



**WWF GEF 8 CEO ENDORSEMENT REQUEST**  
**GEFID: 11257 - RESILIENT BOLD BELIZE**  
**ANNEXES**

This document contains supporting material that complements the information provided in the GEF 8 CEO Endorsement Request.

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<sup>1</sup> Additional annexes can be added as needed

# ANNEXES LINKED TO GEF CEO ENDORSEMENT REQUEST TEMPLATE

## ANNEX 1: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Please fill in the table below by checking off the boxes for the taxonomic information related to this project. Select the most relevant keywords/topics/themes that best describe this project.

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Focal Areas/Theme			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected Areas and Landscapes	
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Productive Seascapes
			<input type="checkbox"/> Productive Landscapes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal and Marine Protected Areas
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Based Natural Resource Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial Protected Areas
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Species	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock Wild Relatives
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Threatened Species
			<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Genetic Resources
			<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife for Sustainable Development
			<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Genetic Resources
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illegal Wildlife Trade
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invasive Alien Species (IAS)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Crop Wild Relatives
		<input type="checkbox"/> Supplementary Protocol to the CBD	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Access to Genetic Resources Benefit Sharing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Biosafety
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial and Accounting	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Payment for Ecosystem Services
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation Finance
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation Trust Funds
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mainstreaming	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & agrobiodiversity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Certification (National Standards)
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism
			<input type="checkbox"/> Certification (International Standards)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisheries
			<input type="checkbox"/> Extractive Industries (oil, gas, mining)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry (Including HCVP and REDD+)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biomes	
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mangroves
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sea Grasses
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tropical Dry Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Paramo
			<input type="checkbox"/> Rivers
			<input type="checkbox"/> Lakes

			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coral Reefs
			<input type="checkbox"/> Temperate Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Tropical Rain Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Grasslands
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands
			<input type="checkbox"/> Desert
	<input type="checkbox"/> Forest		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Forest	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Amazon
			<input type="checkbox"/> Congo
			<input type="checkbox"/> Drylands
		<input type="checkbox"/> Forest and Landscape Restoration	
			<input type="checkbox"/> REDD/REDD+
	<input type="checkbox"/> International Waters		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ship	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Aquifer
			<input type="checkbox"/> Lake Basin
			<input type="checkbox"/> River Basin
		<input type="checkbox"/> Pollution	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent toxic substances
			<input type="checkbox"/> Plastics
			<input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient pollution from wastewater
			<input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient pollution from all sectors except Wastewater
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Plan preparation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Action Plan Implementation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Biomes	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Polar Ecosystems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Coral Reefs
			<input type="checkbox"/> Mangrove
			<input type="checkbox"/> Seagrasses
			<input type="checkbox"/> Constructed Wetlands
		<input type="checkbox"/> Marine Protected Area	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Learning	
		<input type="checkbox"/> SIDS : Small Island Dev States	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Large Marine Ecosystems	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Change		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Enabling Activities
			<input type="checkbox"/> Paris Agreement
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nationally Determined Contribution
			<input type="checkbox"/> Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Adaptation	
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Sector
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community-based Adaptation
			<input type="checkbox"/> Livelihoods
			<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Risk Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Least Developed Countries
			<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptation Tech Transfer
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sea-level rise

			<input type="checkbox"/> Climate information
			<input type="checkbox"/> National Adaptation Plan
			<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation
			<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Finance
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Island Developing States
			<input type="checkbox"/> National Adaptation Programme of Action
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complementarity
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Resilience
			<input type="checkbox"/> Mainstreaming Adaptation
		<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Mitigation	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land Use
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Urban Systems and Transport
			<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Efficiency
			<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Transfer
			<input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy
			<input type="checkbox"/> Financing
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Degradation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Land Degradation Neutrality	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Land Cover and Land cover change
			<input type="checkbox"/> Land Productivity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Carbon stocks above or below ground
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Land Management	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem Approach
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Fire Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Income Generating Activities
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Forest
			<input type="checkbox"/> Drought Mitigation
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Pasture Management
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands
			<input type="checkbox"/> Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community-Based Natural Resource Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Livelihoods
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Agriculture
		<input type="checkbox"/> Food Security	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Development Goals		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemicals and Waste		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Open Burning	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Eco-Efficiency	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Waste Management	
			<input type="checkbox"/> e-Waste
			<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Waste
			<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste Management
		<input type="checkbox"/> Emissions	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides	
			<input type="checkbox"/> DDT - Other
			<input type="checkbox"/> DDT - Vector Management
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ozone	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Organic Pollutants	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Polychlorinated Biphenyls
			<input type="checkbox"/> Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants

		<input type="checkbox"/> New Persistent Organic Pollutants
		<input type="checkbox"/> Disposal
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sound Management of chemicals and Waste
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plastics
		<input type="checkbox"/> Best Available Technology / Best Environmental Practices
		<input type="checkbox"/> Green Chemistry
		<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Emissions
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mercury
		<input type="checkbox"/> Cement
		<input type="checkbox"/> Artisanal and Scale Gold Mining
		<input type="checkbox"/> Coal Fired Power Plants
		<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Ferrous Metals Production
		<input type="checkbox"/> Coal Fired Industrial Boilers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Influencing models		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transform policy and regulatory environments	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deploy innovative financial instruments	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convene multi-stakeholder alliances	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demonstrate innovative approaches	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholders		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Sector	
		<input type="checkbox"/> SMEs
		<input type="checkbox"/> Financial intermediaries and market facilitators
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capital providers
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individuals/Entrepreneurs
		<input type="checkbox"/> Large corporations
		<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Grant Pilot
		<input type="checkbox"/> Project Reflow
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Type of Engagement	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partnership
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Participation
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultation
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Dissemination
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civil Society	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Based Organization
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Governmental Organization
		<input type="checkbox"/> Trade Unions and Workers Unions
		<input type="checkbox"/> Academia
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Awareness Raising
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategic Communications
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Behavior Change
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Campaigns
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Peoples	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficiaries	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Communities	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender Equality		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender Mainstreaming	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Women groups
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sex-disaggregated indicators
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender-sensitive indicators

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficiaries	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gender results areas		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Capacity development	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Access and control over natural resources	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Awareness raising	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Access to benefits and services	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Participation and leadership	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge generation and exchange	
<input type="checkbox"/> Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Small and Medium Enterprises	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Land and Water Management	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Diversified Farming	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Crop Genetic Diversity	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Dimensions	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Land and Soil Health	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-stakeholder Platforms	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Food Value Chains	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Resilience to climate and shocks	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Production Systems	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Agroecosystems	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder Farming	
<input type="checkbox"/> Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Landscapes	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Food Systems	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Food Value Chains	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Commodity Production	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Land Use Planning	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder Farming	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Restoration	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deforestation-free Sourcing	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Cities		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Transport and Mobility	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated urban planning	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Green space	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban sustainability framework	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Buildings	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Global Platform for Sustainable Cities	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Food Systems	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy efficiency	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Resilience	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Financing	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal waste management	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Biodiversity	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commodity Supply Chains		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deforestation-free Sourcing	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptive Management	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Commodities Production	
	<input type="checkbox"/> High Conservation Value Forests	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Screening Tools	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil Palm Supply Chain	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Beef Supply Chain	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Soybean Supply Chain	

		<input type="checkbox"/> High Carbon Stocks Forests	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder Farmers	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity, Knowledge and Research			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enabling Activities		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Learning		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adaptive Management	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indicators to Measure Change	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theory of Change	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge Generation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Master Classes	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workshop	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Course	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Seminar	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Innovation		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity Development		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge Exchange		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Twinning	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Field Visit	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peer-to-Peer	
		<input type="checkbox"/> North-South	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Research		

ANNEX 2: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR ANNEX A: CO-FINANCING COMMITMENT LETTERS FROM PROJECT PARTNERS

Please include evidence for each co-financing source for this project in the form of a letter attachment.



**GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE**  
*Ministry of Finance*  
*Belmopan, Belize*

C/GEN/1/01/24 (6) Vol IV

29 May 2024

Dr. Renae Stenhouse  
Executive Coordinator, WWF GEF Agency  
**World Wildlife Fund, Inc.**  
1250 24<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC, 20037

Dear Dr. Stenhouse

**Re: Co-financing Support for WWF GEF Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program  
Child Project: 'Resilient Bold Belize' GEF ID: 11257**

I am pleased to inform you that the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, the Forest Department, the Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation, the Belize Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute (CZMAI) and the Fisheries Department will provide co-financing to the WWF GEF Project 'Resilient Bold Belize' during the period of the project through in-kind government recurrent expenditures.

The co-financing will support the project implementation and realization of its objective to achieve effectively managed and increasingly resilient marine and coastal ecosystems that support the wellbeing of Belizeans for the 5-year project implementation period, from 2025-2030.

The following table details the co-financing provided by The Blue Bond and Project Finance for Permanence Unit.

Name of Partners	Type of co-financing	Type of Investment	Amount (US\$)
MSDCCDRM/Forest Department, MBECA, CZMAI, Fisheries Department	Grant	Investment Mobilized	10,650,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>10,650,000</b>



**World Wildlife Fund**  
1250 24th Street, NW | Washington, DC 20037-1193 | 202 293 4800 | 202 293 9211 fax  
[worldwildlife.org](http://worldwildlife.org)



Dr. Renae Stenhouse  
Executive Coordinator, WWF GEF Agency  
World Wildlife Fund, Inc.  
1250 24<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC, 20037

5/17/2024

**Re: Co-financing Support for WWF GEF Project: Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program Child Project: 'Resilient Bold Belize' GEF ID: 11257**

Dear Dr. Stenhouse,

I am pleased to inform you that **World Wildlife Fund, Inc.** will provide co-financing to the WWF GEF Project 'Resilient Bold Belize' during the period of the project.

The co-financing will support the project implementation and realization of its objective to achieve effectively managed and increasingly resilient marine and coastal ecosystems that support the wellbeing of Belizeans for the 5-year project implementation period, from 2025-2030. The following table details the co-financing provided by World Wildlife Fund Inc.

Name of Partners	Type of co-financing	Type of Investment	Amount (US\$)
WWF-US	In-Kind	Recurrent Expenditure	640,000
WWF-US (Bezos Earth Fund and other philanthropic grants)	Grant	Investment Mobilized	20,000,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>20,640,000</b>

Of the \$20 million identified in philanthropic co-finance, \$10 million was secured through a grant from the Bezos Earth Fund to WWF in 2020 to safeguard nature to stabilize climate. The Bezos Earth Fund was established in 2020 with a \$10 billion commitment to fight climate change and protect nature. These funds are held at WWF and will be disbursed upon the closing of the Project Finance for Permanence in Belize. WWF commits to an additional \$10 million that will be secured through Enduring Earth partners and other philanthropic partners.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

*Maria Pandal*

3C69D53A84A34D7...

**Maria Pandal**

**Vice President, Program Operations**  
**World Wildlife Fund, Inc.**



**Office of the Prime Minister**  
**Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment,**  
**Civil Aviation and Immigration**

Belmopan, Belize, Central America

Telephone: 501-822-2345, 2346

Email: [secretarypm@opm.gov.bz](mailto:secretarypm@opm.gov.bz)

BELIZE

PLEASE QUOTE

Ref: **OPM/BB/03/20/24(19)**

2 May 2024

Dr. Renae Stenhouse  
Executive Coordinator, WWF GEF Agency  
World Wildlife Fund, Inc.  
1250 24<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC, 20037

**Re: Co-financing Support for WWF GEF Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program**  
**Child Project: 'Resilient Bold Belize' GEF ID: 11257**

Dear Dr. Stenhouse,

I am pleased to inform you that The Blue Bond and Project Finance for Permanence Unit will provide co-financing to the WWF GEF Project 'Resilient Bold Belize' during the period of the project through Belize Blue Bonds.

The co-financing will support the project implementation and realization of its objective to achieve effectively managed and increasingly resilient marine and coastal ecosystems that support the wellbeing of Belizeans for the 5-year project implementation period, from 2025-2030. The following table details the co-financing provided by The Blue Bond and Project Finance for Permanence Unit.

Name of Partners	Type of co-financing	Type of Investment	Amount (US\$)
The Blue Bond and Project Finance for Permanence Unit	Grant	Investment Mobilized	9,500,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>9,500,000</b>

Sincerely,

**Mrs. Narda Garcia**  
Chief Executive Officer

ANNEX 3: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR ANNEX B COMPILATION OF LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT



**Ministry of Sustainable Development,  
Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management**

#7552 Hummingbird Highway,  
The Green Building Complex  
City of Belmopan,  
Belize, C.A.

Tel: +501-822-0160

+501-822-0162

Fax: +501-822-0433

Email: [ceo.sec@environment.gov.bz](mailto:ceo.sec@environment.gov.bz)

*Please Quote*

**Ref No:** FD/GEN/8/2023 (38)

29 March 2023

To: Dr. Renae Stenhouse  
Executive Coordinator, WWF GEF Agency  
World Wildlife Fund, Inc.  
1250 24th Street NW  
Washington, DC, 20037

Dear Dr. Stenhouse,

**Subject: Endorsement for "Resilient, Bold Belize"**

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Belize, I confirm that the above project proposal (a) is in accordance with my government's national priorities [including, if available, the priorities identified in the National Adaptation Plan of Action and/or the National Capacity Self-Assessment,] , and our commitment to the relevant global environmental conventions; and (b) was discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points.

I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above project proposal with the support of the GEF Implementing Agency(ies) listed below. If approved, the preparation of the proposal will be supported by and the project executed by organization to be determined 1. I request the GEF Implementing Agency(ies) to provide a copy of the project document before it is submitted to the GEF Secretariat for CEO endorsement / Approval.

The total financing (from GEFTF) being requested for this project is US\$5,333,333, inclusive of project preparation grant (PPG), if any, and Agency fees for project cycle management services associated with the total GEF Project Financing. The financing requested for Belize is detailed in the table below.

<sup>1</sup> Subject to the capacity assessment carried out by the GEF Implementing Agency, as appropriate.



**Ministry of Sustainable Development,  
Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management**

Source of Funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area Source	Amount (in US\$)				
			GEF Project Financing	GEF Project Financing Agency Fee	Project Preparation Grant (PPG)	Project Preparation Grant (PPG) Agency Fee	Total
GEFTF	WWF-US	CC STAR Allocation	888,931	80,004	28,500	2,565	1,000,000
GEFTF	WWF-US	BD STAR Allocation	2,668,294	240,146	84,000	7,560	3,000,000
GEFTF	WWF-US	STAR IP Matching Incentives	1,185,741	106,717	37,500	3,375	1,333,333
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>			<b>4,742,966</b>	<b>426,867</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>5,333,333</b>

The STAR resources indicated above are being endorsed for the project listed above and submitted by the GEF Implementing Agency via the GEF Portal.

Sincerely,

Kenrick W. Williams, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer  
Ministry of Sustainable Development,  
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management



Copy to: Convention Focal Point for UNFCCC  
Convention Focal Point for UNCBD  
Convention Focal Point for UNCCD

<sup>1</sup> Subject to the capacity assessment carried out by the GEF Implementing Agency, as appropriate.

ANNEX 4: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK AND MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

RESULTS FRAMEWORK– GEFID: 11257 – RESILIENT BOLD BELIZE

ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK\*

The Project results and M&E frameworks should be added to the additional annexes document in Annex 4. Please also paste below the Project Results Framework from the Agency document.

Indicator / unit	Definition (note if cumulative)	Method/ source	Responsible	Disaggregation	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR 4	YR 5	Targets (annual, or mid-term and close)	Notes/ Assumptions
<b>Core Objective Indicator 1: Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management</b> (Core Indicator 1)												
Sub Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness	Improved Management Effectiveness: is defined by any increase in score via the METT Tracking tool  CUMULATIVE	ME baseline is from the National Protected Areas System-Management Effectiveness Evaluation Tool (aligned with METT indicators)	Executing Agency for the PFP	See below table of protected areas	0	0	TBD	TBD	TBD	59,348 ha	METT Score will not increase until Conservation Plan begins implementation after mid term of the GEF project.	
Name of Protected Area		WDPA ID	METT SCORE 2023 (%)	IUCN Category (please select from the dropdown list)		Hectares	Mid Term METT Score	Final METT Score 2030 (minimum)				
Caye Caulker Forest Reserve		313424	39.4	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources		41	39.4	45.0				
Bacalar Chico National Park		301985	48.7	II National Park		5115	48.7	67.7				
Cockroach Bay Crocodile Reserve		555542661	*	Ia Strict Nature Reserve		9	*					
St. George’s Caye Mangrove Reserve		342383	**	II National Park		6	**					
Burdon Canal Nature Reserve		37253	29.5	Ia Strict Nature Reserve		1969	29.5	45.0				
Gales Point Wildlife Sanctuary		301911	63.1	IV Habitat/Species Mgt. Area		3681	63.1	75.1				
Gra Gra Lagoon National Park		313426	28.6	II National Park		484	28.6	45.0				
Hopkins Wildlife Sanctuary		555542665	28.9	Ia Strict Nature Reserve		634	28.9	45.0				
Monkey Caye Forest Reserve		301915	27.6	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources		673	27.6	45.0				
Paynes Creek National Park		61958	77.6	II National Park		15249	77.6	80.0				
Shipstern Conservation & Management Area		20226	74.7	II National Park		11160	74.7	78.4				
Sarstoon Temash National Park		61956	31.6	II National Park		16592	31.6	45.0				
TIDE Private Protected Lands – Block 127		342396	61.5	II National Park		3735	61.5	67.7				



* Cockroach Bay is managed as part of Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve ** St. George's Caye Mangrove Reserve was not included in the assessment as it wasn't in the initial selection of PAs	<b>Total:</b>	<b>59,348</b>		
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Indicator / unit	Definition (note if cumulative)	Method/ source	Responsible	Disaggregation	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR 4	YR 5	Notes/ Assumptions
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**Core Objective Indicator 2: Marine protected areas created or under improved management (Core indicator 2)**

Sub-Indicator 2.2 Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness	Improved Management Effectiveness: is defined by any increase in score via the METT Tracking tool  CUMULATIVE	ME baseline is from the National Protected Areas System-Management Effectiveness Evaluation Tool (aligned with METT indicators)	Executing Agency for the PFP	See below table of protected areas	0	0	TBD	TBD	TBD	675,556	
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Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	METT SCORE 2023	IUCN Category (please select from the dropdown list)	Hectares	Mid Term METT Score	Final METT Score 2030 (minimum)
Bacalar Chico Marine Reserve	99651	70.8	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	6016	70.8	74.3
Caye Caulker Marine Reserve	301908	71.4	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	3913	71.4	75.0
Gladden Spit and Silk Cayes Marine Reserve	220039	68.4	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	9977	68.4	71.8
Glovers Reef Marine Reserve	99653	76.3	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	32124	76.3	80.1
Hol Chan Marine Reserve	12243	84.6	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	41404	84.6	84.6
Port Honduras Marine Reserve	220100	69.3	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	40386	69.3	72.8
Sapodilla Cayes Marine Reserve	99656	72.0	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	128708	72.0	75.6
South Water Caye Marine Reserve	99652	75.7	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	50928	75.7	79.5
Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve	555582998	83.1	VI PA with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources	147063	83.1	83.1
High Protection for Biodiversity Marine Reserve 1	New (2022)	39.4	II National Park	7542	39.4	45.0
High Protection for Biodiversity Marine Reserve 2	New (2022)	39.4	II National Park	5340	39.4	45.0
High Protection for Biodiversity Marine Reserve 3	New (2022)	39.4	II National Park	23011	39.4	45.0
High Protection for Biodiversity Marine Reserve 4	New (2022)	39.4	II National Park	12033	39.4	45.0
High Protection for Biodiversity Marine Reserve 5	New (2022)	39.4	II National Park	10639	39.4	45.0
High Protection for Biodiversity Marine Reserve 6	New (2022)	39.4	II National Park	8665	39.4	45.0
High Protection for Biodiversity Marine Reserve 7	New (2022)	38.7	II National Park	62168	38.7	45.0
Blue Hole Natural Monument	301906	86.2	III National Monument or Feature	414	86.2	86.20
Half Moon Caye Natural Monument	2213	87.2	III National Monument or Feature	3947	87.2	87.20
Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary	301909	87.2	IV Habitat/Species Mgt. Area	73549	87.2	87.20
Swallow Caye Wildlife Sanctuary	313431	58.6	IV Habitat/Species Mgt. Area	3634	58.6	61.53
Laughing Bird Caye National Park	34314	67.1	II National Park	4095	67.1	70.5
<b>CONFIRMED TOTAL</b>				675,556		

Note that the WDPA for Belize has not yet been updated to include the new expansions, including Sapodilla Caye Marine Reserve  
Final scores take into account that once a PA has achieved above 80%, the primary target is to maintain this level of efficiency

Indicator / unit	Definition (note if cumulative)	Method/ source	Responsible	Disaggregation	Baseline	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR 4	YR 5	Notes/ Assumptions
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**Objective indicator 3: Area of land and ecosystems under restoration (Core indicator 3)**

Sub-Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries and mangroves) under restoration	Restoration: the process of repairing and/or assisting the recovery of land and ecosystems that have been degraded, damaged, destroyed, or modified to an extent that the land and/or ecosystem cannot fulfil its ecological functions and/or fully deliver environmental services. Activities may include (i) ecosystem restoration that reduces the causes of decline and improves basic functions; and (ii) ecological restoration that enhances native habitats, sustains ecosystem resilience, and conserves biodiversity.  CUMULATIVE	Annual reports on the restoration activities and delivery of the PFP The definitions and classification of forests and woodlands relies on FAO's 2020 Global Forest Resources Assessment, Terms and Definitions.	Executing Agency for the PFP			0	TBD	TBD	TBD	800	The project should qualitatively describe the benefit provided to biodiversity through a change in management. Additionally, while not required, projects should ideally provide GIS files showing the extent of land under this improved management (outside of protected areas).
<b>Objective indicator 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (Core indicator 4)</b>											
Sub-Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity	Improved practices: including in production sectors (e.g., agriculture, rangeland, forestry, aquaculture, tourism,) that lead to improved environmental conditions and/or for which management plans have been prepared and endorsed and are under implementation.  Excludes PAs	Annual reports on the management activities and delivery of the PFP	Executing Agency for the PFP			0	TBD	TBD	TBD	5,000	This indicator is directly related to GBF Target 10 of the CBD, whereby areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity (CBD, 2020). It is, in addition, directly related to country Land Degradation Neutrality targets under the Convention to Combat Desertification.
<b>Objective indicator 6: Greenhouse gas emission mitigated (Core Indicator 6):</b>											
<i>Anticipated start year of accounting</i>		2025									866,256
Duration of accounting		20									
Sub-Indicator 6.7 Emissions avoided outside AFOLU sector (direct)											866,256
Sub-Indicator 6.8 Emissions avoided outside AFOLU sector (indirect)											
<b>Objective indicator 11: People benefiting from GEF-financed investments (Core indicator 11)</b>											
People benefiting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (count) 10 target communities: 9,146 (4,624 male, 4,522 female) 258 PA Staff (165 male, 93 female)			Female Male			TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	F: 4,615 M: 4,789	

**RESULTS FRAMEWORK– GEFID: 11257 – RESILIENT BOLD BELIZE**

Key:

<b>Blue Shaded Rows:</b>	Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program Indicators
<b>Non-shaded Rows:</b>	WWF GEF Resilient Bold Belize Project Specific Indicators

Indicator	Definition	Method /Source	Who	Disaggregation	Baseline	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Notes
<b>WWF GEF Outcome Indicators and Blue and Green Islands IP Indicators</b>											
<b>Component 1: Strengthening the enabling environment for improved long-term management and sustainability of Belize’s marine and coastal ecosystems, benefitting fisheries and tourism sectors</b>											
<b>Outcome Description: 1.1. Enabling conditions established for the implementation of the Resilient Bold Belize Conservation Plan and integration of ecosystem services valuations into decision-making</b>											
<b>Level of progress in establishing enabling conditions for the implementation of the PFP framework</b>											
<b>Outcome 1.1</b> Level of operationalization of the Executing Agency for the Implementation of the long-term Project Finance for Permanence, supported by the WWF GEF project	<b>Definitions:</b> <b>Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) Operational:</b> accepting funding into the transition fund and disbursing for PFP execution <b>PFP PMU operational:</b> Larger PFP Initiative PMU is fully staffed and coordinating the execution of the Conservation plan activities <b>PMU Funded:</b> PMU has sustainable funding available for all positions	Human and technical resources required will be mapped out for each year to precisely assess the progress against the target	PMU in partnership with PFP stakeholders	Key: <b>1:</b> CTF decided on <b>2:</b> CTF is operational <b>3:</b> PFP PMU operational <b>4:</b> PMU Sustainably Funded CUMULATIVE	Currently no human or technical resources to implement the long-term PFP	0	1	2	3	4	
<b>Blue and Green Islands IP Indicator 1.2.2</b> Number of National cross-sector decision-making, inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder dialogue framework established and actively operational for the integration of nature into key economic sectors (Outcome 1.3 also contributes to this indicator-see below)	Enabling Conditions for the Implementation of the PFP Initiative include the establishment of the PFP Steering Committee and the operationalization of a National Protected Area System Framework (NPAS) that will lead to establishment of integrated body  OPERATIONAL (DEFINITION): making decisions on implementation of Conservation Plan  CUMULATIVE	The deliverables achieved by the time of single closing will inform level of progress on this indicator. Subsequent annual reports from the Executing Agency will report on the OPM, establishment of the PFP Steering Committee, and level of staffing/ human resources		Type of framework	Currently no inter-ministerial PA institution, No PFP Steering Committee, No human or technical resources	0	1 PFP Steering Committee in Place	1 PFP Steering Committee is Operational	1 PFP Steering Committee is Operational	2 Disaggregated by: 1 PFP Steering Committee Operational  1 NPAS framework operational	NOTE: National Protected Area System Framework will be developed and agreed upon- <i>this Can only be achieved after enabling conditions are met in Outcome 1.1.</i>  <b>BGI IP Transformative Levers:</b> - Governance and Policies



											Multi-stakeholder dialogues
<b>Blue and Green Islands IP Indicator 1.2.1</b> Number of policies, legislations & strategic planning frameworks endorsed to integrate NbS into key economic sectors in a gender-responsive approach	Polices, Legislations and Strategic Frameworks: - <b>Project Operations Manual (OPM)</b> will provide a strategic framework for the delivery of the larger PFP initiative. It will need to be endorsed (signed off on) by PFP partners including government ministries involved <b>Conservation Plan</b> including framework endorsed (signed off on) by PFP partners including government ministries involved			Disaggregated by the frameworks established to ensure strategic PFP implementation	Currently No OPM endorsed established and agreed upon  Currently a Draft Conservation Plan	0	2: 1 Conservation Plan Endorsed  1 OPM Endorsed	N/A	N/A	N/A	<b>BGI IP Transformative Levers:</b> - Governance and Policies - Multi-stakeholder dialogues
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Method /Source</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Disaggregation</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Y1</b>	<b>Y2</b>	<b>Y3</b>	<b>Y4</b>	<b>Y5</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Outcome Description: 1.2 Improved domestic resource mobilization towards the financial sustainability of effective management of marine and coastal ecosystems.</b>											
<b>Blue and Green Islands IP Indicator 1.3.2</b> Number of new blue and/or green innovative finance mechanisms actively incentivizing nature-positive/NbS investments-	Capitalization and operationalization of the Transition Fund  CUMULATIVE	Annual reports from the Executing Agency as well as the Single Close for the PFP will inform the progress on the development and utilization of the Transition Fund	PMU in partnership with PFP stakeholders	(at least 1 over 5-year project)	Currently no Transition Fund established for fund management to support the PFP	0	0	1	1	1	<b>BGI IP Transformative Levers:</b> - Financial Leverage - Governance and Policies
<b>Outcome 1.2 Indicator</b>  Level of progress towards enabling the financing mechanisms for domestic resource mobilization	Progress towards enabling sustainable financing mechanisms (SFM) that will aim to provide additional funding to support implementation of the conservation plan.  NON-CUMULATIVE	Annual reporting will include income generated from SFMs and the number of functioning SFMs to that provide additional	PMU	<b>Y2:</b> 1 SFM agreed on  <b>Y3 and Y4:</b> 1 SFM operationalized to provide domestic resources	No sustainable financing mechanisms agreed on	0	1	1	1	1	<i>Note: CTF annual report will include the % of public budget target from the SFMs</i>

		funding to support implementation of the Conservation Plan.										<b>BGI IP Transformative Lever:</b> - Financial Leverage - Governance and Policies
<b>Outcome 1.2 Indicator</b>  Level of progress towards meeting the financing mechanisms funding target for domestic resource mobilization.	Progress to meet funding target  NOT-CUMULATIVE	Annual reporting will include income generated from sustainable finance mechanisms	PMU	% SFMs annual targets being met (allocated to PFP)	0 funding from domestic resources / SFMs target being met (allocated to PFP)	0	0	0	50% of annual target is met	70% of annual target is met		<b>BGI IP Transformative Lever:</b> - Financial Leverage
<b>Outcome Description: 1.3: Increased coordination and collaboration for effective management of protected areas.</b>												
Outcome 1.3 Indicator- <i>See above BGI IP indicator 1.2.2</i> Level of progress towards the establishment of a national integrated body to coordinate and oversee protected area management												
<b>Component 2: Scaling up NbS in marine and coastal PAs and in key ecosystems outside of PAs</b>												
<b>Outcome Description: 2.1 Improved marine and coastal ecosystems and associated fishery and tourism livelihoods through the delivery of the Conservation Plan of Nature Based Solutions through the operation of the Transition Fund.</b>												
Outcome 2.1 indicator: <i>See GEF core indicator and sub-indicator targets above for achievement against project Objective</i>												
Level of progress towards Implementation of the Conservation Plan and monitoring and evaluation framework	Progress towards implementation: <i>See GEF core indicators above for achievement against Conservation Plan Targets</i>	Conservation plan vs ME framework	Executing Agency for the PFP									
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Method /Source</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Disaggregation</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Y1</b>	<b>Y2</b>	<b>Y3</b>	<b>Y4</b>	<b>Y5</b>	<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Blue and Green Islands IP Indicator 2.2.1:</b> % of beneficiaries and partners surveyed that report increased capacity to execute innovative NbS at seascape and landscape level	Increased capacity: Training/capacity building for management and ecosystem restoration through Nature Based Solutions  Refer to Outcome 2.1 for examples of NbS	Surveys will be implemented alongside trainings on the implementation of the Conservation Plan	PMU	Disaggregated by gender, sector, youth, IP, vulnerable people		0	0	0	60%	70%		
<b>Blue and Green Islands IP Indicator</b>	Different PA and MPA management bodies will	This indicator falls under the	PMU	Different PA and MPA management	0	0	9	10	10	10	The project will not deploy nature	

<p><b>2.1.2</b> Number of new partnerships leveraged to increase (scale up) and expand (scale out) NbS.</p> <p><b>Linked to GEF Project Output: 1.1.3</b></p>	<p>participate in trainings and workshops on improved management effectiveness</p> <p>Specific NbS activities will not be implemented until the Conservation Plan is finalized and can guide interventions in project areas - by year 3 the project is expected to have engaged the protected area partners as executing partners of the PFP Conservation plan.</p>	<p>BGI IP Component 2: Scaling Up NbS in Coastal and Marine PAs and in Key Ecosystems Outside of PAs</p>		<p>bodies will participate in trainings and workshops on implementing the Conservation Plan</p>	<p>Partners have not been brought together for the purpose of management training</p>						<p>based solutions until executing partners capacity is developed for effective implementation.</p> <p>Assumption: the Executing Agency will contribute to the leveraging of NbS through capacity building delivered through the GEF project</p>
<p><b>Blue and Green Islands IP Indicator 2.1.3</b> % of the NbS investments that empower women participation The baseline will be updated during the project implementation phase when executing partners are onboarded</p>	<p>Empower women participation: women hold senior mgmt. roles, women are &gt;50% workforce, or products and services are specifically benefitting women</p> <p>The Gender Action Plan will have gender disaggregated targets and indicators for the project beneficiaries</p>	<p>NbS will likely not be implemented for the first 2 years of GEF project as the Conservation Plan has to be finalized under Component 1.</p>	<p>Safeguards and Gender officer in PMU</p>	<p>Will be determined by the NbS activities under the ecosystem protection component of the Conservation plan</p>	<p>Executive Directors: M: 6; F: 5 Program Directors / Managers / Admin staff; M: 29; F: 43 57% NPAS-MEE 201</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>40%</p>	<p>40%</p>	<p>Nature based solutions will focus on park management, mangrove restoration and the marine tourism and fisheries sector, where women are underrepresented. The Conservation sector in Belize has a higher representation of women than other sectors. Data on women in PA management is from the 2019 NPAS-MEE</p>
<p><b>Component 3: Coordination with the Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program and Knowledge Management</b></p>											
<p><b>Outcome Description 3.1: Strengthened communication, coordination and knowledge management at national and global levels in alignment with the Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program.</b></p>											
<p><b>Blue and Green Islands IP Indicator 2.4</b> Number of good practices and gender sensitive lessons learned identified, documented and</p>	<p>Documented and disseminated: This could include best practice manuals; case studies; technical reports for larger dissemination in coordination with Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program-IP and implementing</p>	<p>Annual reporting, annual adaptive management meetings,</p>	<p>PMU</p>	<p># of lessons learned and disseminated</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>6</p>	

disseminated by the child project & GCP	the Child Project-specific KM plan. As the project garners more lessons in year 2 and onwards, there will be more lessons to share CUMULTATIVE										
<b>M&amp;E: Monitoring and evaluation data contributes to efficient decision making and to adaptive project management.</b>											
Level of progress in implementing the M&E plan Y1: 2 PPRs, 4 QFRs, 1 RF Y2: 2 PPRs, 4 QFRs, 1 RF, 1 MTE Y3: 2 PPRs, 4 QFRs, 1 RF Y4: 2 PPRs, 1 PCR, 4 QFR, 1 RF, 1 TE	PPR: Project Progress Report QFR: Quarterly Financial Report RF: Results Framework MTE: Mid-Term Evaluation PCR: Project Close Report TE: Terminal Evaluation	Compare reporting documents submitted against grant agreement requirements	PMU	% M&E plan implemented in a timely manner  Annual	None	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	

## ANNEX 5: TORS FOR KEY PROJECT STAFF FUNDED BY GEF GRANT

### **Background**

As part of the Blue and Green Islands GEF8 Integrated program, the Resilient Bold Belize project aims to secure the long-term conservation and resilience of Belize's marine and coastal ecosystems, promoting nature-based livelihoods and the wellbeing of Belizeans.

The Belize project will catalyze a Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) initiative, a major private-public partnership, led by the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit within the Office of Prime Minister. The PFP will integrate the value of nature into the tourism and fisheries sectors, strengthen policy coherence, institutional capacity for gender inclusive conservation planning, and strengthen capacities for financial planning and domestic resource mobilization. The proposed PFP approach will foster impactful outcomes resulting in improved management coastal PAs, MPAs, plus mangrove and other coastal ecosystems outside of the formal PA system, and improvement of targeted communities' livelihoods

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### **TOR: Project Manager**

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The Project Manager will be appointed by the Project Executing Agency and funded entirely from the Project. The PM will be responsible for the overall management of the Project, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, consultants and sub-contractors. The PM will report to the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit Director for all of the Project's substantive and administrative issues. From the strategic point of view of the Project, the PM will report on a periodic basis to the Project Steering Committee. Generally, the PM will support the BBFP who will be responsible for meeting executing agency obligations under the Project. The PM will perform a liaison role with the government, CSOs and project partners, and maintain close collaboration with other donor agencies providing co-financing. 100% time will be dedicated to managing and executing the project, with time dedicated to the technical execution of project Components 1 and 3.

### **Responsibilities**

#### *1. Project Management:*

- Plan the activities of the project and monitor progress against the approved workplan.
- Supervise and Coordinate the production of project outputs, as per the project document in an timely and high quality fashion
- Coordinate the recruitment and selection of project personnel, consultants and sub-contracts, including drafting terms of reference and work specifications and overseeing all contractors' work.

- Manage requests for the provision and commitment of financial resources through direct payments, or reimbursement.
- Prepare, revise and submit project work and financial plans, as required by Project Steering Committee.
- Monitor financial resources and accounting to ensure accuracy and reliability of financial reports, submitted on a quarterly basis.
- Manage and monitor the project risks initially identified and submit new risks to the Project Steering Committee for consideration and decision on possible actions if required; update the status of these risks by maintaining the project risks log.
- Liaise with BBFP and the Project Steering Committee, relevant government agencies, and all project partners, including donor organizations and CSOs for effective coordination of all project activities.
- Facilitate administrative support to subcontractors and training activities supported by the Project.
- Oversee and ensure timely submission of the Inception Report, Project Implementation Report, technical reports, quarterly financial reports, and other reports as may be required by the WWF, GEF and other oversight agencies.
- Disseminate project reports and respond to queries from concerned stakeholders.
- Oversee the exchange and sharing of experiences and lessons learned with other relevant development projects nationally and internationally.
- Encourage staff, partners and consultants to actively include women in the project, including the budgeting, staff and consultant hiring, subcontracting, purchasing, formal community governance and advocacy, outreach to social organizations, training, participation in meetings; and access to program benefits.
- Day-to-day management, monitoring and evaluation of project activities and results as outlined in the ProDoc, Grant Agreement, and Annual Work Plan and Budget to achieve the project objective and targets in the Results Framework
- Hold monthly virtual meetings with the partners involved in each outcome.
- Manage the workflow for the Project Steering Committee (PSC)
- In collaboration with all project sub-grantees and partners, develop the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) for each project year, for approval by the PSC and no-objection from the WWF GEF Agency
- Provide high level oversight and monitoring of procurement and expenditure in line with the AWPB
- Review progress of work plan and monitoring plan
- Lead planning and organization for reflection workshop to identify lessons learned and propose potential changes for adaptive management to ensure project results and indicator targets are reached
- Responsible for organization of Kick-Off workshop and other project-level workshops/meetings
- Manage the design of a project website, and its ongoing maintenance and updates
- Represent the project and provide support for project supervisions and internal and external reviews/evaluations
- Supervise and coordinate the work of all project staff, consultants and sub-contractors ensuring timing and quality of outputs;
  - MEK Officer
  - Financial Assistant
  - Safeguards and Gender Officer
  - any directly recruited staff or consultants
- Prepare TORs to recruit consultants, staff and sub-contracts in consultation with and for no-objection from WWF GEF Agency
- Formulate semi-annual Project Progress Reports and ensure timely delivery to the WWF GEF Agency

- Oversee the preparation and disbursement of sub-grants
- Oversee development of quarterly financial reports and ensure timely delivery to the WWF GEF Agency
- Ensure co-finance reporting on a yearly basis
- Provide quality assurance for project activities, including in sub-grants
- Review reports and other products from consultants, staff, and sub-grantees, and ensure quality
- Ensure implementation in line with the GEF and WWF standards and policies

#### 5. Partnerships:

- Coordinate with co-financing partners and liaise with project partners to ensure co-financing commitments are realized
- Ensure smooth coordination and communication among all project partners, and with the Program partners
- Manage stakeholder engagement throughout the project duration
- Represent the project, as needed, at various meetings and workshops
- Identifies, coordinates and expedites the communication of information and issues both interdepartmentally and intra departmentally, as well as externally with subrecipients, the Project Steering Committee, the WWF GEF Agency and independent evaluators as necessary.

#### 6. Technical Delivery of Project Components:

- *Component 1 will create the conditions for initiating the implementation of the PFP for the long term effective management of marine and coastal PAs and priority ecosystems, co-developed and agreed by Government and non-government stakeholders.*  
Within this component, The project manager will:
  - Aid in implementing an action plan for capacity building for executing partners through the delivery of workshops and trainings
  - Deliver the action plan to help executing partners build absorptive capacity
- *Component 3 will focus on Strengthened communications, coordination and knowledge management at national and global levels in alignment with the Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program.*  
Within this component, The project manager will:
  - Participate in Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program events such as annual BGI IP Meetings, regional nodes, south-to-south exchanges as needed
  - Represent the Belize Child project at external facing workshops and events
  - Keep abreast of BGI IP news and engagements

## Qualifications and Requirements

### Required Skills and Expertise

- A Master's Degree in Project Management, Business Administration or any other natural resource management, environmental conservation, or any other related field.
- At least five years of demonstrable project management experience.
- At least five years of experience working in the natural resources/ environmental field.
- At least five years of experience working with Government Ministries, National Institutions that are concerned with natural resource and/ or environmental management.

## Competencies

- Strong leadership, managerial and coordination skills, with a demonstrated ability to effectively coordinate the implementation of large multi-stakeholder projects, including financial and technical aspects.
- Ability to effectively manage technical and administrative teams, work with a wide range of stakeholders across various sectors and at all levels, to develop durable partnerships with collaborating agencies.
- Ability to administer budgets, train and work effectively with counterpart staff at all levels and with all groups involved in the projects
- Ability to coordinate and supervise multiple Project staff and consultants in their implementation of technical activities in partnership with a variety of subnational stakeholder groups, including community and government.
- Strong communication skills, especially in timely and accurate response to emails.
- Working experiences/familiarity with the Government of Belize process and procedures is an asset.
- Strong leadership, management, and interpersonal skills with proven ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team, motivate quality work and promote team building.
- Proven ability to manage human resources within a project context and to follow the rules of consultative and adaptive management.
- Experience in delivering technical and financial reporting to donor agencies on projects
- Technical experience and knowledge in the thematic area of the project
- Experience with GEF Projects and GEF knowledge an advantage
  
- Fluency in written and spoken English is indispensable; Spanish would be an additional asset.
- Ability and willingness to undertake extensive local travel.
- Sound computer skills including Microsoft Office, QuickBooks, and other relevant applications.



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## TOR: Finance Assistant

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**Job Level:** Junior

**Reports to:** Project Manager or BBFP- Financial Manager

### Major Function

Under the direction of the GEF Project Manager, manages all financial and operational aspects of the Project including project budgeting, contracting, subrecipient monitoring and evaluations, financial tracking and reporting, and administrative functions. Provides financial and administrative assistance to, and oversight of, program staff and grantees to ensure that budgets and agreements are handled in accordance with WWF policies, procedures, systems, and donor requirements.

### Key Responsibilities

- Keeps records of project funds and expenditures, and ensures all project-related financial documentation are well maintained and readily available when required by the Project Manager.
- Review project expenditures and ensure that project funds are used in compliance with the Project Document and Government of Belize financial rules and procedures;
- Validates and certifies payment before submission to the Finance Officer;
- Provides necessary financial information as and when required for project management decisions;
- Provide necessary financial information during project audit(s);
- Review annual budgets and project expenditure reports, and notify the Project Manager if there are any discrepancies or issues;
- Consolidates financial progress reports for implementation of project activities;
- Liaises and follows up with executing partners for implementation of project activities in matters related to project funds and financial progress reports;
- Assist the Project Manager in day-to-day management and oversight of project activities;
- Assist the M&E and Safeguards Officer in matters related to M&E and knowledge resources management;
- Assist in the preparation of progress reports;
- Ensure all project documentation (progress reports, consulting and other technical reports, minutes of meetings, etc.) are properly maintained in hard and electronic copies in an efficient and readily accessible filing system, for when required by the Project Board, UNDP, project consultants and other PMU staff;
- Provide PMU-related administrative and logistical assistance.
- Prepares, administers, and maintains the GEF project budget, ensuring that data is accurate and current. Reviews and monitors status of the budget, against the annual budget and the annual project workplan. Ensures spending levels are appropriate and coding is correct. Identifies problems and recommends corrective action, assists in the revision of budgets and communicates issues to the Project Manager. Ensures GEF Requirements are met including the budget structure contained in the ProDoc Budget, and that all expenses are associated with the incremental costs.
- Reviews all documentation received from proposed subrecipients per the WWF pre-award process, performs subrecipient risk analysis and develops a risk mitigation plan for the project.

- Coordinates and prepares financial reports for submission to the WWF GEF Agency, ensuring GEF requirements are met.
- Supports, prepares and monitors grant and consultant agreements ensuring compliance with agreement terms. Ensures agreements and payments are processed timely and in accordance with WWF policy and procedures, audits, and that of the Government of Belize. Prepares paperwork for approval
- Secures signatures, and distributes documents to appropriate parties.
- Reviews and analyzes sub-recipient's financial reports to ensure compliance by sub-recipients with WWF-US and GEF Agency reporting requirements including project partner co-financing. Notifies grantees of any problems or discrepancies and provides technical assistance to grantees in resolving problematic issues.
- Supports WWF GEF Agency Annual supervision missions by providing requested documentation and other assistance as needed.
- Assists independent mid-term and final evaluations by providing all requested financial information. Provides feedback where relevant on evaluation reports and ensures that corrective actions based on the mid-term evaluation recommendations are taken when related to financial issues.
- Maintains information and files pertaining to all financial and administrative aspects of the project including agreements. Regularly monitors on-going compliance with WWF reporting requirements and individual project deadlines. Ensures all project reports are acknowledged and routed to appropriate individuals for review.
- Provides support to the project management and coordination of day-to-day administrative operations and special projects.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

The Project Finance Assistant will be recruited based on the following qualifications:

- A Bachelors degree or an advanced diploma in accounting/ financial management;
- At least five years of relevant work experience preferably in a project management setting involving multi-lateral/ international funding agency.
- Proficiency in the use of computer software applications particularly MS Excel;
- Excellent language skills in English (writing, speaking and reading).

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## **TOR: Monitoring, Evaluation & Knowledge Management Officer**

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The Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit (BBFP) seeks a Monitoring, Evaluation & Knowledge Management Officer (MEK Officer). Under the guidance and supervision of the Project Manager, the MEK Officer will be responsible for project monitoring and evaluation activities including tracking and reporting project implementation against project work plans, which will be implemented by WWF and a diverse group of partner organizations, and reporting progress towards outcome indicator targets.

The MEK Officer's time will be devoted to the GEF project Resilient Bold Belize. The MEK Officer will be responsible for the collection and analysis of different data in relation to the project activities, outputs, and outcomes; maintaining the M&E results frameworks of the projects; and assisting the Project Manager in preparing semiannual, and annual reports on project progress. Through the collection and analysis of high quality and timely data inputs, the MEK Officer is responsible for ensuring that the project maintains its strategic vision and that the activities result in the achievement of their intended outputs and outcomes in a cost effective and timely manner, as well as contributing to project team discussions of potential opportunities for adaptive management.

The MEK Officer will work in close collaboration with the project teams and implementing partners and external data collecting and data sharing organizations, and will report to the Project Manager.

### **Responsibilities**

Specific responsibilities will include:

- Monitor project progress and participate in the production of progress reports ensuring that they meet the necessary reporting requirements and standards;
- Ensure project's M&E meets the requirements of the Government, the WWF, and the GEF
- Develop project-specific M&E tools as necessary;
- Oversee and ensure the implementation of the project's M&E plan, including periodic appraisal of the Project's Theory of Change and Results Framework with reference to actual and potential project progress and results;
- Monitoring of environmental and social risks;
- Evaluate social risks that may emerge and/or are triggered by project activities and provide recommendations on mitigation strategies;
- Prepare safeguard reports as needed;
- Support the Project Manager in documenting and addressing environmental and social grievances;
- Oversee/develop/coordinate the implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan;
- Oversee and guide the design of surveys/ assessments commissioned for monitoring and evaluating project results;
- Facilitate mid-term and terminal evaluations of the project, including management responses;
- Facilitate annual reviews of the project and produce analytical reports from these annual reviews, including learning and other knowledge management products;
- Support project site M&E and learning missions;

- Visit project sites as and when required to appraise project progress on the ground and validate written progress reports.
- Work with Project Manager to design methodology for the collection of relevant data in close collaboration with all technical specialists;
- Work with field teams and implementation partners to ensure they are building and using effective monitoring systems aligned with approved logic models and work plans;
- Based on the M&E frameworks described above, design a database that helps maintain data collected over the course of project implementation and is transparent to all partners;
- Manage said database to ensure data is accurate and updated, with guidance to ensure consistency of measurement methodologies over time;
- Monitor application of project M&E plans, gather and analyze data, and produce quarterly, semiannual, and annual reports on project progress and impact in partnership with the Manager;
- Provide a completed and up to date Results Framework and Work Plan Tracking for the WWF-GEF Project at the end of each project year;
- Assist the Manager to write the 6-month and 12-month Project Progress Reports for the WWF-GEF Project, including progress, reflections, adaptive management, M&E outcomes, and project ratings;
- Proactively investigate and reflect on emerging data collection for adaptive management proposals;
- Provide input into an annual reflection workshop to inform adaptive management of the project;
- Collect and analyze additional data relevant to project from external sources;
- Troubleshoot data collection challenges;
- Monitor for data inaccuracies or inconsistencies and seek clarifications when needed;
- Provide logistical and coordination support to facilitate project evaluations (by WWF-GEF Agency and external evaluators);
- Week-long, international travel may be expected on a quarterly basis.

### **Technical Project Execution**

- *Component 3 will focus on Strengthened communications, coordination and knowledge management at national and global levels in alignment with the Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program.*  
Within this component, the Monitoring, Evaluation and Knowledge officer will:
  - Assist in capturing lessons learned and disseminating
  - Assist in in the creation of knowledge management products for use by other projects and programs
  - Participate in Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program events such as annual BGI IP Meetings, regional nodes, south-to-south exchanges as needed

### **Qualifications**

The Project MEK Officer will be recruited based on the following qualifications

- A Bachelor's degree , preferably in the field of environmental science or natural resource management, program evaluation, or a related field;
- Must have at least 4 years of relevant work experience. preferably in a project management setting involving multi-lateral/ international funding agency. Previous experience with a WWF - GEF project will be a definite asset;

- Significant experience in collating, analyzing and writing up results for reporting purposes; Proven experience designing and implementing of M&E systems for development or conservation projects implemented by national/international NGOs/agencies/government;
- Very good knowledge of results-based management and project cycle management, particularly with regards to M&E approach and methods.
- Knowledge and working experience of the application of gender mainstreaming in international projects;
- Very good inter-personal skills; Must have proven ability to manage multiple projects and priorities;
- Strong analytical skills/expertise in analyzing data is required;
- Strong writing skills are required;
- Experience in research methods, designing and implementing tools and strategies for quantitative and qualitative data collection, analysis and production of reports is preferred;
- Proficiency in computer application and information technology; with experience using statistical software, such as R or Stata, is desired;
- Expertise using database software, such as Excel and Smartsheet, is preferred;
- Familiarity with PPMS (Program and Project Management Standards) and results-based management principles, tools, and techniques is preferred;
- Fluency in written and spoken English is indispensable; Spanish would be an additional asset.

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## **TOR: Safeguards and Gender Officer**

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Under the overall supervision and guidance of the GEF Project Manager, the Safeguards and Gender Officer will have the responsibility for the implementation of the Gender Action plan and lead the implementation and monitoring of the Environmental and Social Management Framework / Process Framework (ESMF/PF) and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

The Officer will also work closely with the MEK on related aspect of project implementation, reporting, monitoring, evaluation and ensure community engagement is done in a fair and equitable way, supervising community engagement throughout project implementation. In particular, the Safeguards and Gender Officer will be responsible for the following:

### **Responsibilities**

Specific responsibilities will include:

#### Gender

- Lead and track implementation of the Gender Action Plan (GAP), under the supervision of the Project Manager;
- Work with the MEK officer to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the gender issues of the project.
- Review annual work plans and budgets and provide recommendations to ensure that project activities support gender mainstreaming
- Provide overall oversight during the implementation of the project activities and advise the PMU in addressing any gender-related issues
- Work with the Project Manager to design methodologies and implementation plans for the execution of gender-sensitive activities in close collaboration with technical specialists;
- Provide inputs on the status of project activities to support Results Framework and Work Plan Tracking for the WWF-GEF Project at the end of each project year;
- Provide inputs to the development of project workplans and participate in project management meetings and annual reflection workshops to inform adaptive management of the project;

#### Environmental and Social Safeguards

- Lead implementation of steps and procedures as outlined in the ESMF, develop additional safeguards documents where relevant, and ensure the review, approval, and disclosure of safeguard documents;
- Ensure that all documents necessary for full compliance with ESMF/PF/IPPF, are prepared, implemented, regularly updated and are available to relevant stakeholders;
- Review annual work plans and budgets and provide recommendations to ensure that project activities are designed to include avoidance of potential social and environmental risks, as recommended in the ESMF; and that where such risks are not avoidable, mitigation plans or measures are in place to minimize or mitigate these risks;
- Monitor implementation of ESMF by any contractors to ensure that appropriate management process and procedures are in place, that Environmental and Social Safeguards related measures are

adequately addressed and to ensure that in the event of a noncompliance agreed remedial actions are applied and documented;

- Review the government's requirements and process for environmental clearance, assist the executing and implementing agencies in securing environmental clearance certificates for each project component as required by the government, and prepare necessary information to comply with WWF and government guidelines as per the project processing schedule; and
- Develop simple ESR monitoring check list for project staffs (including data collection sheet and data management);
- Provide overall Environmental and Social Management oversight during the implementation of the project activities and advise the PMU in addressing the environmental and social issues;

### Stakeholder Engagement

- Coordinate and track implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), under the supervision of the Project Manager;
- Communicate with Local Governments, sub-contractors and with the local communities to design, implement, document and report on environmental compliance, as indicated in ESMF;
- Support establishment and lead implementation of a grievance redress mechanism (GRM) to handle complaints in an effective manner;

### **Technical Delivery of Project Components:**

- *Component 1 will create the conditions for initiating the implementation of the PFP for the long term effective management of marine and coastal PAs and priority ecosystems, co-developed and agreed by Government and non-government stakeholders.*

Within this component, The safeguards and gender officer will:

- Provide expertise and technical assistance the PFP coordination unit to develop the PFP conservation plan, including gender-responsive safeguards mitigations plans
- Analyze capacity gaps in safeguards and gender within different partner organization.
- Support Safeguards and Gender capacity building for the PMU, government ministries, Protected Area co-management agencies, the CTF, private sector partners, community partners and other partners
- Provide training to Strengthen safeguards and ensure gender sensitive implementation of the project

### Overall

- Assess knowledge and capacity needs of project staff and partners on safeguards, stakeholder engagement, and gender. Conduct capacity building as needed over the life of the project to support implementation of the SEP, GAP, and ESMF/PF;
- Participate at regular and other missions and technical visits by the PMU to ensure the Project's compliance with relevant environmental and social policies;
- Provide recommendations for integrated monitoring and evaluation plan incorporating indicators of ESMF, PF, Stakeholder engagement plan and GAP;
- Record information on field activities and provide inputs to quarterly, semi-annual, and annual reports on project progress and impact in partnership with the PM;

## Qualifications and Requirements

- A Bachelor's degree in gender studies, gender and development, environment, sustainable development or social sciences or a related field;
- Advanced degree in the above-mentioned fields is desirable;
- Demonstrated understanding of issues related to gender and sustainable development; at least 5 years of practical working experience in gender mainstreaming, women's empowerment and sustainable development in Belize and/or the Caribbean Region with direct experience in the field of social science working on Gender, Community Engagement, environmental and social safeguards
- Demonstrated understanding of the links between sustainable development, social and gender issues; Familiarity with relevant national laws and regulations and international policies and methods for environmental and social safeguard and gender.
- Experience in gender responsive capacity building; strong participatory and facilitation skills in leading stakeholder consultations and participatory planning.
- Previous experience with similar donor-funded project(s) is an advantage.
- Experience in working with traditional leaders and communities (including with more marginalized groups), and collaborating with multi-sectorial teams as well as government officials is an advantage;
- Excellent conflict management and mitigation skills in local community environments
- Excellent analytical, writing, advocacy, presentation, and communications skills;
- Excellent language skills in English (writing, speaking and reading). Fluency in written and spoken English is indispensable; Spanish would be an additional asset.



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## TOR Communications Specialist

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### Background

As part of the Blue and Green Islands GEF8 Integrated program, the Resilient Bold Belize project aims to secure the long-term conservation and resilience of Belize's marine and coastal ecosystems, promoting nature-based livelihoods and the wellbeing of Belizeans.

The Belize project will catalyze a Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) initiative, a major private-public partnership, led by the Blue Bond and Finance Permanent Unit within the Office of Prime Minister. The PFP will integrate the value of nature into the tourism and fisheries sectors, strengthen policy coherence, institutional capacity for gender inclusive conservation planning, and strengthen capacities for financial planning and domestic resource mobilization. The proposed PFP approach will foster impactful outcomes resulting in improved management coastal PAs, MPAs, plus mangrove and other coastal ecosystems outside of the formal PA system, and improvement of targeted communities' livelihoods.

### Objective

Under the supervision of the Project Manager, the Communication Specialist will aim to increase overall visibility of the project and its achievements and ensure communications on and around the project actions and impacts are disseminated on national and international levels. The engagement of a dedicated communication staff member will provide consistent, high-quality and effective products that can strengthen the project implementation in Belize, and share best practices and key learnings with a wider audience through the BGI-IP Hub and Global Coordination Project. Strategic communications activities and knowledge management products may be used to facilitate future PFP and BGI-IP initiatives and will be shared broadly.

### Roles and Responsibilities:

- Develop a Project Communication Plan in alignment with the BBFP Communication Strategy and Implementation Plan
- Assist executing partners (MPA and PA managers) in organizing regional/local meetings to inform stakeholders about Project activities and results;
- Organize an annual national-level meeting to inform stakeholders, the press, and decision-makers about the progress of the Project;
- Ensure that systems are instituted for the capture and distribution of lessons learnt, best practices and successes of the project.
- Collaborate with the Monitoring, Evaluation & Knowledge Management Officer (MEK Officer) to present project progress and lessons learned at appropriate regional and international forums;
- Support in the development of the project's promotional material and publications; produce stories, reports, videos, and other media content in English related to the actions and results of the project, with the aim of disseminating them through appropriate media channels (written, oral, audiovisual press);
- Develop and regularly update a website for the Project;
- Develop social media posts and provide quality content showcasing achievements and ensure updated weekly platforms;

- Engage social networks on topics related to marine and coastal protected areas, such as through blogs, Facebook pages, Instagram, Youtube, etc.;
- Ensure the editing of project documents (reports, presentations, etc.) and alignment with GEF and Government of Belize communications guidelines and branding;
- Develop and manage a photo/video database for the PMU;
- Contribute to the organization of events planned as part of the project;
- Manage relations with the media and develop partnerships to promote the project's actions;
- Manage the writing, development, design, production and dissemination of diverse publications (including lessons learnt) and news releases through a variety of media, including print, broadcast and social.
- Ensure media coverage of Project actions including the preparation of press releases.

#### Technical Delivery of Project Components:

- *Component 3 will focus on Strengthened communications, coordination and knowledge management at national and global levels in alignment with the Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program.*

Within this component, the project communications specialist will contribute to:

#### 3.1.1. OUTPUT: Strategic gender-inclusive communications plan designed and implemented

- Strategic gender-inclusive communications plan designed to include required project reports, communications products to be produced (such as videos, social media posts)
- Facilitation of communication efforts for project coordination among all stakeholders

#### 3.1.2 OUTPUT: Accessible project lessons captured and disseminated including through Knowledge Management products and platforms, including;

- Communications materials designed and developed such as best practice manuals; case studies; technical reports and in coordination with the MEK officer, dissemination of knowledge materials in an accessible and gender-sensitive manner to relevant projects, programs, and initiatives
- Accessible project lessons captured and disseminated including through Knowledge Management Products

#### 3.1.3. OUTPUT: Participation in BGI IP Communications events and workshops

- Staff to remain in close communication with BGI IP and attend quarterly virtual calls with the IP.

#### **Qualifications and Experience:**

- A minimum of a graduate degree in Communication, Journalism, Mass Communications, Public Relations; development communication would be considered an asset.
- At least five years proven experience in communications at the national and regional levels including online communications.

#### Qualities and Skills:

- Strong communication skills, especially in timely and accurate response to emails.
- Working experiences/familiarity with the Government of Belize process and procedures is an asset.

- Strong interpersonal skills with proven ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team, motivate quality work and promote team building.
- Experience with GEF Projects and GEF knowledge an advantage
- Fluency in written and spoken English is indispensable; Spanish would be an additional asset.
- Ability and willingness to undertake extensive local travel.
- Sound computer skills including Microsoft Office, and other relevant applications.
- Ability to manage and deliver multiple projects simultaneously.
- Creative, passionate, adaptable, and persevering.
- Team player with experience in multicultural environments.
- Proven track record in media relations.
- Interest in conservation and environmental issues.
- Strong organizational skills with attention to detail and priorities.
- Proficiency in Office software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.) and familiarity with Adobe software (Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Premiere, etc.).
- Strong skills in audiovisual content creation (photography, videography).
- Knowledge of website content management tools.

## WWF GEF Additional Annexes

### ANNEX 6: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Meaning
AWPB	Annual Workplan and Budget
BAF	Blue Action Fund
BBPFPU	Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit
BE	Blue Economy
BGI IP	Blue Green Island Integrated Program
BSOP	Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan
BTB	Belize Tourism Board
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CLME+	Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems
CPWG	Conservation Planning Working Group
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CTF	Conservation Trust Fund
CZMAI	Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute
EA	Executing Agency
ESS	Environmental and Social Safeguards
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GBF	Global Biodiversity Fund
GCP	Global Coordination Project
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
ICZMP	Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan
IDB	International Development Bank
IPPF	Indigenous People's Planning Framework
MBEDRM	Ministry of Blue Economy and Disaster Risk Management
METT	Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MRV	Measurement, reporting and verification (NDC)
MSDCC	Ministry of Sustainable Development and Climate Change
MSME	Micro Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
NBIO	National Biodiversity Office
NbS	Nature-based Solutions

NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCA	Natural Capital Accounting
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
MEE	Management Effectiveness Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPAPSP	National Protected Areas Policy and System Plan
NPAS	National Protected Areas System
OECM	Other Effective area-based Conservation Measure
OFP	Operational Focal Point
OPM	Project Operation Manual
PA	Protected Area
PCR	Project Close Report
PFP	Project Finance for Permanence
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PRF	Project Results Framework
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RBB	Resilient Bold Belize
RCP	Representative Concentration Pathways
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing State
SMART	Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

## ANNEX 7: RESILIENT BOLD BELIZE FUNDRAISING STATUS AND CONTINGENCY PLAN

### **GEF Secretariat Official Use Only**

The PFP initiative's framework agreement (single close) is scheduled to be signed during the first half of GEF project implementation and is contingent on meeting the target of at least \$ 60 million USD of donor fund commitment to the Resilient Bold Belize conservation goals. As of May 2024, a total of \$ 25 million USD has been pledged in support of the Resilient Bold Belize PFP initiative, \$10 million through a grant from the Bezos Earth Fund to WWF, \$5 million in GEF funding and an additional \$10 million through Enduring Earth partners and other philanthropic partners. With the support of GEF project funds for Outcome 1.1 (Conditions for initiating the implementation of the PFP for the long-term effective management of marine and coastal PAs and priority ecosystems, co-developed and agreed by Government and non-government stakeholders) the ongoing engagement of WWF with prospective donors indicates a potential of raising another \$ 35 million USD in donor funds.

#### **If the PFP is closed by the project midterm:**

- Components 1 and 3 will be executed by the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit (BBFP Unit) as planned. There will be a transfer of the funds for Component 2 to the transition fund after PFP Close as described in the Project Description section in the CEO ER, at which point site-based investments will be initiated.

#### **If the PFP is not closed by the project mid-term, to deliver the site-based investments, WWF GEF Agency will consult with the GEF to implement the following plan:**

- Components 1 and 3 will be executed by the BBFP Unit as planned. WWF GEF Agency would also transfer funds for Component 2 to the BBFP Unit, which would use those funds to directly fund project activities within a subset of project sites. This would involve:
  - BBFP Unit will issue sub-grants to the selected site partners, that could include other agencies in the government, NGOs, or Community-based organizations
  - Activities under Output 2.1.2 and 2.1.1 will be prioritized for investments.
  - Based on the subset of geographical scope, the core indicator targets set forth in the GEF Project will be updated. The project will closely coordinate with the Government Co-financed initiatives (Blue Bond Funding, Sustainable Financing Mechanisms). In this scenario, these government-led initiatives will continue to mobilize funding for activities in the PAs and deliver on the indicator targets. GEF Funded activities will be chosen to complement these activities and fill capacity and funding gaps where necessary.

## ANNEX 8: DISBURSEMENT CONDITIONS FOR GEF FUNDING

GEF funds will be disbursed to the Transition Fund in support of the PFP in Belize. Funds will not be disbursed until all conditions have been met. The call for the disbursement of funds should come from GEF Project Temporary Steering committee. The WWF GEF Agency will then assess and determine when compliance with disbursement conditions have been achieved and thereafter disburse the requested funds to the relevant Executing Agency.

Note that in the event that the PFP deal closing is postponed, or that insufficient funds have been raised, or that these GEF disbursement conditions cannot be met, the WWF GEF Agency will consult with the GEF Secretariat to evaluate contingency plans. Contingencies are detailed in Annex 7.

The Conditions on Disbursement of the GEF Funds will include, at a minimum, the following:

### *Belize Transition Fund Tranche*

- Single close is complete.
- The fund administrator/CTF is assessed to have strong governance arrangements, as reflected in legal instruments, including bylaws, articles of incorporation (or their equivalent), and operation manual, as well as donor financing agreements, conflicts of interest policies, and investment policies. Governance arrangements are assumed to be strong if they comply with the Conservation Finance Alliance's Practice Standards for Conservation Trust Funds. Critical, non-negotiable characteristics include independence from government (i.e. a governing body with a non-governmental majority) and a quorum provision that ensures that the non-governmental character of fund operations is preserved in decision-making.
- WWF GEF and GEF Secretariat safeguards standards and policies are reflected in the governing instruments or relevant operational policies of the fund administrator / CTF (this should include mentions to all applicable safeguards activities, such as ESS screenings at the project level; embedding of ESS management and oversight procedures within the trust manager for each country; development of management plans as needed; and stakeholder engagement, among others). These standards and procedures should be observed for as long as the fund remains in operation, even after this GEF project has ended.
- Procedures for contracting an internationally recognized asset manager should be in place per an approved competitive tender process.
- The CTF/fund administrators must clear a due diligence review administered by the WWF GEF Agency.
- A staffing plan (for the PMU and/or the fund administrator/CTF as applicable) is in place and has received WWF GEF Agency no objection. The staffing plan should provide for a permanent safeguards position within the appropriate body to ensure compliance with WWF GEF Agency and GEF Secretariat standards and procedures concerning safeguards.

This capacity should remain in place on a permanent basis, even after the close of the GEF project, to ensure adherence to international good practices.

- Operation manual describing how funds will be used are in place and has received WWF GEF Agency no objection. The operation manual should include descriptions of eligible expenditures, grantmaking procedures, disbursement procedures, inter alia.



## ANNEX 9: LESSONS LEARNED TO INFORM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Marine and coastal protected areas need to be adequately funded to meet their conservation, sustainable development, and management objectives if they are going to guarantee long lasting local, national, and global benefits. Over the past 30 years, many tools and mechanisms have been designed and tested for securing the stable and adequate financial flows needed to ensure the effective and efficient management of protected areas over the long term, but this still remains a challenge. In Belize, protected areas operate with minimal national funding and rely mostly on short-or medium-term projects financed primarily by international public or private donors. This strong reliance on outside funding sources impacts sustainability of the achieved results and increases vulnerability to project funding cycles.

Belize's Project Finance for Permanence seeks to bring organizational and financial resources to support large-scale, long-term conservation programs that improve management of the coastal and marine protected areas. It will change the paradigm from a year to year struggle to locate finances to support under-funded programmes, to providing ongoing funding for core costs to improve conservation outcomes. PFP builds a strong foundation for the permanence of ecologically important places through nurturing strong organizations and inter-organizational agreements, using tested financial processes and addresses key changes required in the national legislative and policy environment through a single agreed closing. PFP efforts are large endeavors, usually demanding many years of intensive work. Belize's PFP benefits from strong government support and political commitment, high-capacity stakeholders, and strong potential for additional internal and external funding, and may provide a template for future PFPs. Specifically, the PFP provides an opportunity to increase diversity of funding sources, a platform that brings together multiple sectors and agencies, both public and private, for clear decisions and agreements on future objectives and strategies, and clearer expectations for each key stakeholder.

A number of important lessons have been learned from existing PFP experiences, including the following, drawn from the PFP Guide: Securing Sustainable Financing for Conservation Areas: A Guide to Project Finance for Permanence. Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Programme (WWF. November 2021): **Buy in from government, donors and the private sector is crucial to the success of a PFP.** PFP efforts are large scale endeavors, usually requiring many years of intensive work to come to fruition. The Belize PFP integrates lessons learnt from other PFP examples, with the initiative being led by the Belize Government. This has provided the high-level political and strong sponsorship from the highest level throughout the program's development, with the PFP being based in the Blue Bond Finance for Permanence Unit, in the Prime Minister's Office. Based on lessons learnt from other PFPs, this level of support will be important in bringing the PFP to completion. This was generated by including the host government, World Wildlife Fund as a high-capacity conservation NGO that is providing technical input into the process, and an anchor funder for external private funding. It has also been recommended that at least 30% of funding commitments should be lined up before the beginning of the process.

**Fundraising should be supported by strong branding and communication:** The authority and other lead fundraising partners play a critical role in raising awareness about the PFP initiative, using side events of world platforms provided by global conventions such as Conferences of the Parties (CoP) held under the Conventions on Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Biological Diversity, and under the

United Nations, providing the space to negotiate with various potential donors. Each PFP must also have a robust communications strategy tailored to fundraising efforts. This should include giving the PFP a name that captures the spirit and vision of the initiative, and that coalition members strongly identify with. There should also be professional communication, with engagement of an organization with strong marketing capabilities. The communication strategy should highlight the wealth of biodiversity of the country and the contribution of protected areas to maintaining ecosystem services and social benefits, underscore the initiative's contribution to fulfilling the country's international commitments to biodiversity protection, sustainable development and environmental stewardship, the paradigm shifts of the PFP and added value as well as highlight innovative features of the initiative such as the conservation goals or financial model.

Promotional materials should explicitly recognize roles so potential donors will quickly identify the initiative as a priority of those responsible for conservation area management. It is often useful to identify a person who can play the role of a fundraising champion. This person can help lead fundraisers to identify and solicit funds. This person can also play an influencer role with the lead authority and other donor participants and can have either a public role or one that is behind the scenes.

Likewise, the closing ceremony should be a public event accompanied by a strong media presence, and is an opportunity for coalition partners to show their leadership in the conservation agenda on an international stage. The closing can occur or be announced at a major international event to garner more attention, but the most important priority is ensuring participation of the highest-level political representative possible from the PFP country.

**Define charismatic and measurable program goals that include permanence in the conservation plan:**

At the beginning of PFP design, all partners should develop and agree on a compelling and unified vision that aligns partners' interests and reflects the country's high-level conservation priorities that the PFP will help achieve. In Belize, these priorities relate to the country's commitments to international conventions, and its national, people-centric conservation agenda. Aligning PFP goals with national conservation priorities, commitments to international agreements, and the PFP vision should help ensure continued support for the program, even with changes in administrations, policies, institutions, or staff. When approaching the government, a window of opportunity should be identified to pitch the idea to the government leader, ideally early in the leader's term of office, to optimize the amount of time that there is high level support for the PFP. Ideally, the leader embraces the PFP as a potential political victory or legacy for the current government. That will increase the likelihood of having political support for the PFP from start to finish. Expectations about the amount of time and work needed to be done to close the deal should be communicated early on, to make sure that there is enough support to keep the initiative moving, particularly at the mid-government level. PFPs should also involve key technical personnel of the authorities that will likely remain in their positions despite political changes. This will help embed the PFP initiative within the responsible implementing institutions.

Likewise, PFP depends on partnerships with and among highly capable non-governmental actors. These partners should have a strong interest in seeing the PFP succeed, given that multistakeholder involvement is crucial to PFP. They should also have general technical and in-country expertise, as well as relationships with local and international partners, and large-scale fundraising ability. Donors require that the following conditions be in place before committing to the PFP:

- an accountable government that is open to innovative ideas
- some existing staffing for PAs (knowing that the staffing will likely need to be improved)
- a mechanism to measure success of the PFP

Another draw is having a diverse group of partners from the social and economic development sectors, not just the environmental sector, and partners whose values are similar to those of the donors. For some donors, having prominent bi-lateral and multi-lateral donors on board is attractive. PFP deals are seen as an exit strategy for donors who have supported other conservation work in the region. Filling the funding gap ensures those donors that their previous investments and achievements will be sustained. Donor interests must be balanced with the country's conservation priorities reflected in the goals of the PFP, where the latter should take priority over the impulse to broaden the initiative's scope with the sole objective to maximize donor commitments. Regardless, conversations with donors (public and private) should emphasize the need for PFP funds to be as flexible as possible.

Some private companies that have long-term investment plans for the region said that supporting PFP deals is a way to address their goals for protecting the region's environment, not just in the short-term but also long after they have finished their work in the region. It is also seen by some companies as a way to forge better working relationships with the government officials with whom they need to work.

**A strong PFP team with clearly defined roles should be put in place early in the process:** The core PFP team needs to have a deal broker, a project manager, a political champion and a lead fundraiser. The deal broker is the main contact with high level government officials and potential donors, and thus has some political clout, as well as project monitoring and management skills. A project manager is needed to coordinate the day-to-day aspects of the PFP. A political champion is a political leader that can give political clout to the PFP before and after the fund is created. The political champion should be willing and able to meet with potential donors, as well as capable of putting pressure on mid-level government staff to complete the PFP tasks. Also required is a lead fundraiser who can secure at least 30% of funds before the start of the initiative. A strong fund leader is critical to the long-term success of the PFP initiative, especially post-closing. The leader should have good relationships with decision makers so that he/she can maintain government support for the fund over time, and be willing and able to raise funds, if fundraising has not been completed prior to closing or if funds are needed beyond what was raised to meet the initial PFP target.

**The PFP process needs to be flexible, adaptable, and forward thinking:** The design of a PFP and its components is an iterative, adaptive process that is responsive to changes in the development environment. The PFP will be reviewed and adjusted frequently until final approval by the relevant authority and coalition members. The PFP process should be adaptable to delays, changes of courses and roadblocks, some of which are for political reasons, by assessing which issues need to be addressed before or after the closing, as they are slowing down or altering the process.

**Explore new and diversified sources of domestic funding:** From the start of the process, time should be allocated to exploring new and diversified sources of domestic funding, to make the financial model underpinning the PFP deal more resilient. Given that international experience has shown that government funding is usually insufficient to meet all costs related to effective management, domestic sources of funding should be identified and secured, in order to make the financial model more resilient, mitigating for future risks. To enable the authority to keep their commitments to progressive increases in financing, PFP arrangements may include establishment of mechanisms to raise new recurring

funding (e.g., from carbon taxes, compensation payments, or other mechanisms), and actions that will optimize use of available resources. In Belize, there is a stipulation that these diversified domestic funding sources should not put a financial burden on the Belize population, so the focus is more on potential opportunities through tourism fees etc. Identifying and securing diversified sources of domestic funding should be done before closing, since there is less incentive to make the policy changes needed after closing. Because the PFP focuses on achieving long-term goals, the project team should design the financial model based on outcomes, but ensure that it will adhere easily to government line-item budgeting.

**Fundraise for the full cost of the conservation program:** To close, the project team needs commitments to cover the financial plan's estimates for program costs in perpetuity. PFP is an "all or nothing" approach: no commitments are called unless the project has obtained commitments for the full cost. A transition fund is a pool of one-time funding (usually donations) held by a fund administrator that will be completely spent down over a defined long-term period (typically 10–25 years) as in-country sources of sustainable financing steadily increase to eventually cover all long-term recurring costs of a program. PFPs often employ transition funds to temporarily help developing countries cover costs of protected areas systems until those countries can fully cover those costs themselves, and are a specific type of sinking fund. A transition fund is appropriate if all resources in it are used over a pre-established period of time. However, a hybrid fund, which is a mix of transition and endowment, is considered to be the best option when it is not possible to raise enough funds to cover the full gap with an endowment. Belize has opted to just include a transition fund, as it has recognized endowment fund targets are becoming increasingly hard to meet. Transition funds also increase the likelihood that the government will remain engaged in funding PAs over the course of the implementation of the PFP.

**Ensure that the public-private partnership is secure by developing distinct closing conditions and disbursement milestones:** The former should frame a deal in which all parties both contribute to and receive something from the project, so that each is better off accepting the deal than rejecting it. Closing conditions are mutually agreed upon minimum requirements that the PFP must meet before implementation can begin. Closing conditions are extremely important because they give collaborating members clear milestones to work towards when designing the PFP. Closing conditions and other relevant provisions that will guide the development of the single closing agreement should be summarized in a term sheet that will be signed during the design phase by coalition members. It is recommended that the parties agree upon the fundamental aspects of the single closing in plain language—for example, in a "term sheet"—before beginning the drafting of the legal agreement to focus the parties' initial energy and attention on the issues rather than the art of legal drafting. Disbursement conditions are milestones that must be met during PFP implementation for donor funding to be disbursed in one or multiple tranches. They are an important way in which the donors and other key stakeholders ensure that the initiative stays true to its design over time during implementation. They are defined in the design phase by the coalition members, including donors, and always require the achievement of specific conservation results. They may include funding requirements from partners as well as other conditions. In most projects, the government is the major source of financing for supported PAs (as well as authority for the program). In these cases, it is crucial that the PFP structure can use the financial partnership between the government and the independent entity to ensure performance by all parties of previously-agreed-upon actions.

In Belize, the protected areas are under the authority of the Government agencies, but managed through co-management partnerships with NGO partners, currently responsible for raising the finances required for day-to-day protected area management. These will be the PFP executing partners - it is essential that in cases such as this, these NGO partners are fully engaged, understand the PFP and are supportive of its implementation.

**The financial model should adequately factor in the localized threats to PAs:** Adequate funding should be generated through the PFP to cover expenses geared toward minimizing or eliminating localized threats, and expenses that the PFP will cover should be clearly communicated. If possible, costs should be estimated for each protected area's specific needs, with the scope, activities and outputs associated with the PFP clearly defined. In order to minimize the risk of under or overestimating funding, cost estimates should be updated every two to three years. If possible, contingency funds should be put in place to respond to needs that may fall outside the agreed financial plan. An adequate monitoring system for the PAs should also be put in place, in order to ensure that PFP funds are distributed strategically. Because the PFP focuses on achieving long-term goals, the project team should design the financial model based on outcomes, but ensure that it will adhere easily to government line-item budgeting. It is important to ensure the financial model is flexible enough to be adapted to changing contexts, such as shifting conservation threat levels and locations, or adoption of new technologies during implementation.

**Transition fund management should be left to a credible organization with a clear mission statement and conservation goals:** If a transition fund is created, it needs to be managed by a suitable organization that is independent enough from the government to be able to leverage the government's commitments, while also agile, efficient and credible enough to manage the funds. The organization must also have a clear mission statement and conservation goals, and the governance and operational procedures of the fund need to be clearly defined in a detailed operating manual prior to implementation. Where possible, the PFP team should recruit an existing organization rather than create a new one, to avoid the need to build organizational structure and credibility from scratch, reducing the project costs and time significantly. If a new organization needs to be created to disburse funds, specific expenses associated with the set up should be incorporated into the PFP design costs. Creating a new organization to manage PFP donations has high transaction costs and significantly extends time and funds required for the design phase, as a result of the amount of work required to negotiate the conservation trust fund's design, create it, and build staff capacity. Specific expenses associated with setting up a new conservation trust fund need to be incorporated into the PFP design costs.

The assessment of existing fund administrators should not overlook the history and institutional arrangements related to financing conservation areas in the country. The assessment provides an opportunity to improve the institutional capacity of a CTF and, consequently, the capacity of the conservation area system to manage and absorb large amounts of resources.

## ANNEX 10: DETAILED PROJECT STRATEGY

### COMPONENT 1. STRENGTHENING THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR IMPROVED SUSTAINABILITY OF BELIZE'S MARINE AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS, BENEFITTING FISHERIES AND TOURISM SECTORS

#### **1.1. OUTCOME: Enabling conditions established for the implementation of the PFP co-developed and agreed by Government and non-government stakeholders**

##### **1.1.1 OUTPUT: PFP governance arrangements established; Operations Manual, Conservation and Financial Plans, Institutional Arrangements and Disbursement Conditions**

###### Activities:

- Technical assistance for developing the PFP Operations Manual and PFP governance and institutional arrangements with the goal of stakeholder input and agreement on final documents
- Legal consultancy contracted for developing the legal document for the PFP closing agreement
- Workshops to facilitate agreement on governance arrangements with government and key stakeholders

The objective of this output is to establish the governance mechanisms for the effective implementation of the Resilient Bold Belize PFP. This includes finalizing a PFP Operations Manual, delivering the conditions for disbursement of Component 2 funds to the transition fund, establishing institutional arrangements and the legal document for the closing conditions. The PMU will work with consultants and legal experts to achieve this output. The activities aim to enable a collaborative PFP Closing Agreement which has been drafted to include actions that strengthen the legislative and policy environment.

##### **1.1.2 Integration of Natural Capital Accounting outputs (to be produced by GEF project #11041) into the PFP Conservation and Financial plans**

###### Activities:

- Build capacity of key institutions for the establishment of NCA accounts in coordination with the GEF 7: *Transforming policy and investment through mainstreaming rapid approaches for natural capital assessment and accounting* project.

Currently in Belize, there is recognition that there is limited natural capital accounting and baseline values have yet to be established. The Project Manager, in partnership with external consultants, will collaborate with the GEF -7 project *Transforming policy and investment through mainstreaming rapid approaches for natural capital assessment and accounting* (GEF ID #11041)

in Belize to garner data and outputs learned on Natural Capital Accounting to support key institutions such as the Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute, the Belize Fisheries Department and National Biodiversity Office, to establish natural capital accounts. This will enable the tracking that will provide data to track science-based KPIs being developed under the IDB and Stanford Natural Capital Project<sup>2</sup>. The data and outputs will assist the Conservation Planning Working Group in incorporating the value of nature into the PFP Conservation and Financial Plans. The BBFP Unit is collaborating closely with Stanford and IDB in the delivery of this GEF project, allowing increased knowledge sharing and collaboration opportunities.

Natural Capital Accounting data may also support decision making and policy interventions for the effective management of key ecosystems and important economic activities including fisheries (lobster, conch, and key finfish). The effective management of these species and fisheries are already identified in the focus areas of the PFP.

### **1.1.3 OUTPUT: Capacity building for executing partners to deliver the PFP Conservation Plan, including safeguards and gender responsive capacities**

Activities:

- Consultancy for developing a gender-sensitive action plan for capacity building for the Executing Agency, executing partners and Conservation Trust Fund to aid in the implementation of the PFP
- Safeguards and gender specialist to conduct a thorough analysis of all sub-executing partners to provide insight into gender and social safeguards policies and frameworks employed by partner organizations
- Safeguards and gender specialist to identify methods of strengthening executing partner capacities to better align to WWF, GEF and GoB policies and incorporate this into the plan for capacity building

Capacity building workshops and trainings will be led by an external consultancy in partnership with the Project Manager. The external consultant/s should have demonstrated experience aiding organizations to increase absorptive capacity as well as building project implementation capacity.

- Project manager to partner with consultant to deliver capacity building action plan through workshops and trainings
- Trainings for Safeguards and Gender capacity building for PMU, government ministries, Protected Area co-management agencies, the CTF, private sector

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<sup>2</sup> IDB and Stanford Natural Capital Project: Transforming policy and investment through mainstreaming rapid approaches for natural capital assessment and accounting -The Belize Pilot project is under the People, Planet, Prosperity, Mainstreaming Nature in Policy & Investment Decisions project

partners, community partners and other partners led by the safeguards and gender specialist in the PMU.

To build capacity for execution of the Conservation Plan, a consultant will be contracted to conduct an assessment and develop a **capacity building action plan** for the executing agency and project execution partners, incorporating key areas of focus such as financial absorptive capacity and applying nature-based solutions.

The **capacity building action plan** will be delivered by the Project Manager in coordination with consultants to prepare the executing partners to deliver the PFP Conservation Plan (Developed under Output 1.1.1). The action plan will include strengthening capacity of executing partners for the implementation of Safeguards and Gender action plans. Prior to conducting gender and safeguards trainings, the safeguards and gender specialist for the project will work to analyze capacity gaps in safeguards and gender within different executing partner organizations to ensure the training programs are appropriate

#### **1.1.4 OUTPUT: PFP Conservation Plan M&E framework developed and under implementation, mainstreaming gender equity and vulnerable sectors.**

The Monitoring Evaluation and Knowledge Management Officer will lead the delivery of this output with assistance from an external consultant.

Activities:

- Engage with stakeholders to develop a monitoring and evaluation plan or results framework to be implemented by all protected area managers and co-managers for the PFP Conservation Plan incorporating
  - Activities to be determined in the PFP conservation plan
  - the Resilient Bold Belize gender action plan
  - the results framework developed for the Resilient Bold Belize BGI IP Child Project
  - the mitigation actions recommended in the Resilient Bold Belize Environmental and Social Safeguards Management Framework.
- Trainings and workshops for all executing partners on how to monitor PFP Conservation plan implementation and report against indicators

#### **1.2. OUTCOME: Improved domestic resource mobilization towards the financial sustainability of effective management of marine and coastal ecosystems**

##### **1.2.1. OUTPUT: Sustainable finance mechanisms designed and implemented**

Activities:

- Consultancy to analyze and prioritize sustainable financing mechanisms to support the PFP in agreement between government and the PFP partners
- Meetings to facilitating agreement between government partners and the PFP partners on the short-listed options of sustainable finance mechanisms



- With the assistance of co-financing for the PFP, materials obtained to deploy at least one Sustainable Finance Mechanism
- Trainings on Sustainable Finance Mechanism deployment for project execution partners

One type of sustainable finance mechanism that will be explored further through this project is protected area entrance fees. The activity to support this is:

- Consultancies to analyze previous entrance fee systems for parks
- Project Manager to work with consultant to develop a potential plan for a National Entrance Fee system for Belize

### **1.3 OUTCOME: Increased coordination and collaboration for effective management of protected areas**

#### **1.3.1 OUTPUT: Technical support for the establishment of an integrated national body to coordinate and oversee climate resilient, gender responsive and socially inclusive protected area management**

- Consultancy to conduct a technical and legal analysis of the alternatives for the establishment of a national integrated body to coordinate and oversee the National Protected Areas System
- PMU and consultant's to carry out south-to-south exchanges with other governments to learn from their experiences in establishing National bodies for the management of Protected Areas

Outcome 1.3 seeks to address the key challenges of the need for mechanisms that provide an integrated protected area management system. Since the last national election, the administration of Belize's National Protected Areas System has been divided between multiple government portfolios, resulting in fragmented strategies, duplication of effort, challenges in communication and coordination. This challenges effective transformation and scaling up of management at the system level, resulting in inefficiencies and barriers to implementation of effective solutions. The RBB PFP can address this through supporting the establishment of an integrated national body that oversees and coordinates the administration of the National Protected Area System. The NPAS will aspire to be stable across political change to promote the best outcomes for the protected areas, the critical ecosystem services it provides and the species and ecosystems they protect.

The executing agency of the proposed project, the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit within the Office of The Prime Minister, has been appointed to set up a core group of relevant government ministry CEOs and nonprofits (including WWF) to identify an integrated way forward for management of the National Protected Areas System. An external consultant will be tasked with conducting a full diagnostic for reforming the National Protected Areas System administrative structures, supported by a unified co-management framework, to develop recommendations.

## COMPONENT 2. SCALING UP NbS IN MARINE AND COASTAL PAS AND IN KEY ECOSYSTEMS OUTSIDE THE PA SYSTEM

### **2.1. OUTCOME: Improved marine and coastal ecosystems and associated fishery and tourism livelihoods through the delivery of the PFP Conservation Plan through the operation of the transition fund**

The budget for Component 2 (2,899,468USD) will be disbursed directly from WWF GEF to the Belize PFP transition fund, triggered by the signing of the PFP closing conditions. Disbursement conditions can be found in Annex 8: Disbursement Conditions for GEF Funding. The transition fund will be managed by a Conservation Trust Fund that will be responsible for delivering Component 2 of the proposed project with additional funding provided to the transition fund through co-financing. Outcome 2.1 will access funding from the PFP transition fund to implement the Resilient Bold Belize PFP Conservation Plan, with disbursements to the executing partners.

*The below are Indicative activities, pending finalization of the PFP Conservation Plan (Output 1.2.2):*

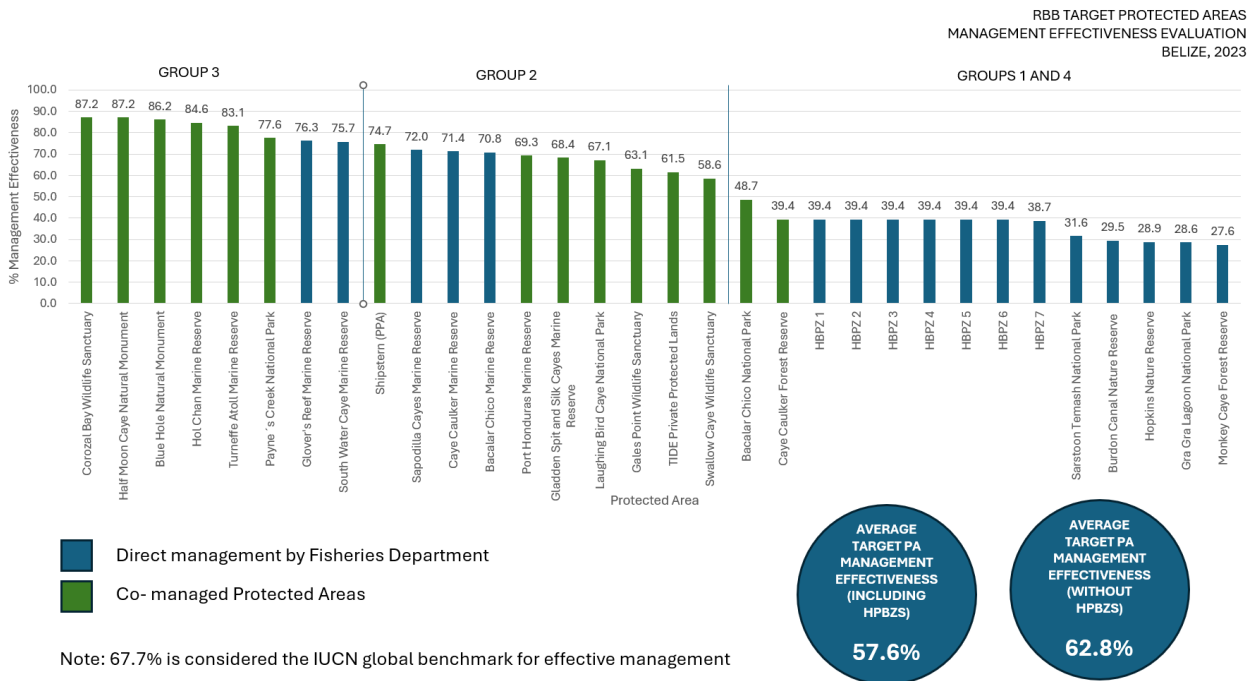
#### **2.1.1. OUTPUT: Conservation plan implemented to provide core costs for management in up to 34 marine and coastal protected areas**

- Core costs such as boundary and zone demarcation, signage, human resources, equipment, operational costs, use of technology, training, and strengthening enforcement partnerships.
- Gender inclusive protected area management plans that are responsive to external changes, including climate change.
- Technology and trainings to improve biodiversity monitoring (data collection, analysis, dissemination) for protected area managers and co-managers to ensure adequate, accurate information for adaptive management and informed decisions at PA and national level
- Contract a qualified consultant to implement annual NPAS-MEE (METT) assessment for the target protected areas and use the output recommendations to invest in targeted strategies that will increase system level and site level protected area management effectiveness

The Conservation Plan has the goal of increasing marine and coastal protected area management effectiveness in the recognition that the role of protected areas in the seascape cannot be achieved through designation alone. The project contributes towards addressing the most urgent identified requirements for increasing protected area management effectiveness, particularly in the areas of enforcement and prosecution, adaptive management and planning, stakeholder engagement and participation in management and management decisions, to reduce pressures on the marine resources. It supports a strong surveillance and enforcement presence, inclusive governance, effective planning, management based on sound science, and community and stakeholder engagement and participation to deliver high value conservation and social impact.

The investment for this output will be based on the results of annual protected area management effectiveness assessments, to ensure core management activities are not limited by financial constraints. The protected areas have been divided into four groups (see figure below) based on their management effectiveness rating and management needs. For each group, a target management effectiveness rating has been identified that is considered realistic over the ten-year time frame, with the investment strategies required to move the protected area groups towards their management effectiveness targets. Indicative activities for improved management effectiveness include; development of management plans, strategies and other relevant plans for all target PAs that are responsive to external changes, including climate change; assessing and rationalizing the marine protected area management zones, use regulations and alignment with IUCN categories to increase full protection (non-extractive) of priority coral reef areas and seagrass; and/or implement annual NPAS-MEE (METT) assessment for the target protected areas, and assessing the investment required for identified high performing protected areas to meet IUCN Green list standards, in contribution to the Blue Bonds commitments.

**FIGURE 3: MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS OF TARGET PROTECTED AREAS (MARINE AND COASTAL PA-MEE, 2023)**



Component 2 is supported by Component 1, with the identification of institutional and policy changes and sustainable financing mechanisms to support the enabling environment for Conservation Plan implementation. The private sector financing attained through the PFP will contribute to the implementation of the Conservation Plan including investments in nature-based solutions to build resilience in coastal ecosystems and communities. The plan is being developed

through a participatory process, with technical working groups focused on each pillar within the PFP as well as through stakeholder consultations that began in 2022.

### **2.1.2. OUTPUT: Nature-based solutions that include protection and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems**

- Engaging qualified consultants to assess the strategies required to meet Belize's People-Centric Conservation Agenda for full protection of 10% of Belize's coral reef and 30% of the marine space in alignment with the Belize Sustainable Ocean Plan
- Key priority activities of the National Mangrove Restoration Plan are implemented by government agencies and key stakeholders such as planting mangrove propagules,

This project will support the implementation of identified priority actions under the National Mangrove Restoration Plan, including increased protection for coastal ecosystems through multiple strategies (OECMs, engagement of private landowners, designation of protected areas). It will also provide nature-based solutions identified for Mangrove Restoration including mangrove buffer zones. Activities will be described in the PFP Conservation Plan

It will also contribute towards achieving the PFP commitment to meeting Belize's People-Centric Conservation Agenda, focused on safeguarding the coastal and marine areas of the blue space. This includes meeting the 30x30 protection pledge in the marine environment for maximizing biodiversity outcomes, and increasing full protection of coral reef areas from 7% to 20% (the target for the first 5 years of implementation is 10%). It also seeks to strengthen fisheries management and support for income diversification in the 10 target coastal communities most dependent on Belize's fisheries, improving sustainability of these important marine resources.

### **2.1.3 OUTPUT: Income diversification and improved sustainability of fishing practices**

- Capacity building of management and co-management partners for standardized data collection, analysis and integration into effective decision making for increased sustainability of extraction
- Meetings, workshops and coordination support for the re-establishment of the rights-based fishing area committees
- Capacity building of fishers for strengthening fisher participation in management decisions
- Piloted mechanisms to engage fishers (e.g. fisher forums, boat-to-boat conversations) in building capacity for sustainable fishing practices
- Capacity building for management and co-management partners (e.g. through trainings, supply of equipment, etc.) for strengthening enforcement of fishing regulations
- Consultants to review past income diversification projects and lessons learnt
- Pilot mechanisms that support livelihood diversification opportunities for vulnerable fisher communities, fisher families (including women and youths) and

fishers, towards supplementing household incomes to reduce pressures on the fishery resources

The PFP Conservation Plan identifies mechanisms for improving livelihoods whilst reducing pressures on the marine resources through support for income diversification opportunities in key fishing-dependent communities, assisting fishers in reducing their reliance on marine resources. It seeks to ensure effective management of coastal and marine protected areas, supporting improved fisher and tourism livelihoods.

With the importance given to the risks identified, further consultations are planned for the implementation phase to gain a better understanding of the risks and the best ways these can be addressed within the context of the individual fishing communities and cultures. This also includes the need to increase knowledge of the level of use of the southern protected areas by indigenous populations (the Garifuna and the Maya), both commercially and culturally, to ensure that these needs are taken into account during planning, that the correct engagement mechanisms are used, and the level of FPIC required. A full-time safeguards specialist will be employed within the Project Management Unit to monitor that all strategies and activities benefit from a comprehensive risk assessment prior to implementation, and that adequate mitigation measures are put in place in advance.

Please see the risks and mitigation table that addresses these risks. This is also discussed in more detail in the ESM documents.

### COMPONENT 3: COORDINATION WITH THE BLUE AND GREEN ISLANDS INTEGRATED PROGRAM AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

#### **3.1 OUTCOME: Strengthened communications, coordination and knowledge management at national and global levels in alignment with the Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program.**

##### **3.1.1. OUTPUT: Strategic gender-responsive communications plan designed and implemented**

- Strategic gender-inclusive communications plan designed to include required project reports, communications products to be produced (such as videos, social media posts)
- Facilitation of communication efforts for project coordination among all stakeholders

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

- Gender responsive knowledge and communication products
- Project Reports

All knowledge and communication products produced by the Project will be shared on a project-specific website, allowing a wider audience to gain knowledge from the Project. If PFP Partners

participating in the project agree, documents related to lessons learned may be posted publicly on a website preferred by the GEF.

Approximately 60,000 USD has been budgeted for the activities listed in Output 3.1.1. Budget has been allocated for 5 small workshops and meetings, communication materials, and for the hiring of a communications consultant to help develop a gender-responsive communication strategy.

### **3.1.2 OUTPUT: Accessible project lessons captured and disseminated through Knowledge Management products and platforms**

- Capturing of lessons learned (travel costs, workshops, surveys) including through annual Adaptive Management Meetings
- Materials developed such as best practice manuals; case studies; technical reports.
- Dissemination of knowledge materials in an accessible and gender-sensitive manner to relevant projects, programs, and initiatives
- 

Utilizing available knowledge to apply best practices and lessons learned is important during both project design and implementation to achieve greater, more efficient, and sustainable conservation results. Prior to finalizing the project design, existing lessons and best practices were gathered primarily from the PFP Guide “Securing Sustainable Financing for Conservation Areas: A Guide to Project Finance for Permanence,” (Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Programme, WWF. November 2021) and incorporated into the project design. Please reference the annex on lessons learned to review lessons learned during project development.

Knowledge management is key for ensuring that information about overarching themes of relevance to the PFP —(such as community economic development, sustainable finance - Component 1, best practices for conservation trust funds- and potential economic solutions such as those relating to ecotourism and sustainable fisheries- Component 2) are shared, emphasizing gender equality and inclusion across the BGI-IP projects and beyond. Knowledge sharing and information dissemination among project partners, especially Government and protected area co-managers, will be facilitated through annual meetings and project briefs. The engagement of a dedicated communication specialist will provide consistent, high-quality and effective products that can strengthen the project implementation in Belize, and share best practices and key learnings with a wider audience through the BGI-IP Hub and Global Coordination Project. Strategic communications activities and knowledge management products may be used to facilitate future PFP and BGI-IP initiatives. The link to the PFP and its multi- institutional structure also allows for the broad sharing of knowledge and resources across member organizations and through their respective networks.

Collected knowledge will be analyzed alongside project monitoring and evaluation data at the annual Adaptive Management meeting. It is at this meeting that the theory of change will be reviewed, and modifications to the annual work plan and budget will be drafted. Making adjustments based on what works and what does not work should improve project results. Lessons learned and best practices from the Project will be also be captured from reports. External evaluations will provide lessons and

recommendations. These available lessons and best practices will then be documented in the semi-annual project progress reports (PPR) (with best practices annexed to the report).

Approximately 200,000 USD has been budgeted for the completion of activities under Output 3.1.2. Budget has been allocated for workshops and meetings, communication materials, travel for participation in workshops and the hiring of a communications consultant.

### **3.1.3. OUTPUT: Participation in BGI IP Communications events and workshops**

- Attend Regional Nodes hosted by the BGI IP Global Coordination Project
- Attend Annual BGI IP Meetings
- Staff (PMU Project Manager) to remain in close communication with BGI IP and attend quarterly virtual calls with the IP.

During project implementation and before the end of each project year, the Project Management Unit (PMU) will consolidate knowledge produced by the project and project stakeholders and exchange this with other relevant projects, programs and initiatives (including the BGI-IP Hub and the Project Finance for Permanence partnership and its communities of practice).

The PMU Project Manager will ensure that relevant stakeholders, such as OFP, the PSC, project partners and other relevant actors are informed of, and, where applicable, invited to the Adaptive Management meeting, formal evaluations, and any documentation on lessons learnt and best practices. These partners will receive all related documents, such as Evaluation Reports and knowledge outputs developed by the project (e.g., white papers, consultant reports on sustainable financing mechanisms produced in **Component 1**, etc.) to ensure the sharing of important knowledge products. The PMU Project Manager will be responsible for attending all BGI IP virtual calls and regional events.

Approximately 100,000 USD has been budgeted for the completion of activities under Output 3.1.3. Budget has been allocated for the PMU Project Manager and an additional PMU member to attend the annual meeting as part of the Global BGI Integrated Program. The PMU Project Manager will also be expected to attend virtual BGI IP calls. Budget has been allocated for one PMU Staff member to attend regional nodes hosted by the Global Coordination Project annually. Budget has also been designated for at least two staff members to attend up to five site visits and peer exchanges with the goal of learning from, and sharing knowledge through, south-to-south exchanges.

## ANNEX 11: SITE SELECTION

### **GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE**

Resilient Bold Belize (RBB) is a national initiative that supports effective management of marine and coastal protected areas and natural resources that support coastal and caye communities and stakeholders (Map 1). The RBB focuses on improving management of all thirty-four current marine and coastal protected areas of the NPAS (a total of 718,128 ha)<sup>3</sup> spread across the connected coastal and marine seascape from Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary in the north to Sarstoon Temash National Park and Sapodilla Cayes Marine Reserve in the south. An additional 129,398 ha have been declared under the Blue Bond commitment and are being included in the scope of this initiative to secure the long-term effective management of these new areas. RBB also targets the associated ecosystems (mangroves, littoral forest and coral reef) both inside and outside the protected areas, and the spawning aggregation sites, important for maintaining commercial finfish populations.

The thirty-four marine and coastal protected areas targeted by the Conservation Plan span three different Ministry portfolios, and fall under eleven protected area categories, each designated for a specific reason, ranging from fisheries management to full protection of biodiversity, and unique geological formations. Uses are based on the designation type, ranging from Full Protection areas with no extraction (including no catch and release fishing) and High Protection zones that do not permit commercial fishing but do allow catch and release recreational fishing, to multiple use Medium Protection zones that support Belize's commercial, recreational and subsistence fisheries and forestry industries (Tables 1 and 2).

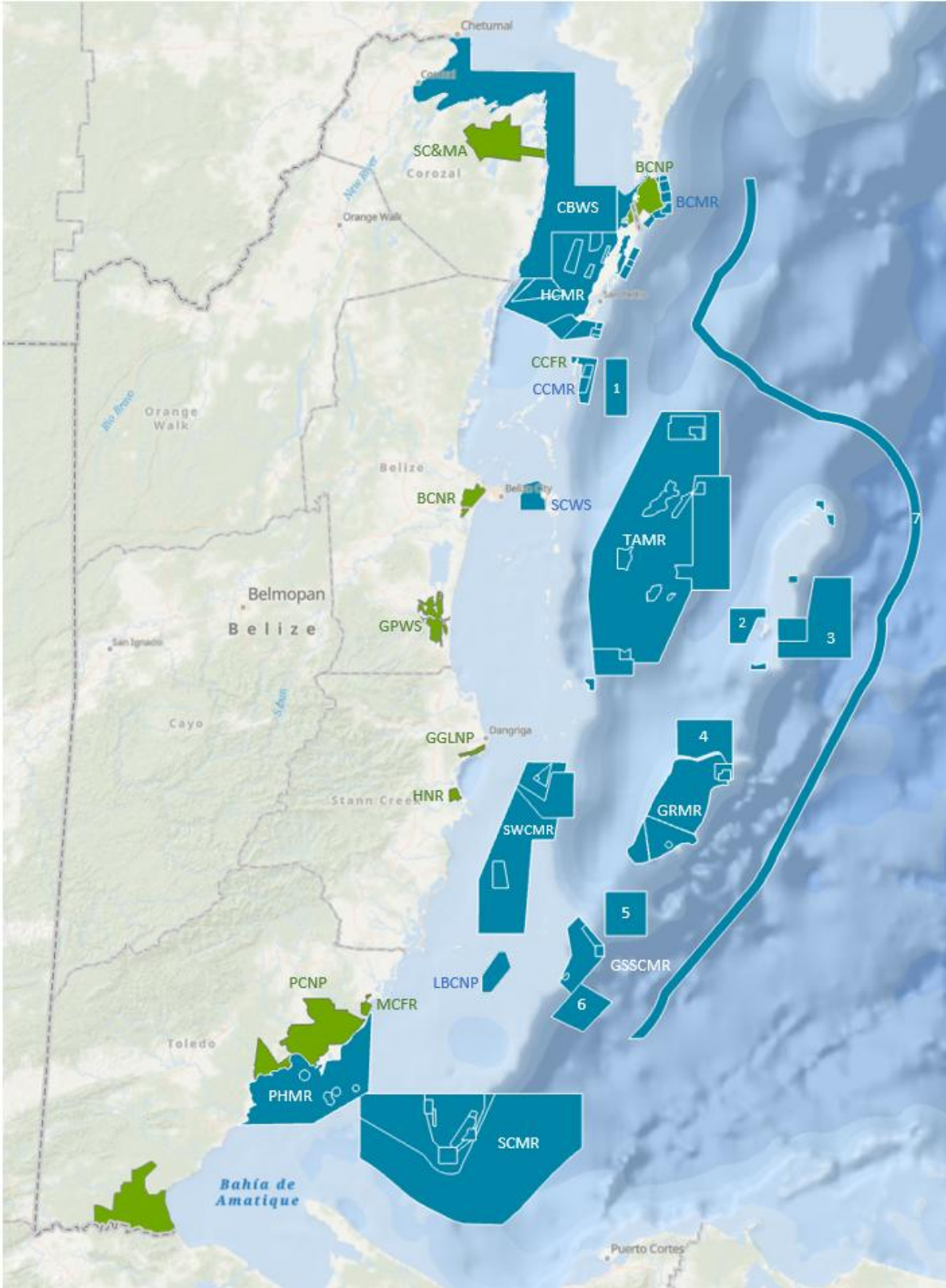
- Nine well-established Marine Reserves are administered under MBEDRM and located in Belize's marine environment (a total of 438,460 ha<sup>4</sup>). These are zoned for fisheries and ecosystem management, with Full, High and Medium Protection Zones.
- A further seven High Protection Zones have recently been established in the abyssal and bathyal deep-sea areas (129,398 ha)
- Five non-extractive marine protected areas (85,614 ha), established for their ecosystem services, high biodiversity, and geological importance and administered under MSDCC, classified as High Protection.
- Eleven coastal protected areas are administered under MSDCC (a total of 56,415 ha).
  - Seven are non-extractive (High Protection) with administration delegated to the National Biodiversity Office (NBIO)
  - Two are designated for managed extraction (Medium Protection), though natural resource extraction is currently not taking place, and managed under the Forest Department.
  - Two are privately protected areas managed under trust agreements with the Government

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<sup>3</sup> NPAS, 2023. An additional x amount is still to be declared as part of the Blue Bond commitment

<sup>4</sup> These areas are based on the stated areas in the Statutory Instrument. There are discrepancies between the Statutory Instruments and the shapefiles that are currently being corrected, but until this has been finalized, different documents will present different area figures, depending on which set of figures they use.





**MAP 1: RESILIENT BOLD BELIZE CONSERVATION PLAN TARGET MARINE AND COASTAL PROTECTED AREAS**

<b>MARINE PAS</b>	<b>YEAR OF DESIGNATION</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY</b>	<b>PA AREA (km<sup>2</sup>) (SI)</b>	<b>AREA (km<sup>2</sup>) (GIS)</b>	<b>MEDIUM PROTECTION</b>	<b>HIGH PROTECTION</b>	<b>% IN HIGH PROTECTION</b>
Bacalar Chico Marine Reserve	1996	MBECA	63.04	64.86	46.05	16.99	27.0
Caye Caulker Marine Reserve	1998	MBECA	39.13	39.39	25.09	14.05	35.9
Gladden Spit and Silk Cayes Marine Reserve	2000	MBECA	104.87	104.49	103.34	1.53	1.5
Glovers Reef Marine Reserve	1993	MBECA	350.67	328.59	277.2	73.42	20.9
Hol Chan Marine Reserve	1987	MBECA	417.06	416.37	321.3	95.76	23.0
Port Honduras Marine Reserve	2000	MBECA	403.85	406.31	388.41	15.45	3.8
Sapodilla Cayes Marine Reserve	1996 / 2020	MBECA	1301.58	1,287.10	350.29	951.27	73.1
South Water Caye Marine Reserve	1996 / 2022	MBECA	387.5	479.78	265.6	121.9	31.5
Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve	2012 / 2022	MBEDRM	1316.9	1305.4	1072.08	75.42	5.7
High Protection for Biodiversity MR 1	2022	MBEDRM	75.42	75.42		75.42	100%
High Protection for Biodiversity MR 2	2022	MBEDRM	53.40	53.40		53.40	100%
High Protection for Biodiversity MR 3	2022	MBEDRM	230.11	230.11		230.11	100%
High Protection for Biodiversity MR 4	2022	MBEDRM	120.33	120.33		120.33	100%
High Protection for Biodiversity MR 5	2022	MBEDRM	106.39	106.39		106.39	100%
High Protection for Biodiversity MR 6	2022	MBEDRM	86.65	86.65		86.65	100%
High Protection for Biodiversity MR 7	2022	MBEDRM	621.68	621.68		621.68	100%
Blue Hole Natural Monument	1996	MSDCC	4.14	4.166		4.14	100%
Half Moon Caye Natural Monument	1982	MSDCC	39.26	39.79		39.26	100%
Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary	1998	MSDCC	735.49	739.90		735.49	100%
Swallow Caye Wildlife Sanctuary	2002	MSDCC	36.30	36.56		36.30	100%
Laughing Bird Caye National Park	1991	MSDCC	40.95	41.20		40.95	100%

**MBEDRM:** Ministry of Blue Economy and Disaster Risk Management

**MSDCC:** Ministry of Sustainable Development and Climate Change

**TABLE 1: MARINE PROTECTED AREAS OF THE NATIONAL PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM**

<b>COASTAL PAS</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY</b>	<b>PA AREA (km<sup>2</sup>) (SI)</b>	<b>AREA (km<sup>2</sup>) (GIS)</b>	<b>MEDIUM PROTECTION</b>	<b>HIGH PROTECTION</b>	<b>% IN HIGH PROTECTION</b>
Gales Point Wildlife Sanctuary	1998	MSDCC	36.81	37.02		36.81	100%
Payne's Creek National Park	1994	MSDCC	152.49	161.59		152.49	100%
Bacalar Chico National Park	1996	MSDCC	51.15	51.36		51.15	100%
Gra Gra Lagoon National Park	2002	MSDCC	4.84	5.35		4.84	100%
Sarstoon Temash National Park	1994	MSDCC	165.92	170.55		165.92	100%
Burdon Canal Nature Reserve	1992	MSDCC	19.69	19.83		19.69	100%
Hopkins Nature Reserve	2010	MSDCC	6.34	6.37		6.34	100%
Shipstern Conservation & Management Area	1989	MSDCC	82.28	77.19		82.28	100%
TIDE Private Protected Lands – Block 127	2001	MSDCC	37.35	37.56		37.35	100%
Caye Caulker Forest Reserve	1998	MSDCC	0.40	0.38	0.40		0%
Monkey Caye Forest Reserve	1996	MSDCC	6.73	6.77	6.73		0%
St. George's Caye Mangrove Reserve	2005	MNRPM	0.06	0.07		0.06	100%
Cockroach Bay Crocodile Reserve	2005	MNRPM	0.09	0.09		0.09	100%

**TABLE 2: COASTAL PROTECTED AREAS OF THE NATIONAL PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM**

In addition, eleven spawning aggregation sites and two Nassau Grouper protection sites (8,226 ha) protect important replenishment areas for commercial species, particularly snapper and grouper. Two small protected areas were designated under the mandate of the MNRPM to protect specific features – an important American crocodile nesting site and an area of mangroves important to the St. George’s Caye community (a total of 15 ha), though with no designation of authority for management.

## COASTAL COMMUNITIES

The **PFP Livelihoods and Wellbeing Pillar** focuses on two objectives. The first targets ten coastal communities considered the most vulnerable to the negative impacts of on the fishing industry<sup>5</sup>, at highest risk from climate change impacts and with limited access to alternative employment opportunities. This represents a total population of just over 7,825 (4,005 men and 3,820 women)<sup>6</sup> (Table 3; Map 2).

<b>PFP Coastal Communities</b>	<b>Total*</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b># fishers 2022</b>	<b>% of pop that is fishers</b>
Chunox	1375	705	670	221	16.07
Copper Bank	470	237	233	109	23.19
Sarteneja	1824	919	905	277	15.19
Gales Point	296	152	144	1	0.34
Hopkins	1610	777	833	114	7.08
Riversdale	567	358	209	7	1.23
Seine Bight	1310	669	641	10	0.76
Punta Negra	20	10	10	4	20.00
Barranco	157	80	77	5	3.18
Monkey River	196	98	98	41	20.92
	<b>7825</b>	<b>4005</b>	<b>3820</b>	<b>7825</b>	

\*Population figures are based on the 2010 census. Punta Negra figures supplied by TIDE

**TABLE 3: PFP COASTAL COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT**

The ten communities (Map 2) can be broadly split into two based on their location and the types of fishing they do:

- Northern Communities (Sarteneja, Chunox and Copper Bank)
- Central and Southern Communities (Gales Point, Hopkins, Monkey River, Seine Bight, Riversdale, Punta Negra and Barranco)

<sup>5</sup> Unsustainable fishing, climate change and coastal / caye development

<sup>6</sup> SIB Census data, 2010. To be updated when the preliminary Census results are available, expected by the end of the third quarter of 2023

**Map 2: Targeted Fishing-Dependent Communities and Marine-based Tourism Centres**

