
Ngiri triangle	V		*540,000*				
		Sum	*1,228,600*				
Core Indicator 2	**Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use**				*(Hectares)*
		Hectares (2.1+2.2)			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	*TE*

			Hectares			
Indicator 2.1	Marine protected areas newly created					
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		(select)				
		(select)				
		Sum				
Indicator 2.2	Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness					
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score		
				Baseline		Achieved
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		(select)				
		(select)				
		Sum				
Core Indicator 3	**Area of land restored**					***500,000 (Hectares)***
			Hectares (3.1+3.2+3.3+3.4)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			500, 000			
Indicator 3.1	Area of degraded agricultural land restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.2	Area of forest and forest land restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 3.3	Area of natural grass and shrublands restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected			Achieved
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.4	Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected			Achieved
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 4	**Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)**					***(700,000 Hectares)***
			Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)			
			Expected			Expected
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			700,000			
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity					
			Hectares			
			Expected			Achieved
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			600,000			
Indicator 4.2	Area of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations					
Third party certification(s):			Hectares			
			Expected			Achieved
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems					
			Hectares			
			Expected			Achieved
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 4.4	Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided					
Include documentation that justifies HCVF		Hectares				
		Expected			Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Core Indicator 5	**Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity**					*(Hectares)*
Indicator 5.1	Number of fisheries that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations					
Third party certification(s):		Number				
		Expected			Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Indicator 5.2	Number of large marine ecosystems (LMEs) with reduced pollution and hypoxial					
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Indicator 5.3	Amount of Marine Litter Avoided					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Core Indicator 6	**Greenhouse gas emission mitigated**					*(Metric tons of CO_2e)*
		Expected metric tons of CO_2e (6.1+6.2)				
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
	Expected CO2e (direct)					

	Expected CO2e (indirect)					

Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector				
			Expected metric tons of CO_2e			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)					
	Expected CO2e (indirect)					
	Anticipated start year of accounting					
	Duration of accounting					

Indicator 6.2	Emissions avoided Outside AFOLU				
			Expected metric tons of CO_2e			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)					
	Expected CO2e (indirect)					
	Anticipated start year of accounting					
	Duration of accounting					

Indicator 6.3	Energy saved				
			MJ			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 6.4	Increase in installed renewable energy capacity per technology				
		Technology	Capacity (MW)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		(select)				
		(select)				

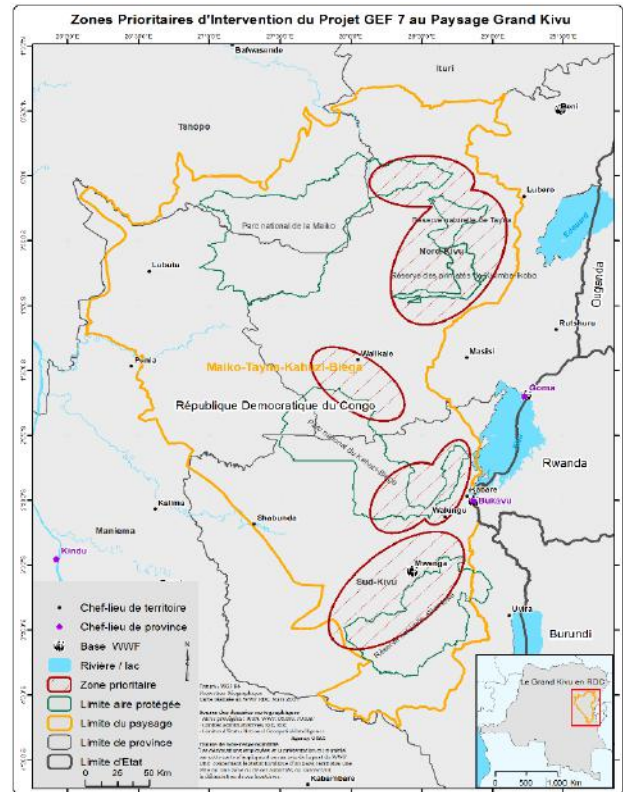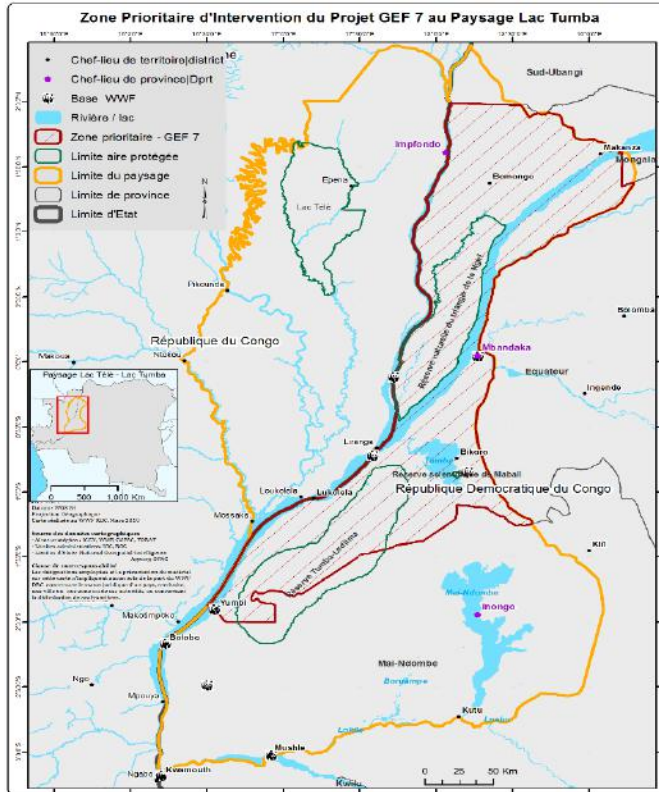| Core Indicator 7	**Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management**		*(Number)*
Indicator 7.1	Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation		
	Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)	

			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 7.2	Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 7.3	Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 7.4	Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			Rating		Rating	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 8	**Globally over-exploited fisheries Moved to more sustainable levels**					*(Metric Tons)*
Fishery Details			Metric Tons			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 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)*
			Metric Tons (9.1+9.2+9.3)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	PIF stage	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.1	Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type)					
POPs type			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	

			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
(select)	(select)	(select)				
(select)	(select)	(select)				
(select)	(select)	(select)				

Indicator 9.2	Quantity of mercury reduced					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.3	Hydrochloroflurocarbons (HCFC) Reduced/Phased out					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.4	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.5	Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities					
			Number			
		Technology	Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.6	Quantity of POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	PIF stage	Endorsement

Core Indicator 10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources					*(grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)*
Indicator 10.1	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control emissions of POPs to air					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 10.2	Number of emission control technologies/practices implemented					
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment					*(Number)*
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Female	*65,000*				
	Male	*55,000*				
	Total	*120,000*				

Annex B

Map of the project area

GEF-7 CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT

CHILD PROJECT TYPE: FULL-SIZE PROJECT

PROGRAM: THE CONGO BASIN SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE IMPACT PROGRAM

Child Project Title:	Transforming and scaling up results and lessons learned in the Monte Alen and Rio Campo Landscapes through an inclusive Landscape-scale approach, effective land use planning and promotion of local governance
Country:	Equatorial Guinea
Lead Agency	UNEP
GEF Agency(ies):	IUCN

INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
BD-1-1	GEFTF	1,784,862	13,000,000
CCM-2-7	GEFTF	892,431	7,500,000
LD-1-1	GEFTF	892,431	7,500,000
SFM IP	GEFTF	1,400,000	9,500,000
Total Project Cost		5,354,587	37,500,000

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: Facilitate natural resource management by transforming the Rio-Campo and Monte Alene landscapes with an inclusive landscape approach						
Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
Component 1: Integrated and improved land use planning, policies, and management	TA	**Outcome 1.1:** Enhanced cooperation, planning and policies at national level, governing use of transboundary resources and landscapes	*Output 1.1.1*: Cross-border multi-stakeholder dialogues on sustainable land use planning and policy issues with transboundary dimensions (e.g., illegal poaching, logging and mining; infrastructure development; connectivity; legal extractives; water) *Output 1.1.2:* Cross-border policy maker tours with Gabon and Cameroon to promote learning and exchange on best practice	GEFTF	1,456,512	8,737,500

			land use planning, policies and management			
			Output 1.1.3: Briefs, analysis and on-demand technical inputs to support development of improved policies governing transboundary landscapes, including cost-benefit assessments of alternative land management plans incorporating value of natural capital			
			Output 1.1.4: Capacity building program strengthening ability of relevant national ministries to incorporate natural capital into land use planning, policies, and management			
		Outcome 1.2: Development and uptake of integrated land use management plans in the Rio-Camp and Monte Alene landscapes, with the full participation of local and indigenous stakeholders, to support the sustainable management and ecological integrity of these landscapes	*Output 1.2.1*: Multi-stakeholder land-use planning at the local levels, in the Rio-Camp and Monte Alene landscapes			
			Output 1.2.2: Briefs, analysis and on-demand technical inputs to support development of improved land-use planning in the Rio-Camp and Monte Alene landscapes			
			Output 1.2.3: Capacity building program strengthening effective local governance of natural resources			
Component 2: Ensuring the long-term viability of forests providing important habitat to	TA and Inv	*Outcome 2.1*: Improved management of PAs within Rio-Camp and Monte Alene landscapes (as assessed by METT indicators);	*Output 2.1.1:* Capacity building program to strengthen protected area management and management of surrounding buffer zones, conservation areas and corridors, for key stakeholders	GEFTF	1,359,653	8,137,500

endangered species and critical ecosystem services		as well as surrounding buffer zones, conservation areas and corridors, with collaboration and participation of local communities	*Output 2.1.2:* Development and implementation of enhanced management plan at Protected Areas *Output 2.1.3:* Enhancement of protected area resources and infrastructure within Protected Areas, to facilitate enhanced monitoring and management of these PAs *Output 2.1.4:* Participatory monitoring and enforcement of laws and policies governing protected areas, and illegal poaching and illegal logging in wider landscapes. Output 2.1.5 Enhancement of community-benefits (indigenous and local population, women and youths) accrued from the use and management of Protected Areas (e.g. management of buffer zones, respect for their traditional user rights, local monitoring etc).			
Component 3: Reduced community and production sector impacts on important services of forests in landscapes	TA and Inv	*Outcome 3.1:* Development of local eco-tourism and NTFP industries to support local livelihoods and strengthen incentives to conserve forests in Rio-Camp and Monte Alene landscapes	*Output 3.1.1:* Capacity-building program for local entrepreneurs and community members to support development/growth of local eco-tourism and NTFP industries *Output 3.1.2:* Eco-tourism strategy to facilitate and support the growth and sustainable/responsible management of tourism in the Rio-Camp and Monte Alene landscapes *Output 3.1.3:* Small grants program that capitalizes on the UNDP/UNOPS GEF SGP model that focuses on issues	GEFTF	875,360	8,237,500

			related to IPLC, eco-tourism and NTFP ventures for forest community entrepreneurs within Rio-Camp and Monte Alen landscapes			
			1) *Output 3.1.4* Land/tree tenure rights, access to natural resources and appropriate benefit-sharing mechanism secured for forest dependent communities, especially indigenous and local population, women and youths.			
			Output 3..1.5: Supporting multi-stakeholder dialogues and training programs fto promote sustainable forest management by communities, private sector and decentralized and deconcentrated government structures			
		Outcome 3.2: Improvement of sustainable logging practices by private sector logging companies operating within Rio-Camp and Monte Alene landscapes	Output 3.2.1: Multi-stakeholder consultations, training and improving the enabling environment related to certification of private sector logging companies operating within Rio-Camp and Monte Alene landscapes, to reduce impacts on forests			
Component 4: Knowledge Exchange, Partnership, Monitoring and Assessment	TA	**Outcome 4.1:** Improved knowledge of best practices in sustainable management of Congo Basin	*Output 4.1.1*: Participation in regional CBSL meetings and workshops to promote knowledge sharing and exchange and partnership	GEFTF	1,408,082	8,637,500

		resources amongst CBSL partners and wider community	*Output 4.1.2:* Development of high-quality briefs capturing progress and lessons learned in CBSL Equatorial Guinea			
		Outcome 4.2: Progress of CBSL in Equatorial Guinea is tracked and adaptively managed.	*Output 4.1.3:* School curriculum and programs developed/enhanced to increase knowledge and support for sustainable management of Congo Basin biodiversity			
			Output 4.1.4: Radio and TV programs on the value of natural resources and the importance of conservation disseminated to raise awareness and support			
			Output 4.2.1: System to monitor and evaluate progress operational (providing relevant information to managers, stakeholders and Regional Initiative);			
			Output 4.3.2: Rural communication (RERAC) to sensitize rural communities, especially women, indigenous and local population and youths, decentralized and deconcentrated government officials on landscape-scale conservation and local development			
			Subtotal	GEFTF	5,099,607	33,750,000
			Project Management Cost (PMC)	GEFTF	254,980	3,750,000
			Total Project Cost	GEFTF	5,354,587	37,500,000

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: (   )

5

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount ($)
Recipient Country Government	Government of Equatorial Guinea (Ministry, INCOMA, INDEFOR, etc)	Public Investment	Investment Mobilized	31,000,000
GEF Agency	IUCN-International Union for Conservation of Nature	Public Investment	Investment Mobilized	1,000,000
Other	UNOPs	Public Investment	Investment Mobilized	1,000,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	Public Investment	Investment Mobilized	500,000
Donor Agency	CAFI	Public Investment	Investment Mobilized	500,000
International Organization	CI, FAO, WWF, CIFOR, WCS,	Grantee	Investment Mobilized	1.500.000
Private Companies	Man and Nature, 2 Taylor Guitars, RMT, COMALI, Changxia, SFMAL, MMS	Grantee	Investment Mobilized	1.000.000
Donor	AfDB/PACEPCo	Grant		1.000.000
Total Co-financing				37,500,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified.
Investment mobilized will be further estimated and fine-tune during the project preparation phase through in-depth consultation with key partners and the analysis of the value chains that will be part of the project intervention.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee a) (b)	Total (c)=a+b
IUCN	GEF TF	Equatorial Guinea	Biodiversity	(select as appli	1,784,862	160,638	1,945,500
IUCN	GEF TF	Equatorial Guinea	Climate Change	(select as appli	892,432	80,318	972,750
IUCN	GEF TF	Equatorial Guinea	Land Degradatio	(select as appli	892,431	80,319	972,750
IUCN	GEF TF	Equatorial Guinea		SFM IP Congo Basin	1,784,862	160,638	1,945,500
Total GEF Resources					5,354,587	481,913	5,836,500

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

Yes ☒   If yes, PPG funds **have to be requested via the Portal** once the PFD is approved

No ☐   If no, skip this item.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	**Total** c = a + b
IUCN	GEF TF	Equatorial Guinea	Biodiversity	(select as applicable)	50,000	4,500	54,500
IUCN	GEF TF	Equatorial Guinea	Climate Change		25,000	2,250	27,250
IUCN	GEF TF	Equatorial Guinea	Land Degradation		25,000	2,250	27,250
IUCN	GEFTF	Equatorial Guinea		SFM IP Congo Basin	50,000	4,500	54,500
Total PPG Amount					150,000	13,500	163,500

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS
Provide the relevant sub-indicator values for this project using the methodologies indicated in the Core Indicator Worksheet provided in Annex B and aggregating them in the table below. Progress in programming against these targets is updated at the time of CEO endorsement, at midterm evaluation, and at terminal evaluation. Achieved targets will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	200,000 hectares
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)	550,500 hectares
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)	4, 075,247 Metric tons of CO2e. We may adjust during the PPG Phase depending of outcome of multi-stakeholder consultation
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	130,000 women and 120,000 men

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicators targets are not provided.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. **Country Context** (maximum 500 words)

Describe the country's relevant environmental challenges and strategic positioning relative to the systems transformation proposed for the program, including relevant existing policies, commitments, and investment frameworks. How are these aligned with the proposed approach to foster impactful outcomes with global environmental benefits?

The major environmental challenges in Equatorial Guinea are similar to those of other Congo Basin countries, and include: a) insufficient capacity, incentives, information, and planning among key stakeholders to value and maintain the ecological integrity of forest resources; b) inadequate governance, including participation of, and rights for, local forest-dependent communities to sustainably manage forest resources; and 3) lack of sustainable livelihood options and finance.
In addition, expansion of transportation infrastructure, growth of extractive industries, and climate change, will increase threats to forest ecosystems in the coming decade.

Equatorial Guinea has been making strides to acknowledge and address the above challenges.

As such, there is a strong base of support and emerging policy framework within Equatorial Guinea to protect and conserve its natural forest resources. At the same time, the challenges identified above are deeply entrenched and increasing in severity, and significant changes to the present development pathway must be achieved to ensure the long-term survival of the EQ forest biome.

Success in this endeavor would have far reaching impacts beyond Equatorial Guinea's borders. The country plays an important role in maintaining the integrity of the Congo Basin biome, due to its central location, rich biodiversity, transboundary wildlife corridors, expansive stores of carbon in peatlands, and the role that these forests play in provisioning of environmental services and supporting livelihoods. As such, it is difficult to conceive of sustainable management of the Congo Basin forest biome without participation of, and partnership with, Equatorial Guinea.

 A great number of flagship species are now threatened with extinction (CBD) and this has forced the Government, notably through its line Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and the Environment, and other stakeholders to develop a policy and legislative framework that seeks to facilitate more sustainable land use planning, sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation, while at the same time making sure that accounting and valorization of natural capital and ecosystem services are prioritized. For example, Law N°1/1997 of February 18, 1997 facilitated resource allocation while law N°7/2003 of N° 27, 2003 on Environmental management enables key government structures like The National Institute for Conservation of the Environmental (INCOMA), etc. to ensure the classification and sustainable management of PAs, buffer zones and the livelihoods of communities.

Many dispositions of the National Forest Policy defines the major objectives of forest management in the country norms and operation of timber exploitation, commercialized species/diameter, regulatory framework, harvesting and transportation of wildlife, etc., creation and management of National Forestry Funds, etc.

Concerning biodiversity, the Government has updated the 2005 NBSAP to facilitate the implementation of the current global agenda, mainstreamed biodiversity conservation in to the Development Strategies of various sectorial Ministries, etc.

Also, the objectives of the National Economic and Social Development Plan "Horizon 2020", the National Investment Plan on REDD+ and the National Biodiversity Action Plan respectively seek to promote national development, increase carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation through the participation of key stakeholders, including forest dependent communities in inter-sectoral platforms that promote dialogue and reduce conflict (e.g. Rural CEFDHAC, REPARLEAC).

2) Project Overview and Approach *(maximum 1250 words)*

a) Provide a brief description of the geographical target(s), including details of systemic challenges, and the specific environmental threats and associated drivers that must be addressed

The project will work in two transboundary landscapes of great importance to the integrity of the Congo Basin forest biome: the Rio-Camp and Monte Alene landscapes. Both are heavily forested, rich in biodiversity, and linked by a corridor important for endangered species. The Mont Alene landscape has a surface area of about 26,747km² and includes national parks in Equatorial Guinea and Gabon, while the smaller Rio-Camp landscape includes the Rio Campo Natural Reserve (335km²) in Equatorial Guinea and the Campo Ma'an National Park (264,064 ha) in Cameroon. These landscapes are populated by the Fang and Ndowe people – indigenous communities that are heavily dependent upon the local forest ecosystems for survival.

Key specific threats in the two landscapes include unsustainable subsistent and commercial agriculture, illegal logging, poaching, construction of infrastructure like roads, dams, extreme poverty, lack of tenure rights, conflicts over the use of natural resources, industrial development, etc. Also, poaching and bush meat hunting is also a threat to some species loss.

Key conservation and development challenges in the landscapes include:

a) Insufficient planning, capacity and incentives to maintain integrity of CB biome. A system-wide approach based on robust ecological, social and developmental analysis that balance competing interests and enhance the capacity of institutions and stakeholders at multiple levels are needed to address this challenge.

b) Limited incentives and options supporting sustainable local management of forest resources: Local people directly determine the trajectory of land use and stand to lose the most when land and forestry resources are poorly managed. However, insecure land tenure for many forest-dwelling and forest-adjacent communities, together with limited livelihood options, provide an insufficient basis for conservation/sustainable management.

3) Lack of finance supporting green growth: Harnessing the power of markets and the private sector as a force for positive change in the Congo Basin is essential for the long-term preservation of the biome. To unlock green investment, new partnerships with the private sector and financiers –

especially local banks – will be needed. This will be facilitated by the development of replicable models and financial tools to mitigate risk, and capitalize on growing demand for sustainable products and services.

The following specific threats and drivers will be addressed: 1) unsustainable commercial and artisanal logging; 2) over hunting for bush meat and illegal wildlife trade in PA and off PA; 3) unsustainable agriculture and forest ecosystem/biodiversity loss. Some of the private sector companies in the landscapes include: a) Monte Alen Landscape (RMT, COMALI, SOEGE, IJ Timber, Changxia). All of them are logging companies b) Rio Campo Landscape (SFMAL and MMS (logging companies) and China Road (Road Construction companies. There are no mining companies.

b) Describe the existing or planned baseline investments, including current institutional framework and processes for stakeholder engagement and gender integration;

> 1) ***Current projects being implemented in the landscape (or will involve the landscape) includes***:

a) WCS is currently implementing a projects that seeks to improve livelihood activities and biodiversity conservation in the Rio Campo landscape, notably through the creation and strengthening of institutional capacities of local fishing and agricultural groups. The project is funded by Noble Energy, a US based company;

b) To facilitate sustainable management of wildlife in the Rio Campo landscapes, INDEFOR-AP (with funds from an American NGO called BI) is also currently carrying out an inventory of mammals. The results will be used to boost conservation actions for mammals in the Landscape;

c) The Government is currently supporting communities and private sector to prepare Business Plans that will support conservation of the Monte Alen National Park and Rio Campo Natural Reserve,

d) Equatorial Guinea is currently strengthening the institutional capacity of the Ministry in Charge of Forestry on MRV and the elaboration of pilot projects on forest inventory and multi-resource use, thanks to support from the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

e) Communities are also being supported by the Government to implement sustainable agricultural practices through the management of pilot agro-pastoral production Units and groups in the Monte-Alen Landscape.

f) To facilitate the implementation of the Paris Agreement, Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) and recommendations of subsequent UNFCCC COPs, CAFI, FAO and other partners are currently supporting the Government of Equatorial Guinea to prepare its National REDD+ Investment Plan. The document is primarily focusing on the implementation of key priorities of its NDCs like sustainable forest management, agriculture, energy and other land use systems. It is important to highlight that the Government of Equatorial Guinea has earmarked these particular Landscaped as one of its major pilot sites since in the process since it is rich in biomass, forests and other ecosystems. Activities, outputs and results of the project will be integrated in the development and implementation process of the REDD+ Investment Plan;

2) ***Projects that have been implemented include:***

a) ANDEGE implemented a project that strengthened the monitoring of natural resources in the Rio Campo Natural Reserve. The project was funded by GEF/PNUD;

b) With funds from AfDB, PACEPCo, supported key stakeholders like local population and governments to sustainably management natural resources and promote local development in the Monte-Alen/Monts de Cristal Landscape. Recent discussion between IUCN and AfDB revealed that the second phase of this important Project is eminent, with IUCN and its partners playing a great role. It is therefore an opportunity for co-financing.

c) GEF/UNDP also funded a Project that facilitated conservation of globally significant biodiversity and represented ecosystems, notably in the Rio Muni and Bioko Island. Lessons learned in the implementation of the above project will be capitalized in this project.

d) With funds from USAID and other donors like AFD, AfDB, etc, partners played a leading and convening role in the Congo Basin, notably through the IUCN/CARPE Program where IUCN acted as a leader to assimilate, coordinate, capitalize, package and disseminate lessons learned with, and across landscape stakeholders, local communities, government and private sector on landscape-scale conservation, etc. IUCN and its partner also monitored policy, legislative and regulatory concerns and developed tools, strategies, guidelines to address them. The Monte Allen/Monts de Cristal and the Campo-Ma'an/Rio-Campo Landscapes are one of the key landscapes that benefitted from this Congo Basin-wide program that included 9 Governments, BINGO (WWF, WCS, CI, AFD, WCS), etc. In the Monte Alen-Monts de Cristal Landscape (MA-MC), a landscape land use plan has been designed with USAID/CARPE funding and the main issue now is to coordinate land use plan design, adoption and implementation in the two segments (Equatorial Guinea and Gabon). The results of the project in the above Landscapes were capitalized in NRM policies and legislation at the national and regional level to facilitate the implementation and subsequently the revision of the COMIFAC Forest Convergence Plan, elaborate and fine-tune the on-going REDD+ preparatory process, the conception and development of the National Economic and Social Development Plan "Horizon 2020" and the promulgation of a decree prohibiting hunting of primates in Equatorial Guinea and a law banning exportation of unprocessed timber. Also, through the CARPE-IUCN Small grants Program, we strengthened the advocacy, institutional and management capacity of local civil society and promoted indigenous peoples' and women's rights and inclusive decision-making in the various landscapes, including Monte-Allen/Monts de Cristal and the Campo Maan/Rio Campo;

This project is fully supported by the Government of Equatorial Guinea through the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and the Environment and its two landscape partners: the National Institute for Conservation of the Environmental (INCOMA), and the National Institute for Forest Development and Protected Area Management (INDEFOR-AP).

Vulnerable groups like indigenous and local populations, women, youths as well as other key groups like sub-national and local government actors are also supporting the project and will be fully involved through existing or created platforms. For example, they will be working through the Rural CEFDHAC, an inter-sectoral platform that involves key sectoral decentralized councils and

deconcentrated ministries. We will also facilitate synergy with other REDD+, CBD, etc. processes by working with the 10 key Ministries that are currently participating in the Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee on REDD+. Also, indigenous and local populations and women groups will be working very closely with the Network of Indigenous and Local Populations for Central Africa (REPALEAC) and the Network of African Women for Sustainable Develop (REFADD), notably the local branch of Equatorial Guinea. We will work very closely with them to make sure that their results are us-scaled to their mother branches which are CEFDHAC and COMIFAC to create impact both at the landscape and regional levels.

The gender context in the Landscapes is very specific, notably because gender differences and inequalities are very rampant and may impede the success of the project if not adequately addressed. For example, rights and access to lands is nearly inexistent for women- most men owns the land and trees. Also, labor forces in large scale agriculture/logging, management of community forestry, etc. are mostly reserved for men. To address most of the above issues, most of our activities has been designed to be gender responsive, especially those that concerns local communities, private sector engagement, forest and wildlife management, multi-stakeholders dialogue, training opportunities, etc.

c) Describe how the integrated approach proposed for the child project responds to and reflects the Program's Theory of Change, and as such is an appropriate and suitable option for tackling the systemic challenges, and to achieve the desired transformation with multiple global environmental benefits;

The child project strategy is aligned with the CBSL Program's Theory of Change, whereby a series of strategic interventions addressing proximate and root (to the degree possible) causes of CB degradation will result in improved management of forest resources in targeted landscapes, with positive impacts for livelihoods and the CB forest ecosystem. These interventions are designed to facilitate three outcomes: (1) integrated, improved, and forward-looking land use planning, policies, and management that incorporate environmental management principles and the value of natural resources; (2) improved management of key protected, conservation, and surrounding areas critical to the survival of endangered species; and (3) enhanced sustainable livelihood options for local, forest-dependent communities that reduce impacts on these landscapes.

Moreover, the targeted transboundary landscapes and support for knowledge capture and exchange with CBSL partners, in particular with Gabon and Cameroon, will in turn support great cooperation and partnership among all CB countries, and the subsequent replication and scaling up of best practices.

d) Describe the project's incremental reasoning for GEF financing under the program, including the results framework and components.

GEF has been supporting communities and local Government authorities in the two landscapes. For example, lessons learned in the implementation of a GEF/PNUD Project funded project that facilitated conservation of globally significant biodiversity and represented ecosystems, notably in the Rio Muni and Bioko Island will be capitalized in this project. will facilitate sustainable management of Community Reserve and promote climate change adaptation and mitigation will be implemented in the Monte Alen Landscapes. Also, a GEF Project that facilitated sustainable

management and monitoring of natural resources in the Rio Campo Natural Reserve was funded by GEF/PNUD and executed by ANDENGE.

It is expected that this project will capitalize on the above GEF funding to ensure a demonstrable decreased rate of deforestation and forest degradation, improved carbon stocks and biodiversity in forested lands and enhanced livelihood of local and indigenous populations in the two landscapes. The project has been elaborated to increase the financial and non-financial conditions of local and national actors through job creation, active participation in decision-making processes by local actors and increase in natural capital (wildlife, plants, etc.).

The Child Project will add value to the above projects, notably by capitalizing on their results to push for transformational change through the generation of multiple benefits in terms of biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation/adaptation and local development. This will be done by setting up innovative approaches and tools that will ensure an enabling environment in terms of good governance, efficient and coordinated land use planning at the landscape level, participatory dialogue, development of sustainable finance mechanism, etc). Also, although we will be working in the Equatorial Guinea component of the Campo-Ma'an/Rio Campo Landscapes, we have already discussed and agreed with the Cameroon Government and the lead GEF Implementing Agency for the Cameroon CBSL IP (WWF) to work in synergy to facilitate the implementation of the objectives of the CBSL, notably by promoting coordination and complementarity based on our respective investment in the transboundary landscape (Campo-Ma'an Landscape in Cameroon). Also, although this project will focus on the Monte-Alen segment of the landscape, it has been designed to use a cross sectorial landscape approach to facilitate the adoption of land use plan, support governance structures and effective management regimes across the entire landscape segment, including working closely with other stakeholders in the Monts de Cristal segment to facilitate sustainable management of the transboundary landscape. This will be done notably by supporting multi-stakeholder dialogues and platforms, building the capacities of key stakeholders on land use plans processes, supporting communication frameworks, pushing for policy and regulatory reforms at the landscape and national levels, etc. We will also work with the World Bank (CBSL lead in Gabon) to capitalize on their results at the national and regional levels.

Institutionally, the capacities of young technicians and specialists from line government ministries in charge of land use planning, PA management, biodiversity conservation, etc (e.g. INDEFOR, INCOMA, etc.) will be strengthened to monitor and address key NRM and livelihoods policies and legal frameworks in the landscape that supports biodiversity conservation.

This will make sure that NBSAP and SFM strategies directly contribute to Aichi Targets 7 and 11, especially by integrating biodiversity conservation into other sectoral policies and political planning processes (Aichi Target 2), and the creation of economic incentives for the conservation of biodiversity (Aichi Target 3). Concerning Mitigation, because Equatorial Guinea is one of the key actors in REDD+ and other Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Programs (ERPs or ERPINs), we will facilitate the implementation of priority actions that favor land-use decision-making to enhance carbon stocks, reduce deforestation and promote current low-carbon land-use strategies and energy production.

3) Engagement with the Global / Regional Framework (maximum 500 words)

Describe how the project will align with the global / regional framework for the program to foster knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis of experiences. How will the proposed approach scale-up from the local and national level to maximize engagement by all relevant stakeholders and/or actors?

The Equatorial Guinea project is supportive of the GEF programmatic approach through which this CBSL program has been developed, and intends to actively engage with the regional child project and all program partners, to both benefit from and contribute to generation of programmatic benefits. This will include dedicated Equatorial Guinean child project resources for participation in knowledge sharing and learning events, capture and development of knowledge products for contribution to CBSL partners and the wider community, and participation in relevant community of practice(s).

In addition, the Equatorial Guinea child project expects to benefit from relevant technical support provided by the regional child project, again, through active engagement and participation of project members. For example, we will work closely with them to facilitate planning, organization of training and learning workshops, steering committee meetings, upscaling of lessons learned from the projects, communication and generation of knowledge products, mobilization of financial resources, building of political support for the program, monitoring of results , etc. We will also work to make sure that results produced by local REAPALEAC and CEFDHAC Networks in the landsapes are up-scaled at the National and Regional level by Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), Congo Basin Forest Partnership, Economic Commission for Central African States etc. One of the core approach of the program will be using our landscape-scale approach to build a solid programmatically aligned Program where results, lessons learned and experiences will be capitalized and shared across pilot landscapes and the Congo Basin in general.

Equatorial Guinea is well aware that efforts to address threats to the Congo Basin biome cannot be achieved by Equatorial Guinea alone, and must involve cooperative efforts, planning, policies and partnership with neighboring Congo Basin countries. The project is therefor supportive of the focus on transboundary landscapes, and intends to seize the opportunity presented by participation in the CBSL program to further strengthen engagement with partnering countries. This includes dedicated resources for policymaker exchange tours with Cameroon and Gabon, as well as efforts to bring program-supported progress to the wider Congo Basin community through relevant regional fora.

The project is supportive of a harmonized approach to monitoring and evaluation, that will allow for efficient tracking of results in a comparable way across projects, and that allows for adaptive management as needed. This would include participation of a Equatorial Guinean government representative on a Program Steering Committee.

To support scale up of progress, the project will work to integrate, publicize, and promote progress and best practices, both that of the Equatorial Guinea child project and CBSL partners. This includes work in Component 1 of the project that seeks to facilitate Integrated and improved land use planning, policies, and management. Tailored briefs and other informational products for policymakers and stakeholders will be produced and disseminated through workshop, and other

means, so that CBSL progress can serve as a model for replication and scale up in other landscapes in Equatorial Guinea.

Lastly, the project intends to leverage participation in the CBSL program in ways that further support progress on conservation and sustainable management of the Congo Basin biome, particularly that portion that covers Equatorial Guinea. This will be accomplished through outreach and communications, identifying and capturing opportunities for engagement at relevant regional and international forum (with support of CBSL partners), as well as opportunities for highlighting conservation and sustainable investment needs and opportunities in Equatorial Guinea.

Annex A

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Use this Worksheet to compute those indicator values as required in Part I, item F to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the project will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.
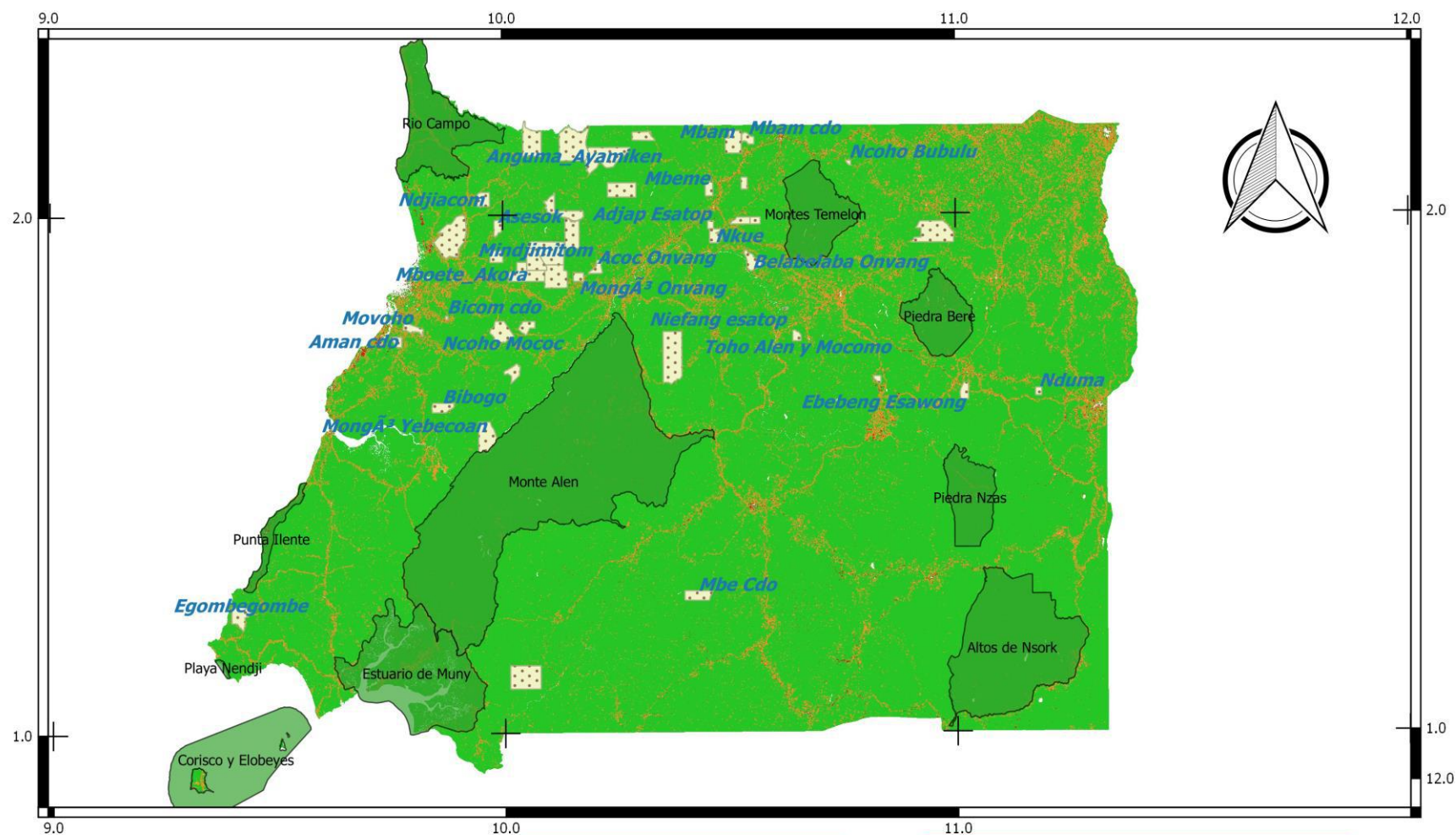
Core Indicator 1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use						*(Hectares)*
				Hectares (1.1+1.2)			
				Expected		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
				200,000			
Indicator 1.1	Terrestrial protected areas newly created						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category		Hectares			
				Expected		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			Sum				
Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
				Endorsement	MTR		TE
Monte Allen		(select)	*200,000*	125000			
Altos de Nsork		(select)	*70,000*	30000			
Rio Muni National Reserve		Sum	*70,000*	25000			
Rio Campo National Reserve			*335km*	20000			
Core Indicator 2	Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use						*(Hectares)*
				Hectares (2.1+2.2)			
				Expected		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	*TE*
Indicator 2.1	Marine protected areas newly created						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category		Hectares			
				Expected		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			(select)				
			(select)				
			Sum				
Indicator 2.2	Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
				PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		(select)					
		(select)					
		Sum					
Core Indicator 3	Area of land restored						*(Hectares)*
				Hectares (3.1+3.2+3.3+3.4)			

			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.1	Area of degraded agricultural land restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.2	Area of forest and forest land restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.3	Area of natural grass and shrublands restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 3.4	Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 4	**Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)**					*(Hectares)*
			Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)			
			Expected		Expected	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			550,000			
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			350000			
Indicator 4.2	Area of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations					
Third party certification(s):			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			100000			
Indicator 4.4	Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided					
Include documentation that justifies HCVF			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			100000			

Core Indicator 5	Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity				(Hectares)
Indicator 5.1	Number of fisheries that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations				

Third party certification(s):		Number			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 5.2	Number of large marine ecosystems (LMEs) with reduced pollution and hypoxial				
		Number			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 5.3	Amount of Marine Litter Avoided				
		Metric Tons			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Core Indicator 6	Greenhouse gas emission mitigated				(Metric tons of CO$_2$e)
		Expected metric tons of CO$_2$e (6.1+6.2)			
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)	*4,075,247*			
	Expected CO2e (indirect)				

Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector				
		Expected metric tons of CO$_2$e			
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)	538,247			
	Expected CO2e (indirect)	1,500,000			
	Anticipated start year of accounting				
	Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.2	Emissions avoided Outside AFOLU				
		Expected metric tons of CO$_2$e			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected CO2e (direct)	537,000			
	Expected CO2e (indirect)	1,500,000			
	Anticipated start year of accounting				
	Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.3	Energy saved				
		MJ			
		Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 6.4	Increase in installed renewable energy capacity per technology				
		Capacity (MW)			
	Technology	Expected		Achieved	
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	(select)				
	(select)				

Core Indicator 7	Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management				(Number)

Indicator 7.1	Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 7.2	Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional Management Institutions to support its implementation					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 7.3	Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 7.4	Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products					
		Shared water ecosystem	Rating (scale 1-4)			
			Rating		Rating	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 8	**Globally over-exploited fisheries Moved to more sustainable levels**				*(Metric Tons)*	
Fishery Details			Metric Tons			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 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)*	
			Metric Tons (9.1+9.2+9.3)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	PIF stage	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.1	Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type)					
	POPs type		Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
(select)	(select)	(select)				
(select)	(select)	(select)				
(select)	(select)	(select)				
Indicator 9.2	Quantity of mercury reduced					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.3	Hydrochloroflurocarbons (HCFC) Reduced/Phased out					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.4	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

Indicator 9.5	Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities					
		Technology	Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 9.6	Quantity of POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided					
			Metric Tons			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	PIF stage	Endorsement
Core Indicator 10	**Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources**					*(grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)*
Indicator 10.1	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control emissions of POPs to air					
			Number of Countries			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 10.2	Number of emission control technologies/practices implemented					
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 11	**Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**					*(Number)*
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Female	*130,000*			
		Male	*120,000*			
		Total	*150,000*			

MAPA DE ESPACIOS PROTEGIDOS DE LA
REGIÓN CONTINENTAL

0   25   50   75   100 km

Leyenda

Espacios Protegidos
Parcelas Forestales

Región Continental
Deforestación
Bosque
Degradación

GEF-7 CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT

CHILD PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Child Project
PROGRAM: IP SFP Congo

Child Project Title:	Transforming Forest Landscape Governance in Minkebe/TRIDOM
Country:	GABON
Lead Agency	UNEP
GEF Agency(ies):	WB (select) (select)

INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
BD-1-3 (select)	GEFTF	1,000,000	7,350,000
BD-1-5 (select)	GEFTF	1,771,189	7,350,000
CCM-2-7 (select)	GEFTF	803,243	30,000,000
(select) LD-1-2	GEFTF	267,748	5,000,000
(select) LD-1-3	GEFTF	267,748	5,000,000
(select) LD-1-4	GEFTF	267,747	5,000,000
(select) IP SFM Congo	GEFTF	2,188,838	
Total Project Cost		**$6,566,513**	**$59,700,000**

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: To enhance the institutional and planning frameworks for sustainable transformation of the Minkebe landscape						
Project Components	**Component Type**	**Project Outcomes**	**Project Outputs**	**Trust Fund**	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. Strengthening Policy and Decision-Making for Sustainable, Transparent, Accountable, and Inclusive Forest Landscape Management	Technical Ass	National land use planning reflects value of natural capital; Rights of autochthonous communities to engage in community forestry clarified and reinforced; Communities enabled and incentivized to manage their natural resources sustainably and equitably; Improved coordination with	1)Natural capital and ecosystem services valuation assessments and accounting provided to PNAT to inform designs of: a) Ramsar site within critically important transboundary Minkebe-Djoua area, its buffer zones, and nearby concession lots; b) conservation sites next to Rep. of Congo's Odzala-Kokoua NP; 2) Management plan for Ramsar site - Chutes et Rapides sur Ivindo - updated to reflect natural capital accounting perspective; 3) Reforms made to Community Forest policy/regulations vis-à-vis a) inclusiveness within local	GEFTF	1,500,000	29,700,000

		private sector on environmental issues;	governance structures (gender, vulnerable populations); b) benefits sharing; c) rights of communities and third parties, i.e. private sector, in SFM 4) Standards and guidelines established to elucidate responsbilities and obligations of private sector in ensuring sustainable forest landscapes			
2. Promoting the role of Communities in Integrated Forest and Landscape Management	Investment Technical Ass	Enhanced awareness of rights and responsibilities of communities in ensuring SFM; Community forests provide ecosystem services and are managed sustainably; Forest products provide increased revenue to households Strengthened private sector engagement; Strengthened, inclusive local governance institutions (increased role of women, youth, and vulnerable populations)	1) Community forests submitted for attribution with inclusive governance structures; 2) Sustainable forest and wildlife management plans drafted; 3) Local communities and inclusive governance structures created and supported to implement SFM plans and conduct forest monitoring; 4) Established alternative income generating activities, with a focus on value chains of sustainable wood products and NTFPs (e.g. honey/"wild mango"/ rattan, okoueme and other resins, traditional and modern medicines)	GEFTF	3,725,000	25,000,000
Component 3: Project Coordination and Transboundary Cooperation	Technical Ass	Improved transboundary cooperation; Improved landscape management by all government agencies;	1) Ensured coordination of project activities with: (i) key government agencies; (ii) NGOs and civil society stakeholders; and (iii) regional and international partners, e.g., neighboring countries, UNEP. 2) effective project coordination and monitoring	GEFTF	1,028,822	4,500,000

		Improved relationship in landscape management with key partners in civil society	3) participation in regionala nd global events under the IP coordination grant				
			Subtotal	GEFTF	6,253,822	59,200,000
			Project Management Cost (PMC)	GEFTF	312,691	500,000
			Total Project Cost		6,566,513	59,700,000

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: (   )

INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount ($)
Donor Agency	CAFI	Grant	Investment mobilized	18,400,000
Donor Agency	AFD	Grant	Investment mobilized	11,300,000
Donor Agency	USFWS	Grant	Investment mobilized	15,000,000
Recipient Country Government	Government of Gabon	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	5,000,000
Private Sector	Industries	Other	Recurrent expenditures	9,000,000
GEF Agency	Global Program for Sustainability (WAVES)	In-kind	Investment mobilized	1,000,000
Total Co-financing				**$59,700,000**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified.   Baseline investments leveraged to complement the project are from the ongoing national land use planning exercise, funded by CAFI and implemented by AFD. Work to protect elephants and wildlife in NE Gabon is also done by AFD under the title "Projet Elephant." USFWS supports policy reforms and enhancing capacity in the north of Gabon. WAVES investment will be leveraged using Bank expertise in natural capital valuation and possibly grant funds.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	2,771,189	249,407	3,020,596
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	803,243	72,292	875,535
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	803,243	72,292	875,535
WB	GEFTF	Congo Basin	Multifocal Area	IP SFM Congo	2,188,838	196,995	2,385,834
Total GEF Resources					**6,566,513**	**590,986**	**7,157,499**

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

Yes ☒ If yes, PPG funds **have to be requested via the Portal** once the PFD is approved

No ☐ If no, skip this item.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	77,435	6,969	84,404
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	22,445	2,020	24,465
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	22,445	2,020	24,465
WB	GEFTF	Gabon	Multifocal Area	IP SFM Congo	61,162	5,505	66,666
Total PPG Amount					**183,487**	**16,514**	**200,001**

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

Provide the relevant sub-indicator values for this project using the methodologies indicated in the Core Indicator Worksheet provided in Annex B and aggregating them in the table below. Progress in programming against these targets is updated at the time of CEO endorsement, at midterm evaluation, and at terminal evaluation. Achieved targets will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	1,773,000
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)	1,100,000
5	Area of **marine habitat under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	
	Total area under improved management (Hectares)	1,873,000
6	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated** (metric tons of CO2e)	20,336,745
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	104,000 (52,000 women/52,000 men)

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicators targets are not provided.

GHG mitigation calculated using EXACT tool. Deforestation rate of .04% annually was used to determine the # of ha that would be deforested (turned into degraded land) over the course of 20 years (5 years of project, 15 years of capitalization… suitable since this is the proposed term for a community forest charter). We assume that 14,130ha of terrestrial areas and 8,766ha of area under improved management would be deforested under the Without Scenario. With scenario is simplistically assumed to be 0ha degraded. This results in mitigation of over 20MtCO$_2$e.

Aichi targets supported: 2: Biodiversity values taken into consideration in national planning processes; Target 4: stakeholders have implemented sustainable production/consumption plans in community forests; Target 5: rate of loss of natural habitats is halved, degradation/fragmentation reduced; Target 7: areas under forestry are managed sustainably

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Country Context[1] (*maximum 500 words*)

Describe the country's relevant environmental challenges and strategic positioning relative to the systems transformation proposed for the program, including relevant existing policies, commitments, and investment frameworks. How are these aligned with the proposed approach to foster impactful outcomes with global environmental benefits?

With national reserves shrinking, Gabon's oil-dependent economy (80% of exports, 45% of GDP) faces the growing need to diversify its economic base. Gabon contains approximately 22 Mha of tropical rainforest, home to old trees and extraordinary biodiversity. While the deforestation rate is very low, 0.04%, increasing dependence on extractives forests, carbon stocks, landscapes, water bodies, and biodiversity under threat. Forestry, in particular, results in 80% of AFOLU-related carbon emissions. Poaching, especially ivory trafficking by transnational criminal syndicates, is a major issue for ecological integrity and national patrimony. This degradation menaces the socio-cultural values cherished by the forest-dependent, including ~20,000 non-Bantu speakers.

Across much of the forested landscape, public sector presence is weak and the only bulwark against forest threats are the local communities whose livelihoods are impacted by illegal or unregulated takings. However, the absence of formal land titles or maps representing their areas of activity, means rural communities generally cannot claim rights to the lands and resources surrounding their villages, thus submitting them to environmental injustices like expropriation and loss of ecosystem services.

Against this dire backdrop, favorable political will and national initiatives commit to preserve high value forest landscapes and their carbon stocks to avoid GHG emissions, conserve biodiversity, promote sustainable land management, and strengthen the capacity of government, forest-dependent communities, and the private sector to contribute to these objectives. Legal and regulatory frameworks like the Sustainable Development Law and Environment Code enshrine sustainability, environmental protection, stakeholder consultation and natural capital considerations in public policy. Gabon's biodiversity is largely intact because the country dedicates 13 percent of national territory to National Parks (2007). At the regional level, Gabon works closely with neighbors, evidenced by the TRIDOM project overseeing the cross-border national parks Dja, Odzala, Minkébé, co-managed with Republic of Congo and Cameroon.

Two activities in particular have strategically oriented Gabon towards systemic transformation that can help to ensure conservation and sustainable natural resource management (NRM). First is engagement in a large-scale national land use planning exercise, sponsored by the Central African Forests Initiative (CAFI), designed to result in a National Land Use Plan (PNAT) that promotes optimal resource use, reduction of deforestation/forest degradation, and resolution of overlapping land claims. The country's NDC is intimately tied to land use planning as a catalyst for reducing GHG emissions: PNAT aims to reduce concessions from 17 to 13Mha nationwide.

The second is the suite of laws and decrees that form the basis for community-based forestry and wildlife management. Forestry Code No. 16/01 (2001) established "Community Forests (FCs)" as legal assignments of a portion of the Rural Forest Estate (DFR) to "village communities" to carry out activities or undertake dynamic processes for sustainable forest and NRM on the basis of simple management plans. Supporting this law are: Decret No. 001028/PR/MEFEPEPN (2004) (outlining the conditions for the creation of a FC, including definition, administrative procedure, and management modalities); Arrete No. 18/MEF/SG/DGF/DFC (2013) (establishing procedures for awarding of FCs, including the creation of community governance institutions); Arrete No. 106/MEFPRN (creating a right of reservation over a forest by a community and excluding any competing use).

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[1] Acronyms & abbreviations reflect translations of names in French, e.g. community forest = foret communautaire, or FC.

2. Project Overview and Approach (*maximum 1250 words*)

a) Provide a brief description of the geographical target(s), including details of systemic challenges, and the specific environmental threats and associated drivers that must be addressed;

The geographical target is the Minkébé /TRIDOM landscape in northeast Gabon, which includes the Minkébé, Ivindo, and Mwangna National Parks, a biological corridor linking Minkébé and Mwagna NPs, and the "Blackwater" Ivindo River Basin[2], rich in decaying organic matter. The area is ~52,000 km^2 with an estimated population of 52,000-104,000, including forest-dependent Baka, Fang, Kota, Kwèl, and Bantu. The landscape contains a rich mosaic of high conservation, high carbon stock highland and forested floodplain, including transboundary protected areas containing high carbon swamp forests and peatlands.

The first major environmental threat is removal of HCV/HCS trees and peatland degradation. Over the past century, the forestry sector moved from cutting one tree species to cutting over 100, including okoumé (*Aucoumea klaineana*, vulnerable), Gabon ebony (*Diospyros crassiflora*, endangered), and okolla (*Tieghemella spp.*, endangered). The second threat is endangerment of globally important species: chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*, endangered), gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*, critically endangered), African forest elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*, vulnerable), hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibius*, vulnerable*)*, leopard (*Panthera pardus*, vulnerable), grey-necked rockfowl (*Picathartes oreas*, vulnerable), slender-snouted crocodile (*Mecistops cataphractus*, vulnerable), dwarf crocodile (*Osteolaemus tetraspis*, vulnerable). Third, Congo Basin forest degradation threatens the livelihoods and values of forest-dependent communities who lack clear pathways to ensuring land and resource use rights and are often marginalized. d

The most significant drivers of forest degradation in the target landscape are from the private sector: 1) non-permitted harvesting by the legal forest industry (3.2 Mha under concession); 2) non-permitted degradation from the legal mining industry (1.16 Mha under concession); 3) non-permitted forest clearances from agro-industry and infrastructure. Illegal logging/mining plays a considerable role, too. The largest driver of threats to wildlife is poaching—178 species are hunted/sold in Gabon and the international black market—notably elephants. While this implicates transnational crime syndicates, it is also fueled by unsustainable bushmeat hunting.

Systemic challenges are manifest and interrelated. Lack of accounting for the value of ecosystem services means land use and climate change planning are not fully appreciated, and forests are degraded for short-term profit. Public sector service delivery in the isolated Minkebe landscape is weak. Agencies including DGEPN (mandated with overall environmental oversight) and AEAFFB (support to FCs) lack capacity to ensure concessions' regulatory compliance and provide technical assistance to communities. Simultaneously, a complicated and incomplete land and resource tenure framework deprives forest-dependent populations of customary resource use rights, disincentivizing conservation and SFM, weakening an important safeguard against illegal timber and wildlife extraction. Ambiguity in laws can exclude autochthonous people from resource tenure, diminish the role for women, and create loopholes that permit private operators to exploit communities, attenuating the effectiveness of the FC mechanism. Finally, transboundary coordination on complex transnational issues is often politically sensitive.

b) Describe the existing or planned baseline investments, including current institutional framework and processes for stakeholder engagement and gender integration;

Gabon's Emerging Gabon Strategic Plan promotes a "Green Gabon," based on sustainable forestry and agriculture management to preserve biodiversity and forests. To meet these goals, and those of Gabon's NDC, there needs to be a concomitant reduction in the hectarage under industrial concession. For this reason the country is finalizing the PNAT for optimal spatial management of lands and NRs, protection of HCV/HCS forests, and mitigation of deforestation/forest degradation by informing the expansion of commercial and infrastructural activities. The PNAT process relies on participative community mapping to outline customary land use (to mitigate conflicting private

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[2] The Ivindo River is one of the only large blackwater rivers (a blackwater river is a type of river with a slow-moving channel flowing through forested swamps or wetlands) in the sub-region.

sector/state/community uses). The Forestry Code and associated decrees outline the process for formal recognition and governance of these lands; coincidentally, participative community mapping is a precursor to obtaining legal recognition.

General environmental protection in Gabon rests with the DGEPN, which is mandated to implement environmental policy, oversee ESIAs and ESMPs with private operators (who pay the full cost for these obligatory studies), perform ecosystem research, and develop environmental protection capacity. AEAFFB is in charge of providing technical support to FCs, ushering communities through the registration process and assisting with SFM activities. The management authority for Gabon's national parks is the ANPN. DGF oversees the management of off-reserve forests, including the granting of forestry permits.

Gabon's Sustainable Development and Environment Code Laws mandate gender and stakeholder considerations, however, there is an absence of clarity in the legislation and serious deficiencies in the procedural framework that hinder inclusiveness, enable elite capture, and do not explicitly safeguard the interests of women and the vulnerable.

c) Describe how the integrated approach proposed for the child project responds to and reflects the Program's Theory of Change, and as such is an appropriate and suitable option for tackling the systemic challenges, and to achieve the desired transformation with multiple global environmental benefits; and

Weaknesses in land/resource tenure regimes—both community access to rights and land use planning—feed in to forest degradation drivers, namely illegal, unregulated, and unsustainable forest exploitation. Management of the competing resource uses that pressure globally significant biodiversity, valuable carbon stocks, and transboundary ecosystems in Minkebe/TRIDOM necessitates a landscape-level vision for land use and engagement/coordination with a range of stakeholders, including forest-dependent communities—inclusive of subpopulations, e.g. women, youth—the private sector and regional partners. Reinforcing governance by informing decision-making, ensuring service delivery, and lowering the barriers to access rights and reap benefits from environmentally sound resource management are transformative insofar as they empower the state, the forest-dependent, and the private sector to operate with greater knowledge, clarity, and security.

The current project seeks to remedy current challenges in Minkebe by: 1) using natural capital accounting to strengthen land use planning efforts and implementation by providing an appropriate basis for long-term investment decisions and supporting optimal management of different land use zones, i.e. Protected Areas, Wildlife Management Areas, concessions, FCs, etc.; 2) formalizing and enhancing the rights of forest-dependent communities to access and sustainably extract economic value from their customary natural resource base, which includes, a) empowering them to govern and share benefits inclusively, b) adapting alternative IGAs based on conservation and sustainable development principles to reduce environmental pressure and contribute to value chains; c) coordinating with private sector to equitably and transparently share benefits from NR extraction; d) defending their interests from private sector or illegal encroachment, e.g. through FPIC and monitoring/surveillance; 3) clarifying roles/responsibilities of private sector concessions vis-à-vis regulatory compliance, and strengthening the public sector's ability to operationalize/enforce said regulations; 4) promoting cross-border communication and coordination to share knowledge and contain clandestine/sophisticated criminal threats.

Outcomes seek to strengthen sustainable forest and land management and governance, preserve HCS to mitigate climate change, and protect HCV species and wildlife. Enabling communities to conserve and sustainably manage lands has been impressive in countering illegal extraction of timber and wildlife, particularly where government capacity is limited. Improved enforcement of laws and cooperation with private sector and regional actors is imperative to secure a vast landscape with high private sector and minimal government presence.

d) Describe the project's incremental reasoning for GEF financing under the program, including the results framework and components.

Targeted interventions are designed to support positive transformation in key forest landscapes, increasing the likelihood for success of other initiatives in the country, e.g., CAF, ECOFAC, USFWS. It does this through the following components: 1) Strengthening Policy and Decision-making for Sustainable, Transparent, Accountable, and Inclusive Forest Landscape Management, 2) Promoting the role of Communities in Integrated Forest and Landscape Management, and 3) Project Coordination and Transboundary Cooperation.

The first component creates natural capital accounting knowledge for improved decision-making and governance in forestry management. CAFI-sponsored PNAT is the government's primary tool for the design and implementation of sustainable development policy and the sound management of national territory. This project will leverage this exercise by analyzing its national resource inventory data and converting it into natural capital accounts. The component also reforms/revises/simplifies procedures to make them accessible to pertinent stakeholders. Gabon has built a solid regulatory framework around sustainable development and access to resource rights (through FCs), but implementation issues persist. This project will help to bring together stakeholders to ensure that implementation is clear and fair and can be smoothly implemented in areas with limited government capacity.

The second component will work with forest-dependent communities to ensure access to land and resource rights and help to promote resource conservation and diversify livelihood opportunities through sustainable wood product and NTFP IGAs and the strengthening of their value chains— in food security, African pear (*Dacryodes edulis*), wild mango (*Irvingia gabonensis*), eru (*Gnetum africanum*); medicine/spiritual use; okoume (*Aucoumea klaineana*) and other tree resins for cosmetics; ngungu (*Megaphrynium macrostachyum*) for packaging; rattan for household items. The goal is to shift away from unsustainable resource extraction and incentivize protection of the forest and vulnerable species.

The third component will improve transboundary coordination with neighboring states, building on bilateral agreements and cooperation (e.g. TRIDOM), regional fora (e.g. COMIFAC), and knowledge sharing, and will ensure robust M&E of the project.

These results will lead to protection and improved management of 1.7 Mha of protected areas and 1.1M ha under improved practices, for total GHG mitigation upwards of 20M tCO2e.

3. Engagement with the Global / Regional Framework (*maximum 500 words*)

Describe how the project will align with the global / regional framework for the program to foster knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis of experiences. How will the proposed approach scale-up from the local and national level to maximize engagement by all relevant stakeholders and/or actors?

The child project will help neighbors to enhance their cooperation to combat issues linked to cross-border dynamics. Improved coordination across transboundary landscapes is imperative to the success of this child project. Several of the drivers of forest degradation in the selected landscape are associated with citizens from neighboring countries who act in concert with local communities to illegally extract resources. Notably, poaching has links to international criminal syndicates often operating from Cameroon, while illegal gold mining has links to Republic of Congo. The project envisions three prongs by which it can engage with regional partners to improve management of transboundary areas: 1) technical assistance; 2) renewal of cooperation agreements; 3) establishment of new protected areas.

The project will consider best practices and lessons learned from preexisting coordination mechanisms and will recommend areas and procedures for strengthening the management of international environmental challenges. Gabon's National Ivory Action Plan, for example, identifies measures that are meant to strengthen coordination between Gabonese and regional stakeholders. Experience from multilateral institutions like COMIFAC, as well as from international NGOs and civil society groups, like REPALEAC and CEFDHAC, will be taken into account and

considered so that non-government stakeholders are included in understanding the importance of and participating in the management of these areas.

Relatedly, the project will conduct natural capital and ecosystem service valuation in circumscribed transboundary areas alongside these partners in order to create a firm basis on which neighbors can make decisions that affect the environmental health of shared landscapes. Joint activities relying on national human capital—furnished by universities, research institutes, NGOs, etc.—will create and manage knowledge on these areas together, strengthening both intergovernmental cooperation and relationships between members of civil societies.

Once accomplished and validated with partners, the project will use these findings to renew, update, and revise cooperation agreements between Gabon and regional partners in the Minkebe landscape zone – Republic of Congo and Cameroon, as possible. These agreements will consider ways to establish a reliable and accessible information network—leveraging natural capital valuation, socioeconomic, and other relevant data—for policymakers and, of course, methods to foster and improve communication between forest authorities in neighboring countries. This will will help to strengthen joint governance of these areas, facilitating the ability of forest rangers to undertake law enforcement activities, including those performed under joint cooperation/command.

Finally, improved understanding of transboundary area management will help to lead to the assessment and establishment of proposed cross-border Ramsar sites and conservation areas, at Minkébé-Djoua and adjacent to Congo's Odzala–Kokoua NP. This will allow Gabon and its regional partners to commit more area to conservation and to protect the integrity of the Congo Basin's forests.

Annex A

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Use this Worksheet to compute those indicator values as required in Part I, item F to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the project will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Core Indicator 1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use					*(1,773,000 Hectares)*
		Hectares (1.1+1.2)				
		Expected		Achieved		
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
		1,773,000				
Indicator 1.1	Terrestrial protected areas newly created					
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Minkébé-Djoua		(select)	*500,000*			
Adjacent to Odzala – Kokoua		(select)	*100,000*			
		Sum	*600,000*			
Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness					
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score		
				Baseline	Achieved	
				Endorsement	MTR	TE
Ivindo NP		(select)	*300,000*			
Mwanga NP		(select)	*116,000*			
Mwanga NP		(select)	*757,000*			
		Sum	*1,173,000*			
Core Indicator 4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)					*(1,100,000 Hectares)*
		Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)				
		Expected		Expected		
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
		1,100,000				
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity					
		Hectares				
		Expected		Achieved		
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
		500,000				
Indicator 4.2	Area of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations					
Third party certification(s):			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems					
		Hectares				
		Expected		Achieved		
		PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	

				600,000			
Indicator 4.4	Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided						
Include documentation that justifies HCVF			Hectares				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Core Indicator 6	**Greenhouse gas emission mitigated**						*(Metric tons of CO$_2$e)*
			Expected metric tons of CO$_2$e (6.1+6.2)				
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
		Expected CO2e (direct)	*20,336,745*				
		Expected CO2e (indirect)					
Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector						
			Expected metric tons of CO$_2$e				
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
		Expected CO2e (direct)	*20,336,745*				
		Expected CO2e (indirect)					
		Anticipated start year of accounting	*2020*				
		Duration of accounting	*20 years*				
Indicator 6.2	Emissions avoided Outside AFOLU						
			Expected metric tons of CO$_2$e				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
		Expected CO2e (direct)					
		Expected CO2e (indirect)					
		Anticipated start year of accounting					
		Duration of accounting					
Indicator 6.3	Energy saved						
			MJ				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Indicator 6.4	Increase in installed renewable energy capacity per technology						
		Technology	Capacity (MW)				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
		(select)					
		(select)					
Core Indicator 11	**Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**						*(Number)*
			Number				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Female	52,000				
		Male	52,000				
		Total	104,000				

GABONESE REPUBLIC
Expression of Interest (EOI)
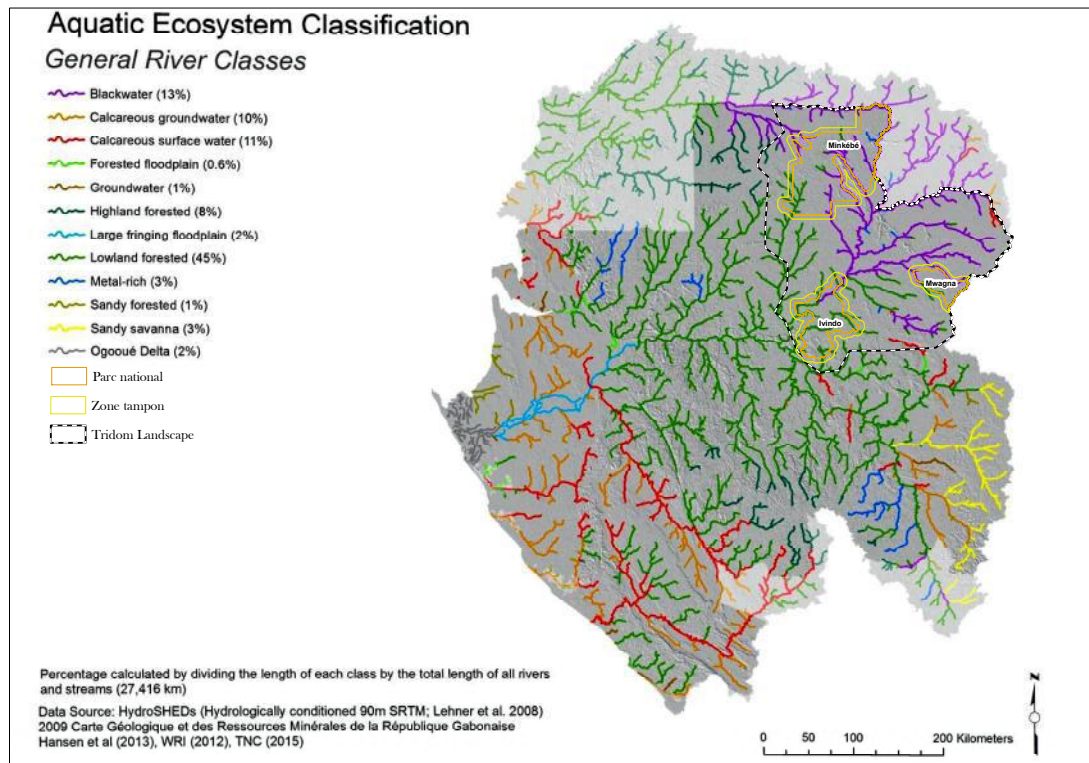## Sustainable Congo Basin Landscapes Program

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: Maps
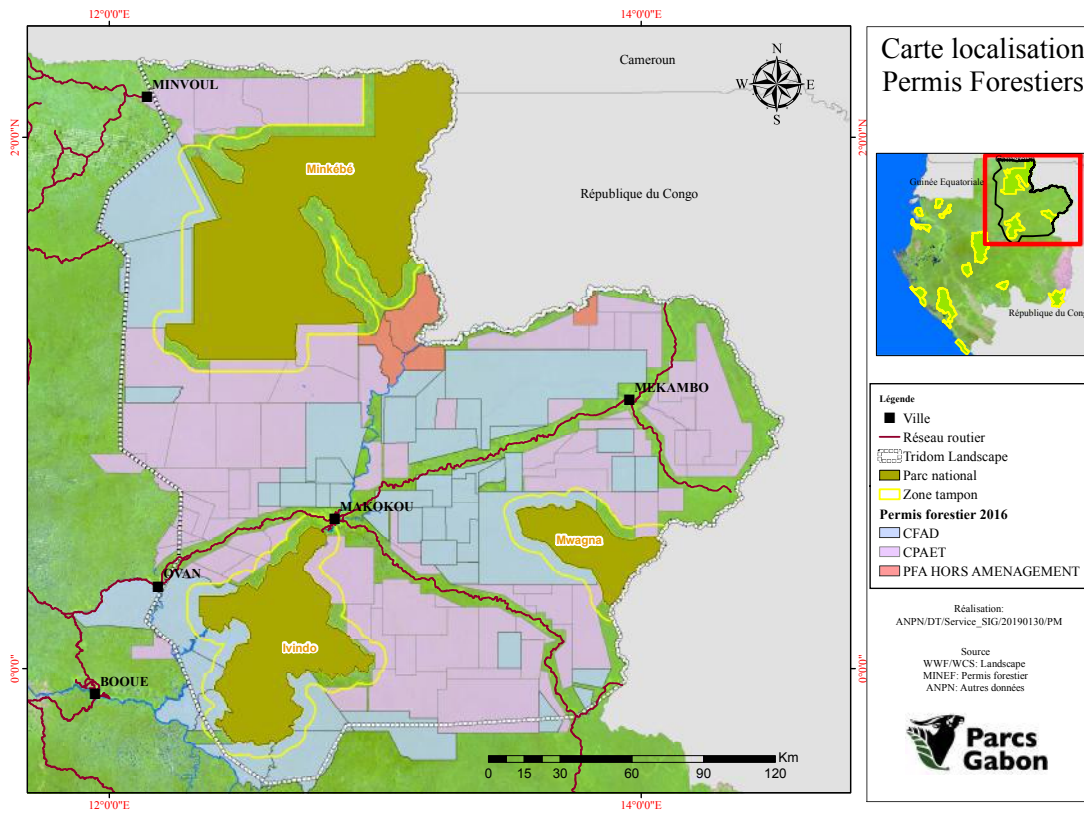
Annex 1a. Target Landscape - Minkebe/Tridom
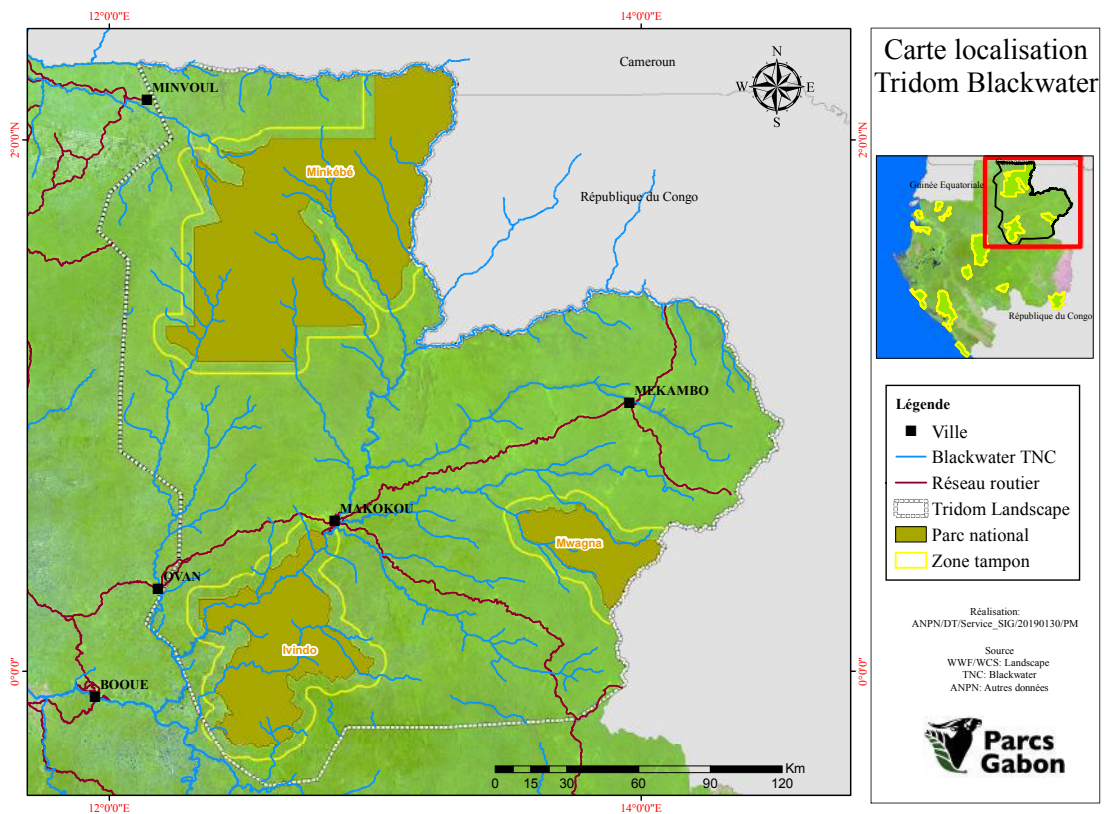
Annex 1b. Aquatic Ecosystem Blackwater Tridom

Aquatic Ecosystem Classification
General River Classes

- Blackwater (13%)
- Calcareous groundwater (10%)
- Calcareous surface water (11%)
- Forested floodplain (0.6%)
- Groundwater (1%)
- Highland forested (8%)
- Large fringing floodplain (2%)
- Lowland forested (45%)
- Metal-rich (3%)
- Sandy forested (1%)
- Sandy savanna (3%)
- Ogooué Delta (2%)
- Parc national
- Zone tampon
- Tridom Landscape

Percentage calculated by dividing the length of each class by the total length of all rivers and streams (27,416 km)
Data Source: HydroSHEDs (Hydrologically conditioned 90m SRTM; Lehner et al. 2008)
2009 Carte Géologique et des Ressources Minérales de la République Gabonaise
Hansen et al (2013), WRI (2012), TNC (2015)

0   50   100   200 Kilometers

Annex 1c. Vegetation – Target Landscape
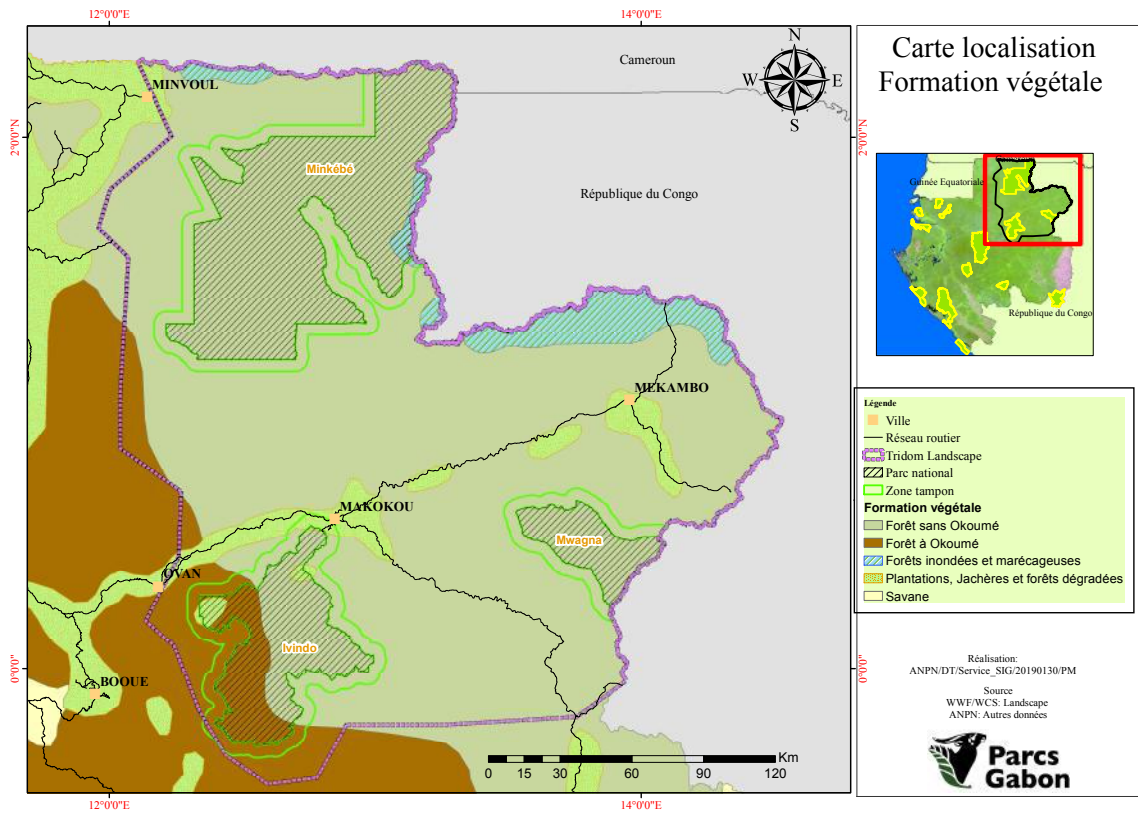
Annex 1d: Forestry Permits – Target Landscape

Annex 1e: Permitted and Illegal Mining Sites
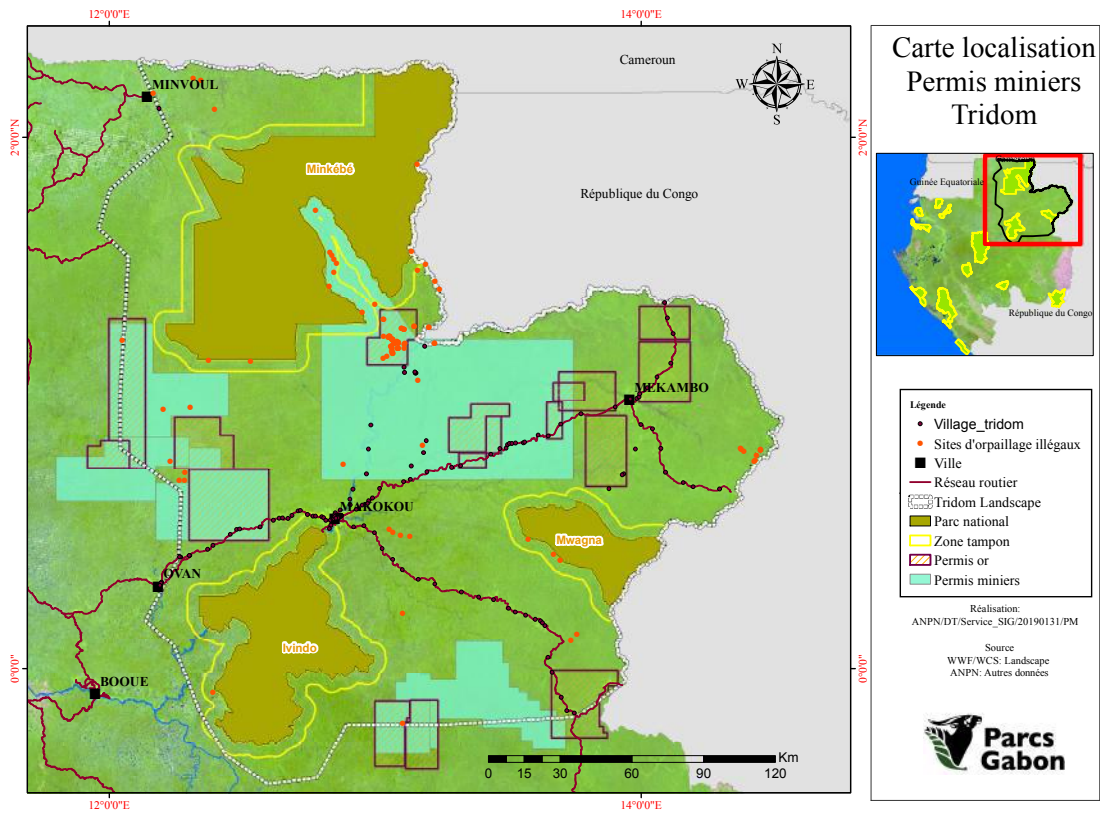
Annex 1f: Number of Villages – Target Landscape
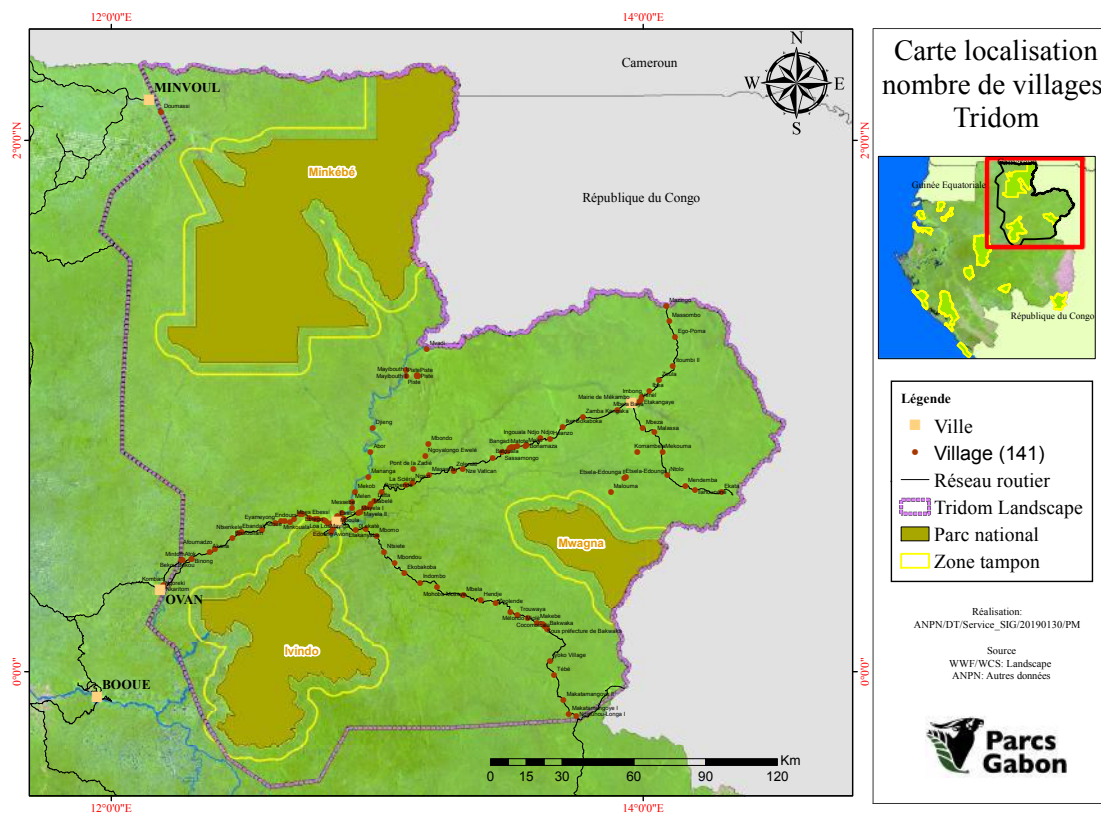
Annex 2: List of Acronyms

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AEAFFB	National Executing Agency for the Forest and Wood Markets/Agence d'Execution des activities de la filiere foret bois - Nationale
AFD	French Development Agency
AGEOS	Gabonese Agency for Studies and Spatial Observation (AGEOS)
ASM	Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining
CAF	Forest Management Control Project
CAFI	Central African Forest Initiative
CARPE	The Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment
CEFDHAC	Conférence sur les Ecosystèmes de Forêts Denses et Humides d'Afrique Centrale
COMIFAC	The Central African Protected Areas Network's Working Group of Central Africa
CTC-FLEGT	Technical Committee - Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
DGA	Direction General d'Agriculture
DGAT	General Directorate for Land Management/Direction General pour l'Amenagement de Territoires
DGEPN	General Directorate for the Environment and Protection of Nature/Direction General pour l'Environnement et la Protection de Nature
DGF	General Directorate for Forests/Direction General de Forests
DGFAP	General Directorate for Fauna and Protected Areas/Faune et des Aires Protegee,
DGI	General Directorate for Industry/Direction General de Industrie
DGPA	General Directorate for Fisheries and Aquaculture/Direction General de la Peche et Aquaculture
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
FCPF REDD+	Forest Carbon Partnership Fund – Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
GeFaCHE	Wildlife and Human-Elephant Conflicts Management Project
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GoG	Government of Gabon
HCS	High Carbon Stocks
HCV	High Conservation Value
IA	Impact Assessment
IRAF	Institute de Recherche en Ecologie Tropicale (IRET
IUCN	International Union of Concerned Scientists

LULUCF	Land use, land-use change and forest
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NP	National Park
NTFP	Non-timber Forest Products
PARCS	Reinforcing the institutional capacity of Gabon's National Park Service Project - USFWS
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
PGSE	Emerging Gabon Strategic Plan
PNAT	National Land Use Plan
REPALEAC	Network of Indigenous and Local Communities for the Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa
R-PP	Revised Readiness Preparation Proposal
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

GEF-7 CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT
CHILD PROJECT TYPE: FULL SIZE PROJECT
PROGRAM: CONGO BASIN SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE

Child Project Title:	Integrated Community -Based Conservation of Peatlands Ecosystems and Promotion of Ecotourism in Lac Télé Landscape of Republic of Congo – ICOBACPE /PELATEL
Country:	Republic of Congo
Lead Agency	UNEP
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP

INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
Biodiversity	GEFTF	2,282,544	10,442,714
Land Degradation	GEFTF	894,535	10,442,713
Climate Change	GEFTF	896,958	10,442,714
Multifocal Area/IP CBSL	GEFTF	2,037,018	10,442,714
Total Project Cost		**6,111,055**	**41,770,855**

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: To promote a model for integrated community-based conservation and protected area management applied to the peatland area and its forest ecosystem of the RoC Lac Télé Landscape.						
Project Components	**Component Type**	**Project Outcomes**	**Project Outputs**	**Trust Fund**	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
1. Supporting development and implementation of LUPs for RoC Lac Tele landscape protected areas and surrounding landscape with a focus on ensuring and formalizing community involvement	TA	1.1. An enabling local policy and national legal framework in support of local land tenure rights and community governance and management of forests and natural resources is developed	1.1.1. An enabling environment including a national legal framework for community engagement and conservation, local bylaws and enforcement of both levels of legislation is put in place 1.1.2. Training conducted toward government and local/district and regional hubs on the governance and management of participatory decision-making structures, including their formalization as registered entities and on community and transboundary engagements and	GEFTF	2,100,000	5,500,000

			conservation of peatlands, fighting Illegal Wildlife Trafficking, etc. 1.1.3. Natural Capital Assessment targeting peatlands, protected areas and surrounding landscape conducted to collect data for land–use management plans for selected districts with due gender consideration and formalized community involvement 1.1.4. Land–use management plans developed for selected districts in Lac Tele landscape with due consideration of gender, formalized community involvement, peatlands conservation and promotion of ecotourism 1.1.5. Investments in supporting implementation of land-use management plans for the target geography's protected areas and surrounding landscape with a focus on peatlands, ecotourism, gender consideration, fighting illegal wildlife trade and transboundary cooperation			
2. Community management of natural resources	TA	2.1. Integrated participatory conservation model for the sustainable use and management of peatland ecosystems is established	2.1.1. Local community management structures and related bylaws allowing for sustainable management of hunting and fire, are established based on the successful experience of community-based fisheries regulations in the last 3 years	GEFTF	500,000	13,500,000

			2.1.2. Training conducted for local community governance groups and forest-dependent peoples to develop and implement environmental projects including the reforestation of gallery forests that are crucial for ecosystem services and fisheries production 2.1.3. Action-based research and monitoring allowing for adaptive management by communities and the government (including research on threats to peatlands from a changing climate) are conducted 2.1.4. Community based south-south cooperation activities and transboundary collaboration on peatlands management, IWT, etc. are conducted			
3. Diversifying communities' income sources e.g. through promotion of ecotourism[1]		3.1. Income generating activities provide economic incentives for the participation of local communities' in conservation	3.1.1. Institutional and technical support (leveraging expertise to develop tourism products and a business model, training community guides, working with departmental tourism actors in Impfondo and establishing basic infrastructures) are provided to communities to develop a foundation for community-based tourism enterprises.	GEFTF	2,400,000	8,000,000

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[1] Community-based ecotourism refers to lodges and tourism attractions that are owned by grassroots community conservation organizations. In these communities, tourism helps to conserve tropical forests, preserves local culture rather than destroying it, and helps farmers supplement their income so that they can stay on the land (http://keytocostarica.beablake.com/community/faq/what-is-community-based-ecotourism.html)

			3.1.2. Sustainable income-generating activities and economic diversification such as certified cacao production, are promoted with focus on peatlands, Protected areas and wildlife conservation)			
			3.1.3. Training package is delivered to local community organized structures and include promotion of ecotourism and gender equality with a focus on women empowerment and local community representative,			
4. Engaging the private sector in conservation		4.1. Private sector takes steps toward adopting sustainable peatland management practices	4.1.1. Promotion of and training on Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS) targeting existing concessions conducted to protect the integrating of peatlands ecosystem[2].	GEFTF	520,053	12,000,000
			4.1.2. Capacity-building and technical assistance on best-practices in resource exploitation that ensure integrity of peatland ecosystem			
			4.1.3. Revising operational modalities of companies operating concessions			
			4.1.4. Policy and technical incentives for private sector commitment to sustainable peatlands landscape management are Identified and implemented			
5. Communication,	TA	Generated knowledge and communication	5.1.1. Communication and knowledge	TA	300,000	1,000,000

[2] The Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Environment (SAFE) Platform can serve as a model.

Knowledge Management and project monitoring and Evaluation		products are available for disseminated at different levels and adaptive management ensured	products are generated by the project and disseminated at local, national and regional levels to create awareness for community – based peatlands and natural resources conservation 5.1.2. RoC key actors including those involved in peatlands and natural resources management are actively engaged 5.1.3. Project implementation is adequately monitored, and relevant evaluations are conducted				
			Subtotal	GEFTF	5,820,053	40,000,000	
			Project Management Cost (PMC)	GEFTF	291,000	1,770,855	
			Total Project Cost		6,111,055	41,770,855	

INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

Cofinancing Source	Cofinacing Partner	Cash/Nature	Investment	Indicative amount ($)
National Government	Ministry of Environment and Tourism: Sustainable Development of Tourism and Leisure for a better environment sustainability Project	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	672,000
National Government	Ministry of Forest Economy: Infrastructure and staff contribution, monitoring of forest products for exportation	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	150,000
National Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock's: Support to beekeepers, artisanal fishermen and domestic animal producers project. Monitoring of exportation of forest products and wildlife	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,785,714
National Government	Ministry of Internal Affairs and decentralization; support to wildlife management	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	35,000
National Government	Ministry of Justice and Rights of Indigenous People: Support to the implementation of the Law on the Rights of Indigenous People	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	200,000

National Government	Ministry of Finance – National Support to the project	Cash	Investment mobilized	22,706,000
National Government	Ministry of Scientific Research: anticipation to the studies on better understanding of biodiversity and the carbon sequestration potentials in the Republic of Congo Lac Tele Lac Tumba segment	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,785,714
GEF Agency	UNEP/Global Peatlands Initiative/German International Climate Initiative (IKI): Assessing, Measuring and Preserving Peat Carbon", a project of the	Cash	Investment mobilized	2,240,000
Multilateral Agency	UNDP: Support the Community based Peatland Management in the Lac Tele Lac Tumba Landscape of RoC	Cash	Investment mobilized	500,000
NGO	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS): Support to the management of the Lac Tele Community Reserve	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,232,142
NGO	WWF - Support to the management of Ntokou-Pikounda National Parc	In -Kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,571,428
NGO	WRI-Support to the development of Geographic Information System of Lac Tele Landscape	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	892,857
Private Sector	CIB-OLAM: Contribution to the management of forest surrounding Lac Tele Landscape	In - Kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,250,000
Private Sector	IFO: Contribution to the management of forest surrounding Lac Tele Landscape	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,250,000
Private Sector	Eco-oil Energie: Contribution to the management of forest surrounding Lac Tele Landscape	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000
Multilateral	WTO : Technical Assistance	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	550,000
Reseach Institute	IREF Participation to the studies on better understanding of biodiversity and the carbone sequestration potentials in the Republic of Congo Lac Tele Lac Tumba segment	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,000
Academia	Université Marien Ngouabi: Participation to the studies on better understanding of biodiversity and the carbon sequestration potentials in the Republic of Congo Lac Tele Lac Tumba segment	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,000
Reseach Institute	Geography Research Center of Congo (CRGEC) Participation to the studies on better understanding of biodiversity and the carbone sequestration potentials in the Republic of Congo Lac Tele Lac Tumba segment	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,000
Research Institute: CNIAF	Participation to the studies on better understanding of biodiversity and the Carbone sequestration potentials in the Republic of Congo Lac Tele Lac Tumba segment	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	450,000
National Government	Congolese Agency of Wildlife and Protected Areas (ACFAP) Planification and monitoring of Lac Tele Community Reserve	In-Kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,000

Bilateral	GIZ/Regional Programme for Forests Management in Congo Basin	Cash	Investment mobilized		500,000
Bilateral	KfW: Regional Program for the promotion of certified forest exploitation in Congo Basin (PPEFC 2)	Cash	Investment mobilized		500,000
Bilateral	French FFEM: P3FAC Project: Private – Public Partnership for Sustainable Management of Congo Basin Forest	Cash	Investment mobilized		500,000
Total					41,770,855

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified.   Costs that need to budgeted for were considered as investment mobilized.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
UNEP	GEFTF	Republic of Congo	Biodiversity	IP SFM Congo	2,282,544	205,429	2,487,973
UNEP	GEFTF	Republic of Congo	Land Degradation	IP SFM Congo	894,535	80,508	975,043
UNEP	GEFTF	Republic of Congo	Climate Change	IP SFM Congo	896,958	80,726	977,684
UNEP	GEFTF	Republic of Congo	Multifocal Area	IP SFM Congo	183,332	183,332	2,220,350
Total GEF Resources					**6,111,055**	**549,995**	**6,661,050**

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

Yes ☒   If yes, PPG funds **have to be requested via the Portal** once the PFD is approved

No ☐   If no, skip this item.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
UNEP	GEF TF	Republic of Congo	Biodiversity	IP SFM Congo	51,401	4,626	56,027
UNEP	GEF TF	Republic of Congo	Land Degradation	IP SFM Congo	20,144	1,813	21,957
UNEP	GEF TF	Republic of Congo	Climate Change	IP SFM Congo	20,198	1,818	22,016
UNEP	GEF TF	Republic of Congo	Multifocal Area	IP SFM Congo	45,872	4,128	50,000
Total PPG Amount					**137,615**	**12,385**	**150,000**

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

Provide the relevant sub-indicator values for this project using the methodologies indicated in the Core Indicator Worksheet provided in Annex B and aggregating them in the table below. Progress in programming against these targets is updated at the time of CEO endorsement, at midterm evaluation, and at terminal evaluation. Achieved

targets will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	2,644,630 ha[3]
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)	5,400,100 ha
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)	94,284,933 (see Annex E; during PPG this will be better defined)
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	20,000 local people and 500 people from central and district administration to benefit capacity building activities [1:1 gender ratio]

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicators targets are not provided.

Project contribution to Aichi Targets is included in Annex F below.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
1. **Country Context** (*maximum 500 words*)
   Describe the country's relevant environmental challenges and strategic positioning relative to the systems transformation proposed for the program, including relevant existing policies, commitments, and investment frameworks. How are these aligned with the proposed approach to foster impactful outcomes with global environmental benefits?

The Republic of Congo is 65% covered by forest including 21 million hectares of dense humid forests. At present, three quarters of the Republic of Congo's dense humid forests are within forestry concessions. With a low population density and a predominantly urban population, only a small proportion of land is currently cultivated. The Congolese economy is mainly based on timber and oil exploitation while imports for food reach 75% of all food products and 90% of the country's cereal needs. The average annual increase in deforestation of 15,000 hectares between 2000

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[3] Lac Télé Community Reserve (438,960 Ha), Odzala- Kokoua National Park (423,870ha), Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park (1,354,600 ha) and Ntokou-Pikounda National Park (427,200 ha)

and 2010 is expected to increase to 25,000 hectares for the period 2020 to 2030.[4] The deforestation comes from shifting cultivation and the expansion of cassava, groundnut, oil palm and related fallow land. Habitat loss constitutes one of the main drivers of biodiversity loss in the country while. The Republic of Congo is a stronghold for two species of Great Apes which are heavily dependent upon the presence of natural forests for their habitat: the Western Lowland Gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*) and the Central chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes troglodytes*). These species also hold important potential for the development of ecotourism in the region. Many communities and indigenous people depend on forest resources for their livelihoods. As concluded by World Bank Report on National Land Use Planning (2015) in Republic of Congo, the i) National legal framework for land use planning provides a starting point for land use planning; ii) The current national land use plan dates from over a decade ago; iii) Current land allocation practices could be better harmonized and iv) the evidence base for integrated spatial planning needs improvement. The new spatial planning (Law n° 43-2014 on Guidance for Planning and Development of the Territory) provides an opportunity for RoC to share with other Congo Basin countries an example of a policy supportive of SFM, biodiversity conservation and local community livelihoods. Further, in order to support the conservation and sustainable management of its biodiversity, the Republic of Congo has established a system of Protected Areas (PAs), which at present covers a surface area of around 4,353,500 ha (13% of the national territory) (see Annex C for list and international classification of PAs in Republic of Congo). Also, RoC's 2014-2025 Forest Policy, which includes, inter alia, the fight against poverty, the participatory management of forest and wildlife resources and the integration of forestry into local development and the National Strategy to Combat Illegal Exploitation and Illicit Trade in Wildlife Products (2017) are aligned to the Program's outcomes of safeguarding forest resources, mitigate GHG emissions and sequestering carbon and reduce the loss of biodiversity. A National Strategy and Master Plan for Sustainable Tourism of Republic of Congo has been developed – sustainable tourism directly responds to the mentioned environmental benefits of the program. The country has also aligned itself to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), which affirms that indigenous peoples have the right to internal self-determination, that they cannot be expelled from their lands and are entitled to the natural resources located on their lands. The country signed in 2018, jointly with Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Republic of Congo and Indonesia on the side lines of Third Partners Meeting of *Global Peatlands Initiative* held in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, the Brazzaville Declaration. The Brazzaville declaration was signed to promote better management and conservation world's largest tropical peatlands-*Cuvette Centrale region* in Congo Basin from unregulated land use and prevent its drainage and degradation.

2. Project Overview and Approach (*maximum 1250 words*)
a) Provide a brief description of the geographical target(s), including details of systemic challenges, and the specific environmental threats and associated drivers that must be addressed;

Situated at the center of the Congo region, the project targeted landscape, the Lac Télé – Lac Toumba landscape (see Annex B for map), covers a surface area of 126 440 km². The DRC holds 72 439 km² in the eastern section the RoC holds 54 001 km² in the western section. This landscape forms one of the largest seasonally flooded forests on the planet, the largest transboundary RAMSAR site worldwide, and has recently been found to contain the single largest tropical peatlands on the planet (Cuvette Centrale), which is estimated to hold the carbon equivalent of 20 years of GHG emissions from the USA. It is also one of the priority landscapes identified by the region's inter-agency environment body, COMIFAC. This Republic of Congo Child project targets the RoC part of the landscape, the Lac Télé Landscape (LT landscape). Roughly 90,000 people live within the LT landscape. The majority of these communities are highly dependent on forest resources for income and sustenance and have retained much of their original social structure and cohesion. The core of the target geography is the Lac Télé Community Reserve, a protected area covering 4,600 km^2, of which 3,500km^2 is peatland. The project will also include the Ntokou-Pikounda National Park (4,400 km^2) which covers 3,000 km^2 of peatland.

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[4] Mosnier, A., Mant, R., Pirker, J., Bodin, B., Ndinga, R., Tonga, P., Havlik, P., Bocqueho, G., Maukonen, P., Obersteiner, M., Kapos, V., Tadoum, M. (2016) *Modelling Land Use Change in the Republic of Congo 2000 – 2030.* A Report by the REDD-PAC project.

The target geography also includes a vast tract of contiguous forest that extends to the west of the LT landscape encompassing the entire north of the country [48,500 km^2]. This area is constituted of a vast network of 4 protected areas (Lac Télé Community Reserve, Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park, Odzala-Kokoua National Park, and Ntokou-Pikounda National Park) interspersed with production forests and large expanses of inaccessible swamp forest. Logging concessions here constitute the largest surface area of FSC-certified forests in the Congo Basin region. The area is suitable for tourism as it still hosts impressive tree species and vegetation, with possibilities of viewing great apes, elephants, other large and small mammals such as small monkeys and a diversity of bird species. Together, the LT landscape and the contiguous forest to the west of it hold almost a quarter of the remaining forest elephants and the single largest population of gorillas and chimpanzees in Africa (60% of all the world's gorillas are found here).

The main challenges in the targeted area are (i) the future threat of deforestation due to the expansion of agricultural commodities, (ii) the increased risk that man-made bushfires pose under climate change; and (iii) commercial wildlife hunting, which is increasing in response to demand from urban areas. With regard to the Lac Tele Community Reserve, the main challenge to its protection and sustainable management is the lack of an appropriate national legal framework for formal community-based governance of forests and natural resources (including the protected area). The lack of formal involvement of local communities in decision-making invariably leads to open-access management of resources such as fish and wild meat, a situation causing high and sometimes unsustainable levels of offtake.

b) Describe the existing or planned baseline investments, including current institutional framework and processes for stakeholder engagement and gender integration;

The National Government Initiatives: Ministry of Environment and Tourism is currently implementing the Sustainable Development of Tourism and Leisure for a better Environment Sustainability Project. This project will provide baseline information and lessons so far learned on promotion of ecotourism and the basis for community-based ecotourism will be better informed. The Ministry of Forest Economy is, by mandate, in charge of Protected Areas and the monitoring of forest products and wildlife for exportation. The staff from this ministry will provide necessary support to the project in term of control of wildlife crime and monitoring of forest resources exploitation and commercialization. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock's is implementing a project titled "support to beekeepers, artisanal fishermen and domestic animal producers" project. The income generating activities of the proposed GEF project will learn from the experience of this project and design more robust income generating activities which will give specific attention to supporting women empowerment. The experience of this project on sustainable fisheries production will be another learning opportunity. The Ministry of Justice and Rights of Indigenous People is implementing an initiative on Support to the implementation of the Law on the Rights of Indigenous People. In line with the proposed GEF project, the specific attention which will be given to indigenous people will create the favourable environment to promote and protect the right of indigenous people in the project area through active involvement of this ministry. The Ministry of Scientific Research through its participation to the studies on better understanding of biodiversity and the Carbon sequestration potentials in the Republic of Congo Lac Tele Lac Tumba segment will help bringing in scientific evidence in the design and implementation of the project. The Ministry of Research is hosting various specialized research institutions which will be of importance in the design and implementation of this GEF project. To show government commitment to this project, the Ministry in charge of finance is anticipating providing adequate cofinancing of about USD 22 million to support this GEF project as it will be providing the avenue for Government support to development activities in one of the remote areas of the country.

UN Environment is leading a collaborative effort with GRASP, the Global Peatlands Initiative, and FAO to ensure sustainable management of the Congo peatlands through a multi-level and cross-sectoral stakeholder process. The "Global Peatlands Initiative: Assessing, Measuring and Preserving Peat Carbon", a project of the German International Climate Initiative (IKI), works to highlight the status and importance of peatlands in the global carbon cycle; improve the level of knowledge and data accessibility; and create a hotspot atlas. The project (2 Million Euro) enhances stakeholder capacity to improve the protection and sustainable use of peatlands; identifies gaps in global and national strategies; and works with partners to develop strategies and approaches to more effectively address the loss of peatlands. It promotes innovation and South-South cooperation. In the pilot countries of Peru, Indonesia, RoC,

and DRC the project will support the achievement of nationally-defined contributions to the Paris Climate Agreement. Options to reduce peatland degradation are being developed and the sustainability of peatland management improved through conservation, restoration and sustainable strategies. The UN-REDD Programme supports nationally-led REDD+ processes and promotes the informed and meaningful involvement of all stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities, in national and international REDD+ implementation.

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Republic of Congo Office: is currently active, and will continue to be active, through the landscape from Nouabale-Ndoki National Park and its periphery, supporting wildlife management in the three FSC certified forestry concessions Pokola, Loundoungou and Kabo via the project PROGEPP, and across the Lac Tele landscape as the main government partner for the management of the Lac Tele Community Reserve. Across its program, WCS is supporting the development of high-impact research, systematic wildlife survey, research to understand both the biological and socio-economic factors contributing to forest and natural habitat degradation, capacity building of Congolese, in both research and project management, tourism development in Nouabale-Ndoki through piloting a tourism test phase at the park headquarters in the last years, supporting the communities the development of community tourism in Bomassa and engaging with a private tourism company where discussions are well advanced. Using the lessons learnt from PNNN, WCS is now developing a strategy to evaluate and promote community-based tourism potential in Lac Tele starting in 2020. WCS has also been successful in developing a framework for community-led sustainable natural resources management, so far focused on fisheries and successful in both the Ndoki and Lac Tele landscape, and we have now secured a multi-partner program in the CIB concession of Kabo to support the development and implementation of community-led sustainable hunting practices in Northern Congo which can then be replicated to other sites (Sustainable Wildlife Management project with FAO, CIFOR and CIRAD starting in 2019). WCS has long been supporting, and will continue to support, the development and implementation of the SMART tool as well as supporting the government in legal reforms (wildlife related law, fisheries law, CITES) and the development and implementation of national strategies such as the National Ivory and Elephant Action Plans.

Other initiatives: Various initiatives at regional level supported by bilateral donors including Germain GIZ and KfW, the French Environment Fund (FFEM) and other projects are currently implementing activities related to sustainable forest management and promotion of the right of indigenous people. These initiatives are implemented in Republic of Congo and will be important in building the baseline investment and in proving lessons to learn for this GEF project. During the PPG, there will be a thorough analysis of these initiatives and their specific contribution in Republic of Congo will be provided. Furthermore, some national Private Sector enterprises and many national and regional Civil Society Organization, are active in Republic of Congo and particularly in the project areas. The project will develop collaboration and partnership with these institutions particularly in the development of the community – based ecotourism and design of income generating activities for women empowerment and protection of the rights of indigenous people.

National Institutional Context: The Ministry of Tourism and Environment which is mandated to execute the National Policy on Tourism and Environment (Decree No 2017 of 10 October 2017), the Ministry of Forest Economy in charge of Protected Areas; the Congolese Agency of Wildlife and Protected Areas (ACFAP) in charge of the implementation of the national policy on management of wildlife and Protected Areas and the -poaching and Surveillance Units (USLAB). The Committee of Community Management and Development (*CGDC*) was established by decree n°2013-280 of 25th June 2013. It acts as a body to promote community-based participation in development and should be implicated in strengthening local community participation and monitoring of activities in the Lac Télé – Lac Tumba Binational Strategy. National administration and public institutions in charge of land use include: Ministry of Land Affairs and Public Land; Ministry of Tourism and Environment; and Ministry of Forest Economy and Sustainable Development. In carrying out their missions, these ministries are supported by ministries in charge of agriculture and livestock; interior and decentralization; economy, industry, and public portfolio; justice, human rights, and promotion of indigenous population; promotion of women; finance and budget; professional associations; and NGOs. All these entities will be consulted during project development to ensure their full collaboration and support. In RoC, there are well represented, and experienced NGOs known for their important work, experience and results achieved in the targeted landscape. These NGOs will be consulted during the PPG and together with the Government, the role they can play in the project execution will be discussed and agreed upon. These institutions include the

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), African Parks, related to Odzala National Park. In the Lac Tele Community Reserve specifically, the Wildlife Conservation Society has been the long-term partners supporting governmental partners to support the implementation of the reserve management, including research, community led activities, anti-poaching and anti-trafficking, for over 15 years. Beyond their expertise of working in this specific zone, these institutions have developed broader experiences in community based natural resources management and fighting Illegal Wildlife Trade across the country, the region and the globe. Working closely with these organizations will ensure their experience can be capitalized upon, ensuring applicable models can be replicated in the landscape.

Gender Integration: Women in the Republic of Congo have access to land through three main channels: i) matrilineal or patrilineal filiations (most often, the head of the lineage is a man and the filiation patrilineal, but the head of lineage can choose to allocate the land to a woman); ii) marriage (at the husband's request, the head of the lineage may allocate land to the wife); or iii) rent and purchase. Overall, women's land holdings are limited. According to the government's 2010 report to CEDAW, women produced approximately 90% of food products for household consumption. In 2016, the government reported that women accounted for 70% of the agricultural workforce but own only 25% of agricultural land usually in small holdings. There is no reported legal discrimination against women in regard to access to non-land assets, and women are able to sign contracts in the same way as men. However, as noted in the Family Code section, women's rights to property more generally are tied to the type of marriage they enter into, where under a "separation of property" contract a widow has no right to claim ownership of her deceased husband's estate but can use the property.

Gender equality will support sustainable resource use and biodiversity conservation by strengthening a group that plays the central role in resource use. The 2015 Congolese NBSAP highlighted the central role women play as the main natural resource users and agricultural producers in the country. As the main resource users, women have developed sustainable use systems for food production and traditional medicine, but this traditional knowledge has not been considered or valued in past projects in the country. However, women are amongst the most vulnerable groups and have suffered from past development and conservation projects, which have often worked to further marginalize them. By recognizing the central women play as the main resource users, and working towards strengthening women's socio-economic potential, this project will work toward gender equality and autonomy. The community -based management approach of the project, coupled with an emphasis on gender dimensions, will ensure that women have an active and meaningful role in project design and management. This approach will benefit women by giving them the opportunity to develop a project from which they can benefit financially, economically, and socially. The help-desk approach to institutional capacity building will create a space for women to be supported in finding solutions to issues they are facing.

Women's experience and knowledge will play an important role in the design process of this project and they will be present and included every step of the way. The first step will be to disseminate information to women on their potential role in the project in order to foster participation. Information on the ecological and socio-economic benefits of the project will be disseminated to as many women as possible, along with a presentation of the community -based management approach of the project to make sure they understand that their participation will be meaningful. Project design workshops will then establish gender participation quotas to further ensure true gender participation equality on the ground. The project will work to support women's attendance in project-related activities, provide for gender disaggregation in data gathering and project reporting, and assure that policies consider the gender dimension. As mentioned under the description of the GEF alternative, women themselves will be involved in the analysis of barriers and opportunities for their full participation in the co-management approaches developed through the project. The project will use non-confrontational approach in dealing with gender issues that could come up during implementation so as not to alienate traditional leaders, some of whom may interpret the highlighting of gender dimensions as an intrusion into their traditional culture. In addition to gender disaggregation of data, gender mainstreaming will also be achieved by the use of a gender lens in the gathering and analysis of data.

The Community based approach of the project coupled with the emphasis on gender dimensions will ensure women have an active and meaningful role in project design and management. This will benefit women by giving them the opportunity to develop a project from which they can benefit financially, economically, and socially. By recognizing the central role women play as the main resource users, and working towards strengthening women's socio-economic

potential, this project will work toward gender equality and autonomy. In turn, gender equality will further ensure sustainable resource use and biodiversity conservation by strengthening a group that plays the central role in resource use. The role and place of women in traditional social structures within the 109 villages located in the project area is moving forward, as women are increasingly included in decision-making at the community level. Even though there has been progress, gender equality is still not achieved.

c) Describe how the integrated approach proposed for the child project responds to and reflects the Program's Theory of Change, and as such is an appropriate and suitable option for tackling the systemic challenges, and to achieve the desired transformation with multiple global environmental benefits; and

The LT landscape harbours highly significant stocks of carbon in the form of peatland soils. It possesses a unique fauna and flora biodiversity and still harbours very large population of western lowland gorillas but also a range of endangered species such as hippopotamus. Building sustainable management structures and bottom-up protection will generate global environmental and community benefits simultaneously. The landscape also has the ability to build resilience in the face of global environmental change, building on layers of traditional governance and science-led management. Tropical peatlands are known to have distinct biodiversity and potentially high levels of endemism as seen in peatlands of Asia and, as the ecosystem in the LTLT is poorly known, there is no doubt that the landscape harbours an important and unique diversity of plants, amphibians and reptiles that are unlikely to occur anywhere else in the country. Much greater efforts in terms of scientific research are needed to uncover this biodiversity value. The landscape likely acts as an important spawning ground allowing for fish reproduction within the landscape and beyond as fish reach the main rivers such as the Oubangui. As such, the maintenance of this habitat is not only critical for biodiversity value, but also to ensure the sustainable access of protein sources for local communities.

The project seeks to contribute to biodiversity and ecosystem services conservations of the Lac Télé landscape which is transboundary with DRC and which harbours important biodiversity. The enabling environment anticipated in component 1 and 2 together with systemic capacity building (components 1, 2, 3 and 4) and the involvement of key stakeholders including local communities, private sectors and government entities at all level will help to generate general ownership by stakeholders and global environment benefits of peatlands conservation. The promotion of ecotourism (component 3) as income generating opportunity is an example of biodiversity sustainable use which in turn will serve as incentives for supporting conservation efforts including through involvement of private sector (component 4). The project will therefore contribute to the CBSL and to the transformational change agenda in terms of land-use, SFM, biodiversity conservation.

d) Describe the project's incremental reasoning for GEF financing under the program, including the results framework and components.

The project objective is to promote a model for integrated community-based conservation and protected area management applied to the peatland area and forest ecosystems of the Republic of Congo. This objective will be achieved through five (5) components as described below:

Component 1. Supporting development and implementation of LUPs for RoC Lac Tele landscape protected areas and surrounding landscape with a focus on ensuring and formalizing community involvement

There are major challenges related to current capacity at national government and local/district levels to implement solid SFM programs, biodiversity conservation across the entire landscape using best practices like FPIC (Free Prior and Informed Consent) with local indigenous communities, understanding the multiple impacts of large-scale land-use projects such as infrastructure, mining and/or industrial agriculture, and the lack of effective tenure and land rights for forest-dependent communities. Within the framework of the Law n° 43-2014 on spatial planning (Guidance for Planning and Management of Territory) and capitalizing on the experience of partners deeply familiar with the landscape including WCS, African Parks; World Wildlife Fund, Man and Nature, the project will develop an innovative, integrated model for the sustainable use and participatory management of peatland ecosystems. The outcome of the component will be an enabling local policy and national legal framework in support of local land tenure rights and community governance and management of forests and natural resources

Component 2. Community management of natural resources

A key focus of the project is on building the capacity of local communities and forest-dependent peoples to participate in, manage, and benefit from actions to limit environmental degradation across the biome, in particular the sustainable management of natural resources. The outcome of the component will be an integrated participatory conservation model for the sustainable use and management of peatland ecosystems.

Component 3. Diversifying communities' income sources e.g. through promotion of ecotourism[5]

The project will work with relevant national and local institutions and partners in order to to identify alternative income-generating opportunities to increase resilience of communities, replacing vulnerable dependence on natural resources. The project will focus on the provision of institutional and technical support to communities to develop a foundation for community-based tourism enterprises. The project will also promote sustainable income-generating activities and economic diversification such as certified cacao production. The income-generating activities will be identified during the assessment of opportunities and limitations in supplanting current livelihoods, taking into account the capacity-building needs and the time it takes to set up the requisite infrastructure, capacities, markets, etc. The marketing strategies adopted by any destination should consider the desires and expectations of all stakeholders, such as the resident population, entrepreneurs and investors, tourists, tour operators, intermediaries and other interest groups. The outcome of the component is successful, resilient, income-generating activities acting as a driver for local communities' ownership and participation to conservation.

Component 4. Engaging the private sector in conservation

To limit the risk of unmanaged or poorly planned industrial exploitation, the project will engage with private sector actors in the target geography. This will be done through the promotion of and training on Voluntary Sustainability Standards, capacity building and technical assistance on best practices, revising operational modalities of companies operating concessions, and incentives for private sector commitment to sustainable peatlands landscape management identified and implemented. The anticipated incentives in addition to the capacity building will address the possible shortcomings of voluntary compliance schemes by the private sector. The outcome of the component will be significantly reducing the risk of unmanaged or poorly planned industrial exploitation in Lac Tele Landscape.

Component 5. Communication, Knowledge Management and Project Monitoring and Evaluation

The project approach recognizes that there is often substantial common interest between local indigenous people wishing to retain their rights to land, conservationists who wish to preserve ecological habitats for biodiversity, and private sector companies seeking to build sound, long-term local relationships and 'social license to operate'[6]. Research on local institutions[7] has shown that the impacts of public and private organisations partnering up with local communities empowers them and gives them a sense of "ownership", which in turn drives commitment, accountability and responsibility, actually encouraging local communities to conserve and to help in restricting access

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[5] Community-based ecotourism refers to lodges and tourism attractions that are owned by grassroots community conservation organizations. In these communities, tourism helps to conserve tropical forests, preserves local culture rather than destroying it, and helps farmers supplement their income so that they can stay on the land
(http://keytocostarica.beablake.com/community/faq/what-is-community-based-ecotourism.html)

[6] See e.g. Gadgil, M., F. Berkes and C. Folke. 1993. Indigenous knowledge for biodiversity conservation. *Ambio* 22: 151-156.; also, Kemf, E. (ed.). 1993. The Law of the Mother: Protecting Indigenous Peoples in Protected Areas. Sierra Club Books, San Francisco. Cited in Pyhälä et al. 2016. Regarding private sector, see CSBI (2015).A cross-sector approach to the mitigation hierarchy. Prepared by The Biodiversity Consultancy for IPIECA, ICMM and the Equator Principles Association: Cambridge UK.

[7] See e.g. Ostrom, E. 1990. *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action.* Cambridge University Press. Ostrom, E. 2010. Polycentric systems for coping with collective action and global environmental change. *Glob. Environ. Change Hum. Policy Dimens.* 20:550–557. Cited in Pyhälä et al. 2016.

to outsiders. Another impact is that such an approach builds local capacity, improves communication, stabilises power relationships and increases transparency. Most importantly, it is necessary to recognise and foster the already existing links between conservation and the knowledge systems and livelihoods of local communities, ensuring a far more holistic, sustainable, realistic and resilient conservation approach than that currently applied in the mainstream. The project will undertake a suite of activities for empowering local communities including women, outreach and education relating to conservation, the roles and functions of protected areas and corridors/complexes, relevant regulations regarding resource use (including poaching), and the goals and activities of the proposed project. A variety of outreach materials will be disseminated to villages and municipalities within the project area, including a well-designed educational booklet, newsletters, radio and TV reports, and field reports and published articles. The anticipated long-term impact is that the local communities and private sector will become active stakeholders of conservation and will mainstream it in their daily life and local development activities. The linkage of these awareness activities with the alternative livelihoods that the project will create will contribute as driver for this change. These multi-channel communication efforts will be built on annual multi-stakeholder consultative forums on the project progress and achieved results and to provide an opportunity to build partnerships and monitor the impact of the project. In addition, the project will strengthen and make use of the Ministry of Tourism and Environment website to showcase project activities and progress, to report on relevant policy and regulatory changes and other events, and to make available key documentation and lessons learned. The project will also develop a sound monitoring and evaluation system which will give adequate attention to indicators related to gender and indigenous people issues. The expected outcome will be "Generated knowledge and communication products are available for disseminated at different levels and adaptive management ensured". The outputs will include: i) Communication and knowledge products are generated by the project and disseminated at local, national and regional levels to create awareness for community – based peatlands and natural resources conservation; ii) RoC key actors including those involved in peatlands and natural resources management are actively engaged; and iii) Project implementation is adequately monitored, and relevant evaluations are conducted.

3. Engagement with the Global / Regional Framework (*maximum 500 words*)
Describe how the project will align with the global / regional framework for the program to foster knowledge sharing, learning, and synthesis of experiences. How will the proposed approach scale-up from the local and national level to maximize engagement by all relevant stakeholders and/or actors?

Knowledge management and learning exchanges are core elements of the Republic of Congo project's design and implementation and is including capacity building activities, training, technical assistance including possible south-south exchanges in all components. The project will develop cross-sectoral platforms to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange and communication and promote linkages to successful platforms in Republic of Congo and in the region. The project will also promote the sharing of experience and best practices between project stakeholders at the local, sub-national and national levels and with peers from other CBSL projects. The proposed project is fully in line with the CBSL program which aims to "incorporate environmental management principles in forest management through integrated approaches at different levels (local, national, and transboundary)". As described above, the project aims to develop an integrated approach for peatland management through a community-focused and locally-relevant governance model that can be scaled to other areas in the Congo Basin region, such as community development zones within forestry concessions. The project will focus on socio-ecological systems (rather than on a single discipline/field of study) making it both pragmatic and long-lasting while providing benefits to both people and the environment. Wildlife and peatland conservation will be a core component of the project, while an innovative local governance framework will be developed and the use of new technologies promoted.

The project will link to the DRC project working in the Lac Tumba-Lac Tele landscape, which is continuous/contiguous habitat and essential peatland, swamp forest and terra firma forest. This is a critical area for the last remaining large populations of western lowland gorilla, forest elephant, bonobo and countless other endangered species. It is also a critically important forest to the Batwa-Ba'aka people who are dependent on these forests for their survival. Although generally low human population density, the forest is being exploited heavily for logging and is now a new frontier for oil palm cultivation, which is leading to severe forest degradation. The program also will extend to include the Odzala, Nouabale-Ndoki NPs as well as forests around them (including Mondika and Goualougo Triangle). These are critically important forests and their inclusion means that positive and lasting impact

in this region will make a significant contribution to climate and biodiversity conservation targets, as well as indigenous people's rights and livelihoods.

Further, being part of the CBSL, the project will benefit from the Regional child project that will promote knowledge exchange between the participating countries, ensuring that emerging knowledge is captured and capacity building activities are well tailored to the needs of the countries' and their stakeholder groups at all levels (local, regional and national governments from environment and other sectors, indigenous and communities, farmers and producer associations, private sector, other decision makers, etc.). The CBSL regional project will collaborate and co-finance knowledge and best practice exchanges between stakeholders of the project and the national and regional community. This can include conference, analytical papers, technical workshops and study tours to support capacity building of the project's stakeholders.

Annex A

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Use this Worksheet to compute those indicator values as required in Part I, item F to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the project will be aggregated and reported at anytime during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet **Annex B**

Core Indicator 1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use						*(Hectares)*
			Hectares (1.1+1.2)				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
			2644630				
Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
					Endorsement	MTR	TE
Lac Télé Community Reserve		V	*438960*				
Odzala - Kokoua National Park		II	*1354600*				
Nouabalé – Ndoki National Park		II	*423870*				
Ntokou-Pikounda National Park		II	*427200*				
Core Indicator 4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)						*(Hectares)*
			Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)				
			Expected		Expected		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
			5,400,100				
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity						
			Hectares				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
			5400100				
Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems						

			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
				TBD		
Indicator 4.4	Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided					
Include documentation that justifies HCVFP Peatlands area description in the PIF			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			5400100			
Core Indicator 6	**Greenhouse gas emission mitigated**					*(Metric tons of CO_2e)*
			Expected metric tons of CO_2e (6.1+6.2)			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Expected CO2e (direct)				
		Expected CO2e (indirect)				
Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector					
			Expected metric tons of CO_2e			
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Expected CO2e (direct)	94,284,933 tCO2e (*see Annex E for assumptions*)			
		Expected CO2e (indirect)				
		Anticipated start year of accounting				
		Duration of accounting	*20 years*			
Core Indicator 11	**Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**					*(Number)*
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Female	14250			
		Male	*6250*			
		Total	*20500*			

Annex B : Paysage Binational Lac Télé Lac Tumba (Source : *Stratégie de Gestion du Paysage transfrontalier Lac Tele – Lac Tumba)*
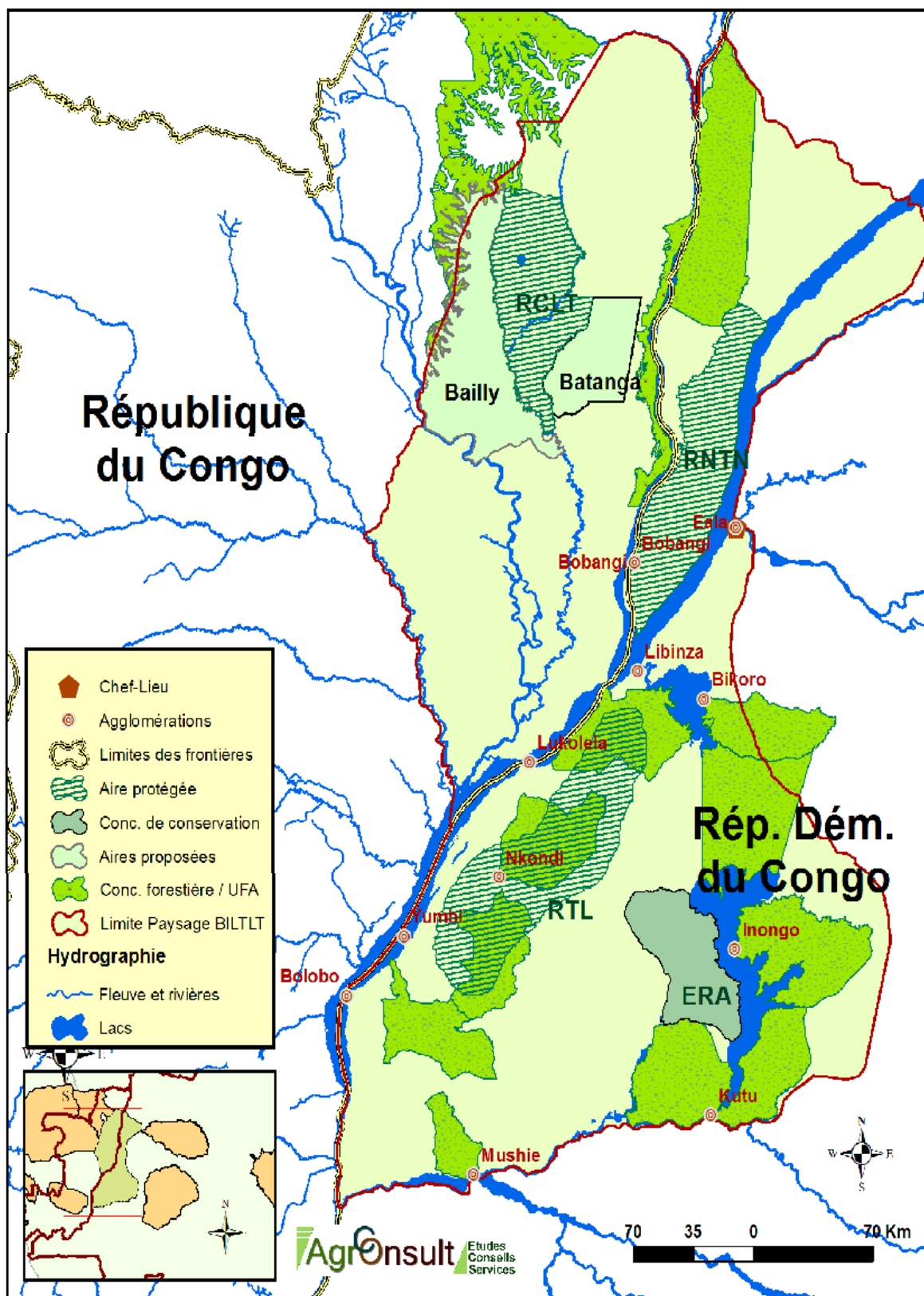
Annex C: International Classification of Protected Areas in Republic of Congo

N°	Designation	IUCN Categories	Original Area (Ha)	Area of Extension (Ha)	Present Area (Ha)	Date of creation	Date of extension
1	Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park	II	386,592	37,278	423,870	1991	2012
2	Odzala- Kokoua National Park	II	126,600	1,228,000	1,354,600	1935	1955; 2003
3	Conkouati –Douli National Park	II	504,950	0	504,950	1999	-
4	Ntokou-Pikounda National Park	II	427,200	0	427,200	In course	-
5	Mont –Fouari Fauna Reserve	IV	15,600	0	15,600	1956/ 1958	-
6	Nyanga-north Fauna Reserve	IV	7,700	0	7,700	1958	-
7	Tsoulou Fauna Reserve	IV	30,000	0	30,000	1963	-
8	Léfini Fauna Reserve	IV	400,000	230,000	630,000	1951	1963
9	Dimonika Biosphere Reserve		136,000	0	136,000	1988	-
10	Lac Télé Community Reserve	V	438,960	0	438,960	2001	-
11	Patte d'Oie Reserve	IV	240	- 146	94	1935	2009
12	Tchimpounga Chimpanzee Reserve	IV	7,000	48,526	55,526	1995	1999
13	Lossi Fauna Reserve (Gorilla Sanctuary)	IV	35,000	0	35,000	2001	-
14	Lesio Louna Gorilla Sanctuary	IV	44,000	129,000	173,000	1999	2009
15	Nyanga-south Hunting Domain	IV	23,000	0	23,000	1958	-
16	Mont –Mavoumbou Hunting Domain	IV	42,000	0	42,000	1958	-
17	Yengo-Mohali Cinegetic Interest	VIII	56,000	0	56,000	?	
	Total		**2,680,842**	**1,672,658**	**4,353,500**		

Annex D: Project alignment with the CBSL Project

CBSL Program components	RoC Project components
1. Enabling framework for countries in targeted transboundary landscapes to plan, monitor and adapt land management and leverage local, national and international investments for SLM/SFM	1. Supporting development and implementation of LUPs for the target geography's protected areas and surrounding landscape with a focus on ensuring and formalizing community involvement
2. Long-term viability of forest providing important habitat to endangered species and critical ecosystem services	
3. Reduced community and production sector impacts on important services of forests in landscapes	2. Community management of natural resources 3. Diversifying communities' income sources e.g. through promotion of ecotourism[8] 4. Engaging the private sector in conservation
4. Capacity building, knowledge management, and regional cooperation	Components 1,2,3and 4

[8] Community-based ecotourism refers to lodges and tourism attractions that are owned by grassroots community conservation organizations. In these communities, tourism helps to conserve tropical forests, preserves local culture rather than destroying it, and helps farmers supplement their income so that they can stay on the land
(http://keytocostarica.beablake.com/community/faq/what-is-community-based-ecotourism.html)

Annex E: ROC Child Project: Assumptions for estimating tCO2e emissions reductions

Tool used: FAO-EXACT Tool version 7.2
Continent: Africa
Climate: Tropical Moist
Soil type: LAC
Project implementation phase: 4 years
Capitalization phase: 16 years
Duration of accounting: 20 years

Module 2: LUC; Section 2.1 Deforestation

The assumption is that through the project interventions with communities, deforestation will be avoided.

Type of vegetation deforested: Forest Zone 1
Final use after deforestation: Degraded
Fire use: Yes
Area: 300 hectares (area over which deforestation will be avoided)

Module 5: Management; Section 5.1 Forest Degradation and Management

The assumption is that land use planning in the ROC sector of the LTLT landscape (5.4 million ha) will result in reduced forest degradation in this area. It is assumed that LUP will be done in some selective districts; considering 20% of the entire landscape will be covered by LUPs this is about 1 million ha.

Forest Zone 1:   Tropical Rainforest
Area degraded: 1 million hectares
Initial state of degradation: Low
Without project state: Low
With project state: Very Low
Fire occurrence, periodicity: No

Note: Assumptions for state of degradation (initial, w/o project, w/ project) have been made for the entire landscape. However, in reality the state of degradation will vary in different areas of the landscape. During project development this analysis will be refined accordingly.

Module 5: Management; Section 5.2 Drainage and Management of Organic Soils (peatlands); Section 5.2.1 Drainage of Organic Soils (peatlands)

Here the assumption is that through LUPs emissions from drained/draining peatlands can be avoided. The land use planning is expected to cover about 20% of the total landscape of 5.4 million hectares, which is about 1 million ha. In the w/o project scenario, 1% of this area could have potentially been affected by drainage of peatlands (with the project, there will be no risk of drainage of peatlands).

Type of vegetation: Forest
Drained organic soil (Start):   0 hectares
Drained organic soils w/o project: 10,800 ha (1% of 1 million hectares affected by drainage)
Drained organic soils with project: 0 hectares (i.e., project avoids any drainage)

RESULTS: Emissions reductions of 94,284,933 tCO2e based on best-guess estimates for area impacted at the PIF stage. During PPG, this will be better defined.

Annex F: Project contribution to Aichi Targets:

Aichi Targets	Project Contribution
Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.	Output 1.1.1 Component 5
Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting system	Output 1.1.1 Output 1.1.3 Output 1.1.4
Target 4 : By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.	Component 4
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.	Components 1,2,3,4,5
Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.	Output 1.1.1 Component 5
Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.	Component 1, component 2, component 4 and 5
Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.	Output 1.1.1 Component 2
Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.	Component 2;
Target 18 : By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.	Component 5
Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.	Output 2.1.3