**GEF-6 REQUEST FOR PROJECT ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL**

**Project Type: Full Size Project**

**Type of Trust Fund: GEF Trust Fund**

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**part i: project information**

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| --- |
| Project Title: Integrated management of natural resources in the Bafing-Falémé landscape |
| Country(ies): | Republic of Guinea | GEF Project ID:[[1]](#footnote-1) | 9783 |
| GEF Agency(ies): | UNDP |  | 5677 |
| Other Executing Partner(s): | Ministry of Environment, Water Resources and Forestry | Submission Date: |       |
| GEF Focal Area (s): | Multifocal Areas: Biodiversity, CCM, LD | Project Duration (Months) | 72 months |
| Integrated Approach Pilot | IAP-Cities [ ]  IAP-Commodities [ ]  IAP-Food Security [ ]  | Corporate Program: SGP [ ]   |
| Name of Parent Program | [if applicable] | Agency Fee ($) | 670,726 |

1. [**Focal Area Strategy Framework and Other Program Strategies**](https://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/Temporary%20Internet%20Files/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/Temporary%20Internet%20Files/Content.Outlook/5RRT28VG/refer%20to%20the%20excerpts%20on%20GEF%206%20Results%20Frameworks%20for%20GETF%2C%20LDCF%20and%20SCCF.)**[[2]](#footnote-2)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Focal Area Objectives/Programs** | **Focal Area Outcomes** | Trust Fund | (in $) |
| GEF Project Financing | Co-financing |
| BD-1 Program 2 | Nature’s Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate | GEFTF | 2,756,050 | 19,300,250 |
| CCM-2- Program 4  | Promote conservation and enhancement ofcarbon stocks in forest, and other land-use, and support climate smart agriculture | GEFTF | 2,664,726 | 24,400,000 |
| LD-1 Program 2 | SLM for Climate-smart Agriculture  | GEFTF | 1,639,498 | 15,000,000 |
| **Total project costs** |  | **7,060,274** | **58,700,250** |

1. **Project description summary**

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| **Project Objective:** **Promote an integrated and sustainable management of natural resources by introducing landscape approach and establishment and operationalisation of a cluster of protected areas (Middle Bafing National Park, Wildlife reserve and community forests) with a strong community involvement, along the Bafing and Falémé rivers, and establishing eco-villages around the protected areas** |
| **Project Components/****Programs** | **Financing Type[[3]](#footnote-3)** | **Project Outcomes** | **Project Outputs** | Trust Fund | (in $) |
|  |  |  |  |  | GEF Project Financing | Confirmed Co-financing |
| 1. Integrated Bafing-Falémé landscape management
 |  | Integrated management of the Bafing-Falémé landscape is strengthened. | 1.1 The “Bafing-Falémé Landscape Management Board” is established and operationalized as an integrated governance platform that serves as a joint decision mechanism for land use in the landscape.1.2. A Landscape Management Plan is developed to ensure protection of key biodiversity areas (KBAs) including core wildlife habitats and corridors, and maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services.1.3 The PAs within the BF landscape (Middle Bafing National Park, Gambia-Falémé Wildlife Reserve and the three Community Forests) are officially proclaimed. | GEFTF | 856,050 | 14,402,250 |
|  2. Operationalization of the Bafing-Falémé Protected Areas and buffer zone management |  | Biodiversity of the Bafing-Falémé landscape is conserved through an operational and interconnected PA system. | 2.1: PA management system established within the Bafing-Falémé landscape with adequate staffing2.2: Management plans of the PAs within the Bafing-Falémé landscape (PNMB, Gambia Falémé National Reserve, Community Forests), covering 1,119,600 ha, are developed integrating climate change and land management dimensions.2.3 Buffer zones and corridors are established2.4: A pilot biodiversity-based ecotourism site is developed in the Bafing-Falémé landscape and brings alternative incomes to the communities | GEFTF | 2,150,000 | 19,000,000 |
| 1. Establishment of the eco-village model in the Bafing-Falémé landscape
 | INV | Farmers and agro-pastoralist households (of which 30% are female) adopt gender responsive improved practices to manage natural resources through the ecovillage model establishment. | 3.1: The Eco-village concept is promoted in at least 10 villages around PAs of the Bafing-Falémé landscape3.2: Improved cook-stoves, biogas and solar technologies are disseminated through a value chain approach to reduce GHG emissions and pressure on forests3.3: Community based afforestation (river banks, water sources) and the creation of a “green belt” increase the carbon stock3.4: Farmers and agro-pastoralists (of which 30% are female) adopt agro-ecology and fire management practices to reduce lands degradation3.5: Local livelihood is enhanced through value chains improvement (including transformation techniques)3.6: A community engagement and educational program is operationalized | GEFTF | 3,479,224 | 24,000,000 |
| 1. Gender mainstreaming, knowledge management and learning
 | TA | Gender is systematically mainstreamed in the project implementation and efficient M&E support the knowledge management for dissemination of best practices. | 4.1: Gender mainstreaming strategy developed and implemented4.2: Key experience and lessons learnt are compiled and locally disseminated | GEFTF | 275,000 | 1,000,000 |
| Subtotal |  | 6,760,274 | 58,402,250 |
| Project Management Cost (PMC)[[4]](#footnote-4) | GEFTF | 300,000 | 298,000 |
| **Total project costs** |  | 7,060,274 | 58,300,250 |

1. **confirmed sources of** [**Co-financing**](http://www.thegef.org/gef/policy/co-financing) **for the project by name and by type**

Please include evidence for [co-financing](http://www.thegef.org/gef/policy/co-financing) for the project with this form.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sources of Co-financing**  | **Name of Co-financier**  | **Type of Cofinancing** | **Amount ($)**  |
| CSO | Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF) | Grants | 11,500,000 |
| Others | ECREEE | Grants  | 200,000 |
| Others | ECREEE | In-kind | 2,000,000 |
| Others | ECREEE | Loan | 200,000 |
| Recipient Government | Ministry of Environment | Grant  | 5,000,000 |
| Recipient Government | Ministry of Environment | In kind | 2,000,000 |
| Recipient Government | Ministry of Agriculture | In kind | 10,000,000 |
| Recipient Government | Ministry of Energy | In kind | 22,000,000 |
| Recipient Government | Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization  | In kind | 5,000,000 |
| GEF Agency | UNDP | Grant | 400,000 |
| CSO | Fouta Trekking Association - ecotourism | In kind | 335,250 |
| CSO | Institute Jane Goodall | In kind | 65,000 |
| **Total Co-financing** |  |  | **58,700,250** |

1. **Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **GEF Agency** | **Trust Fund** | **Country** **Name/Global** | **Focal Area** | **Programming of Funds** | **(in $)** |
| **GEF Project Financing** (a) | **Agency Fee** a) (b)2 | **Total**(c)=a+b |
| UNDP | GEFTF | Guinea | Biodiversity | n/a | 2,756,050 | 261,825 | 3,017,875 |
| UNDP | GEFTF | Guinea | Climate Change | n/a | 2,664,726 | 253,149 | 2,917,875 |
| UNDP | GEFTF | Guinea | Land Degradation | n/a | 1,639,498 | 155,752 | 1,795,250 |
| **Total Grant Resources** | **7,060,274** | **670,726** | **7,731,000** |

a ) Refer to the [Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/document/gef-fee-policy.pdf)

**E. Project’s target contributions to global environmental benefits**

| **Corporate Results** | **Replenishment Targets** | **Project Targets** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society | Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares  | 3,267,500 ha of terrestrial landscapes, of which 1,110,600 ha are PA, corridors and buffer zones*[[5]](#footnote-5)* |
| 2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes) | 120 million hectares under sustainable land management | *7,000 ha[[6]](#footnote-6)* |
| 4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path | 750 million tons of CO2e mitigated (include both direct and indirect) | *15,435,991 tCO2-eq.[[7]](#footnote-7)*  |

**F. Does the project include a** [**“non-grant” instrument**](http://www.thegef.org/gef/policy/non-grant_instruments)**?**

No

**part ii: project justification**

**A. describe any changes in alignment with the project design with the original pif[[8]](#footnote-8)**

**A.1.** **Project Description.**

*Elaborate on: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area[[9]](#footnote-9) strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4)* [*incremental*](http://www.thegef.org/gef/policy/incremental_costs)*/*[*additional cost reasoning*](http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/1325) *and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and* [*co-financing*](http://www.thegef.org/gef/policy/co-financing)*; 5)* [*global environmental benefits*](http://www.thegef.org/gef/GEB) *(GEFTF) and/or* [*adaptation benefits*](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/GEF.R.5.12.Rev_.1.pdf) *(LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up.*

**A.1.1. Global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barrier that need to be addressed**

The changes to the project are as follows:

* The PPG inception workshop held in Conakry in July 2018 recommended that is was necessary to change the PIF title which was “Integrated management of natural resources in Middle and Upper Guinea” to reflect the actual landscape approach and avoid creating confusion with the two large natural region. Hence the project title is now “Integrated management of natural resources in the Bafing Falémé landscape”. This title is especially relevant as it positions the landscape approach.
* The PIF proposed to focus on the Transboundary Bafing-Falémé Protected Area (as defined during the AGIR program). During the PPG phase, the area of intervention has been extended in order to fully include the Middle Bafing National Park under creation (6,426 km2). Hence, the Bafing-Falémé landscape, where growing interests for various sectors are operating, covers a total of 32,675 km2. The proposed project will introduce the “Bafing-Falémé landscape” approach, establish and operationalise a cluster of protected areas (Middle Bafing National Park, Gambia-Falémé Fauna reserve and community forests) along the Bafing and Falémé rivers and establishing eco-villages around the protected areas, with the overall goal to promote an integrated and sustainable management of natural ressources.
* Indicator Baselines and Targets for PA areas were updated from a baseline 0 ha and target 815,300 ha (in the PIF), to a baseline 642,600 ha and target 1,119,600 ha, reflecting the recent creation of the PNMB and its full inclusion in the project. Please see PRODOC Figure 5 for a detailed localisation and calculation of the PA within the Bafing-Falémé landscape. This results also in a change of the GEBs estimates especially CO2. The indicators, baselines and targets were integrated into PRODOC Section VI. Project Results Framework.
* The cofinancing amount increased from 25,000,000 USD to 58,700,250 USD as several technical and financial partners launched recently large projects in the Bafing Falémé landscape. This constitutes a dynamic baseline: (i) the creation of the Middle Bafing National Park has secured an offset biodiversity financing of 45 million USD – the cofinancing from WCF covers 11.5 millions USD; (ii) the OMVS projects, under the responsibility of the Ministry of energy (22 millions USD).
* The Outputs were changed marginally in a few places to reflect comments from STAP and the more elaborate analyses and proposals emerging from the PPG. The following table compares Outputs with changes highlighted:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Outputs in PIF**  | **Outputs in PRODOC/CEO Endorsement Request** |
| 1.3 The Bafing-Falémé Protected Area is officially proclaimed under Ministerial Order followed by Presidential Decree with clear boundary descriptions and governance framework. | 1.3. The PAs within the BF landscape (Middle Bafing National Park, Gambia-Falémé Wildlife Reserve and the three Community Forests) are officially proclaimed. |
| 2.2 Management plans of the Bafing-Falémé PA covering 315,200 ha, are developed integrating the climate change and land degradation dimensions. | 2.2: Management plans of the PAs within the Bafing-Falémé landscape (PNMB, Gambia Falémé National Reserve, Community Forests), covering 1,119,600 ha, are developed integrating climate change and land management dimensions. |
| 2.4 A sustainable and high-end biodiversity-based tourism in the Bafing-Falémé complex is developed and implemented on a pilot basis, ensuring transparency and equity for participation of local communities, including focused capacity building support for community members. | 2.4: A pilot biodiversity-based ecotourism site is developed in the Bafing-Falémé landscape and brings alternative incomes to the communities |
| 3.2 Energy efficient production and utilization of wood energy are implemented through a range of measures such as standard setting, testing and certification, and demand-side management (e.g. incentives and awareness) for use of improved cookstoves and kilns.  | 3.2: Improved cook-stoves, biogas and solar technologies are disseminated through a value chain approach to reduce GHG emissions and pressure on forests |
| 3.4 Sustainable land management and climate-smart agro-pastoralism is implemented in selected villages and necessary training and capacity building support provided.  | Output 3.4: Farmers and agro-pastoralists (of which 30% are female) adopt agro-ecology and fire management practices to reduce lands degradation |

***Global environment***

Guinea is one of the richest countries in West Africa with regards to biodiversity. However, ecosystem functions and biodiversity are threatened across the country due to land conversion for agriculture, overgrazing, deforestation, mining, over-exploitation of wildlife and other natural resources, erosion and bushfires, exacerbated by climate change and droughts. Between 1990 and 2010, Guinea lost 9.9% of its forest cover (FAO), decreasing from 7,2 milion ha to 6,5 million ha. Besides key flagship species such as chimpanzees have declined rapidly. This degradation has a wider impact beyond the immediate vicinity of villages. Guineans remain largely dependent on natural areas and the goods and services they provide whether through the basic functions of improving air quality or serving as natural and integral components of a properly functioning water system, or more specific goods such as medicinal plants and fuel wood for cooking.

Most rural villages in the Bafing-Falémé landscape (Middle and Upper Guinea) are extremely poor and struggle to break out of a cycle of poverty, emigration of young people seeking better lives elsewhere and unsustainable use of natural resources and energy.

The project will focus on **the Bafing Falémé Landscape**, which covers an area of 32,675 km2 and is identified as a biodiversity hotspot by Conservation International based on the high number of endemic plant and animal.

*Biodiversity conservation in the Bafing-Falémé Landscape :* Guinea is the country with the largest population of Chimpanzees, and half of this population live in the Fouta Djalon region as inhabitants do not eat the chimp meat. They are also threatened by habitat loss and are sometimes hunt when they are getting close to crops and villages. Besides the chimpanzee classified as endangered species by the IUCN, three species observed in the PNMB are under the status vulnerable (i.e the African golden cat, the common hippopotamus and the leopard) and four other species are considered nearly threatened (i.e the Bay duiker, the yellow-backed duiker, the Guinea baboon and the Bongo).

*Energy and climate change:* Biomass is the main energy sources in Guinea. Widespread inefficient and unsustainable practices relating to the use of biomass (firewood and charcoal) as the principal domestic fuel in rural and urban areas drive deforestation and increase carbon emissions. Indeed, traditional fuels like firewood and charcoal represent over 77% of total final energy consumption. They are harvested, often in a very unregulated and unsustainable manner, from the country's dwindling forest resources. Only 26.2% of the population have access to electricity. Measures of rural development are strongly correlated with energy availability and in rural Guinea there is said to be a major deficit in ‘energy for development’, resulting in chronic poverty, which affects 89.3% of rural households, and is a background reason for rural exodus, urban unemployment and illegal emigration.

*More more details, please refer to the UNDP ProDoc, section II.2 “Context and global significance”.*

***Root causes***

The principal underlying causes of over-exploitation and degradation of natural resources and unsustainable energy use in the Bafing-Falémé landscape are poverty, lack of secure access to natural resources and lack of alternative livelihood options for communities. Communities are trapped in poverty and rural exodus of young people looking for employment, lack of income and income generation alternatives, and dependence on unsustainable land use and resource management practices. These unsustainable land use practices and the need for more land and more natural resources put increasing pressure on land and biodiversity.

Moreoever, the broad Bafing-Falémé landscape is a place of growing interests for various sectors (Mining, Hydroelectricity, agriculture, biodiversity and ecotourism, infrastructure/roads, etc.) that could negatively impacted all valuable species if urgent measures are not taken.

More specifically, key direct threats to biodiversity are:

* A growing population depending on natural capital resources
* Unsustainable agricultural practices: A high dependence on a slash and burn agriculture system
* Overharvesting of wood resources
* Mining and energy infrastructure
* Climate Change

*More more details, please refer to the UNDP ProDoc, section II.3 “Threats to biodiversity, root causes and impacts”.*

**The proposed project will introduce the “Bafing-Falémé landscape” approach, establish and operationalise a cluster of protected areas (Middle Bafing National Park, Fauna reserve and community forests) along the Bafing and Falémé rivers and establishing eco-villages around the protected areas, with the overall goal to promote an integrated and sustainable management of natural ressources.**

***Four main barriers need to be addressed***

Barrier 1) Little knowledge of the landscape approach and the ecovillage model, and weak coordination skills among institutional and private stakeholders

Barrier 2) Poor understanding of the biodiversity and ecosystems, coupled with little capacities and means for law enforcement, landuse planning and the sustainable management of natural resource

Barrier 3) Poverty, cultural habits, insufficient capacities and lack of alternatives, innovation and investment at the village level make it hard for communities to break out a cycle of unsustainable land, resource and energy use

Barrier 4) Lack of institutional capacities at national and regional level for adequate knowledge management and gender mainstreaming

*More more details, please refer to the UNDP ProDoc, Part 1, section II.4 “Long term solutions and barriers to achieve the solutions”.*

**A.1.2. Baseline scenario and associated baseline projects**

The main change since the PIF was designed and approved, is the creation of the Middle Bafing National Park by OGUIPAR and its partner the Wild Chimpanzee Fondation (WCF). The WCF, in collaboration GAC and CBG, undertook the identification of a potential high conservation value that resulted in the project of creation of the Parc National du Moyen Bafing (PNMB). The creation phase of the National Park has been started on September 2017 and a first proposed delineation of the boundaries of the Park, the core area, the buffer zone and the corridors has been proposed. The creation of the Park will be official probably by the end of 2019, after a presidential decree.

Other projects on biodiversity conservation, land use amangement and climate change adaptation are currently being implemented in the area of intervention. The most pertinent projects that will also form part of the current project’s baseline as located in the same project areas are listed below:

* The project of Koukoutamba hydroelectric dam: the OMVS is supervising the construction of the Koukoutamba dam will start during the following month. It is located within the PNMB.
* The mining project: an operating license was approved for TOUBAL. An ESIA including strong mitigation measures and an off-set program will be carry out.
* The project entitled “ Support to the Reform of the Security Sector in Guinea – environment component (PARSS3)“ financed by UE and managed by UNOPS has been launched in 2016 and aims at strengthening the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forest and operationalizing the *Corps Paramilitaire des Conservateurs de la Nature*.
* The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) intents to create a Transborder Protected area (Guinea and Senegal) has to support the conservation of chimpanzee.
* The Combo project: The Wildlife Conservation Society, Forest Trends and Biotope have commenced a four-year project (2016-2019) which aims to reconcile economic development in Africa with conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
* The World Bank is currently developing a project to support the OGUIPAR and the sustainable management of several protected areas, including in the Bafing-Falémé landscape. With a budget of 20 millions US, the project will be implemented during 5 years.
* The Programme Support for Community Livelihoods at the Village level (PACV3) is supported by AFD and the World Bank. It aims to strengthen local governance in rural areas of Guinea and to promote the social and economic empowerment of rural people, including women, youth and other marginalized groups. PACV3 intervenes in the 304 rural municipalities of the country and is funded for a period of 5 years (2016-2020).
* The UNDP GEF Biogaz program (2016-2020), with a budget of $2,6 million, aims at promoting the use of biogas through the dissemination of 2,000 domestic units.
* The West African Clean Cooking Alliance (WACCA), which is under the aegis of the ECOWAS Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), supports the development and implementation of adequate national institutional and regulatory framework in line with regional targets.
* The Project will also create synergies with other PNUD projects within the Bafing-Falémé landscape: (i) The National Biogas program, (ii) National Multifunctional platform for Post Ebola Recovery of Guinea.

*For more details, please refer to the UNDP PRODOC, PART II: Strategy Section: Baseline analysis*.

**A.1.3. Proposed alternative scenario**

The proposed long-term solution to the many challenges presented above is to adopt a landscape approach for managing land and natural resources. This involves two inter-related axes of action. First, it implies Guinea to embrace a low carbon development thanks to a shift of communities’ practices and behaviors. Introduction of tested, affordable and easy to adopt technologies for domestic energy would make it possible. Secondly, integrated land uses management will be established and protected areas should be established to preserve key natural habitats.

The main change since the PIF approvement, is the project area. The project will focus on **the Bafing-Falémé landscape**, which covers an area of 32,675 km2. The intervention area corresponding to the provisional boundaries of the PNMB and the surrounding areas extending to Senegal and Mali. They have been identified for several decades due to their ecological, scientific and cultural importance. In 2009, the UNESCO recommended the creation of the transboundary biosphere reserves in West Africa as an instrument of regional integration and conservation of biodiversity was recommended. During the AGIR program, the Bafing Falémé transboundary biosphere reserve (APT-BF) between Mali, Senegal and Guinea was pledged, but activities stopped in Guinea due to a lack of resources. **The recent creation of the PNMB gave new impetus for the conservation of this vast complex**. The present project will hence built upon the ongoing dynamic to develop a landscape approach for conservation & development, and will implement a strategy of intervention into three zones: (1) the central zone corresponding to the National Park of Moyen Bafing (PNMB), (2) the northwestern zone, and (3) the eastern zone.

The project will also word in 10 pilot villages in the Bafing-Falémé landscape to develop ecovillage model in order toenhance biodiversity conservation, improve natural resource management and associated livelihood benefits, and to increase access to ‘energy for development’, while embracing a low carbon path. The 10 villages have been selected though muti-criteria analysis detailed in the ProDoc.

***The project will allow the below alternative scenario:***

* An integrated landscape natural resource management will be governing the environment sector. A landscape management plan will guide sustainable and resilient landuse patterns and practices and ensure protection of core wildlife habitats including corridors and maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Mechanisms for coordination among stakeholders in the landscape will be put in place to avoid/minimise negative impacts from a range of threats through instalment of sound decision making taking in full account of biodiversity and ecosystem services maintenance.
* The Bafing-Falémé is officially recognised as a Protected Area with clear management regime for the core area, corridors and buffer zones. Within the Bafing Falémé landscape, the project intends to support the expansion of protected area network within is expanded the landscape through (i) the operationalization of the PNMB (6,426 km²), creation of the “Gambia Falémé” Wildlife reserve (3,372 km²) which will connect the PNMB with the existing and future PAs at the border of Senegal (see Map), and creation of three Community Forests for a total of 1,398 km². High-end low impact tourism model will be developed and piloted providing tangible benefits for local communities.
* Villages around the PA will adopt sustainable methods in all aspects of their livelihoods: cooking, farming, income generated activities. They will become eco-villages, meeting their needs in terms of sustainable and integrated management of natural resources.
* Improved cook stoves and kilns will be used for cooking, solar technologies will be used for domestic lighting and cellphone batteries. Fuelwood will be harvested sustainably using woodlots.
* Sustainable land management practices will be implemented. Best agriculture practices will increase food security, agriculture productivity and forest restoration.
* Communities will have their capacities strengthened and alternative livelihoods will be available for them with incentives for conservation.

***GEF focal area strategies***

The proposed project is consistent with the goals of **GEF Biodiversity Strategic Objective 1** "**Improve sustainability of protected area systems"** and mainly oriented toward supporting Strategic Program 2 “Nature’s Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of Global Protected Area”. Within the Bafing Falémé landscape, the project intends to support the expansion of protected area network within the landscape through (i) support for operationalization of the PNMB (6,426 km²), (iii) creation of the “Gambia Falémé” Wildlife reserve (3,372 km²) which will connect the PNMB with the existing and future PAs at the border of Senegal, (iii) creation of three Community Forests for a total of 1,398 km². Hence, the project will expand and strengthen a total of 11,196 km² of PA in the Bafing-Falémé landscape, which represent an additional 4.6% of the national territory. The project will contribute to the Guinea national commitments to cover 25% of the national territory under protected area management. The project will also contribute to the attainment of Aichi Target 5 (loss of habitats); 7 (areas under sustainable management); 10 (vulnerable ecosystems); 11 (protected areas); 12 (preventing extinction); 14 (essential ecosystem services; 15 (restoration and resilience).

The proposed project is also consistent with the **GEF Climate Change Mitigation strategic program 4** “**Promote conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest, and other land-use, and support climate smart agriculture**”. The project will reverse trends in deforestation and forest degradation by reducing if not eliminating the risks and threats identified in the previous sections. Large-scale afforestation with native species will be established to protect the water sources and to produce sustainable wood for energy. Agro-ecology practices such as soil fertility enhancement through agroforestry, crop rotation, will contribute to disseminate climate smart agriculture in the ecovillages of the Bafing-Falémé landscape.

The proposed project is also consistent with the goal of the **GEF Land Degradation strategic objective 1, program 2 “SLM for Climate Smart Agriculture”.** The project will strive to establish an enabling governance mechanism with the aim of identifying and operationalizing a sustainable landscape management plan. This will ensure that the current functionality of agro-ecosystems are maintained or improved. The project will promote a faster regeneration of soil fertility with the dissemination of agro-ecological practices: capacities building programs will be organized in the eco-villages to introduce leguminous plants into crop rotations and fallows. A total of 500 ha of lands will be restored through agro-ecology practices. Moreover, in the eco-village, a total of approximately 100 hectares of Ecological Perimeters (see component 3) will be established and improve key productive land uses.

***Expected outcomes and components of the project***

The objective, outcomes and outputs were maintained and are briefly described below.

The overall objective of the project is to promote an integrated and sustainable management of natural ressources by introducing landscape approach and establishment and operationalisation of a cluster of protected areas (Middle Bafing National Park, Wildlife reserve and community forests) with a strong community involvment, along the Bafing and Falémé rivers. It will also establish eco-villages around the protected areas to ensure that community do benefits from the PA. The abovementioned objective will be achieved through four integrated and complementary outcomes presented in detail below.

**Component 1: Integrated Bafing-Falémé landscape management**

**Outcome 1:** Integrated management of the Bafing-Falémé landscape is strengthened.

As stated in the strategic intervention the project will build on the current landscape governance mechanism that have been putted in place for the past two years within the creation of the PNMB framework. This mechanism has already proven its effectiveness to ensure a better harmonization between economic development purpose (mining license, energy project and, road transport project) and environment protection. It has already shown that it is indeed possible to support long term development projects without hindering environment protection. An assessment of the current mechanism will be done to review it strengths and weaknesses, especially with regards to community engagement. Local inhabitants need to benefit from protected area management. As such, they need to be involved in the governance scheme to own the project idea. The updated and enhanced mechanism will then be deployed beyond the PNMB area to support an enhanced landscape. As such, it will support the establishment of a new natural reserve called “Gambia Falémé Wildlife reserve” where biodiversity conservation will be enhanced, and deforestation rate will be reduced. Three community forest will also be rehabilitated/established in the north east area of the landscape to improve the sustainable use of natural resources. This will be an opportunity to reduce deforestation rate, generate alternative natural resources induced incomes from a sustainable use. Finally, the outcome will also provide the necessary framework to secure a network of protected area connecting Guinean forest-savanna mosaic to the existing Senegalese dry forest, ensuring a potential corridor for high value wildlife species such as the western endangered species but also other ungulates like buffalo, and other savanna antelopes.

**Output 1.1:** The “Bafing-Falémé Landscape Management Board” is established and operationalized as an integrated governance platform that serves as a joint decision mechanism for land use in the landscape.

**Output 1.2:** A Landscape Management Plan is developed to ensure protection of key biodiversity areas (KBAs) including core wildlife habitats and corridors, and maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

**Output 1.3:** The PAs within the BF landscape (Middle Bafing National Park, Gambia-Falémé Wildlife Reserve and the three Community Forests) are officially proclaimed.

**Component 2: Operationalization of the Bafing-Falémé Protected Areas and buffer zone management**

**Outcome 2:** Biodiversity of the Bafing-Falémé landscape is conserved through an operational and interconnected PA system.

Outcome 2 will support concrete on the ground soft and hard capacity building activities to effectively support the management of key protected areas (PNMB, one national reserve, and one community forest already created but not registered and its associated corridors and buffer zones within the landscape, as part of the overall landscape management plan. The project management unit recruited to implement the GEF current project will be supported by a team of both individual and firm consultants. A convention with WCF will be signed at the launching phase of the project for activities occurring in the PNMB (central zone of the BF landscape).

**Output 2.1**: PA management system established within the Bafing-Falémé landscape with adequate staffing

**Output 2.2:** Management plans of the PAs within the Bafing-Falémé landscape (PNMB, Gambia Falémé National Reserve, Community Forests), covering 1,119,600 ha, are developed integrating climate change and land management dimensions.

**Output 2.3** Buffer zones and corridors are established

**Output 2.4:** A pilot biodiversity-based ecotourism site is developed in the Bafing-Falémé landscape and brings alternative incomes to the communities

**Component 3: Establishment of the eco-village model in the Bafing-Falémé landscape**

**Outcome 3:** Farmers and agro-pastoralist households (of which 30% are female) adopt gender responsive improved practices to manage natural resources through the ecovillage model establishment.

**Output 3.1:** The Eco-village concept is promoted in at least 10 villages around PAs of the Bafing-Falémé landscape

**Output 3.2:** Improved cookstoves, biogas, kilns and solar kits are disseminated within the ecovillages to reduce GHG emissions and pressure on forests

**Output 3.3:** Community based afforestation (river banks, water sources) and the creation of a “green belt” increase the carbon stock

**Output 3.4:** Farmers and and agro-pastoralists (of which 30% are female) adopt agro-ecology and fire management practices to reduce lands degradation

**Output 3.5:** Local livelihood is enhanced through value chains improvement (including transformation techniques)

**Output 3.6:** A community engagement and educational program is operationalized

**Component 4: Gender mainstreaming, knowledge management and learning**

**Outcome 4:** Gender is systematically mainstreamed in the project implementation and efficient M&E support the knowledge management for dissemination of best practices.

Component 4 will allow that lessons learned from the project via active participation of all stakeholder groups in the project implementation and M&E are made available locally through partnerships with local CSOs to facilitate improved PA management and ecovillage establishment; the increased focus on gender mainstreaming under GEF-6 has thus been elevated to component level.

**Output 4.1:** Gender mainstreaming strategy developed and implemented

**Output 4.2:** Key experience and lessons learnt are compiled and locally disseminated

*For more details, please refer to the UNDP ProDoc, PART III: Results and partnerships.*

**A.1.4.** [**Incremental**](http://www.thegef.org/gef/policy/incremental_costs)**/**[**additional cost reasoning**](http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/1325) **and expected contributions from the baseline**

**NA**

**A.1.5. Global environmental benefits and/or adaptation benefits**

The GEF-funded project is targeting the following global environmental benefits:

* National political commitment and support for the development of a coordinated approach, the creation of Protected Areas, and the Ecovillage model within Bafing-Falémé landscape will remain very high.
* Local communities will change their behaviour when provided with appropriate alternatives and move away from inefficient and destructive practices of energy and resource use.
* An integrated landscape approach and Ecovillage model will be developed in the Bafing-Falémé landscape which will result in global benefits in terms of biodiversity and low carbon development (reduced GHG emissions).

The project will lead to the protection of 477,000 ha of protected area, the land use change of 7,000 ha and the dissemination of low carbon energy solutions resulting to 15,435,991 tCO2-eq reduction over the next 20 years.

*For more details, please refer to the UNDP ProDoc.*

**A.1.6. Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up**

**Innovativeness**

The project adopts an **integrated landscape management approach**, which is new to the country. Through this approach, the project will engineer a paradigm shift in the management of ecosystem services. The project will not only establish a Protected Area, but will be innovative by combining this creation with climate change and land degradation aspects. The project will disseminate an Eco-Village model around the PA.

The Eco-Village concept consists of both low-carbon technologies and climate-smart agriculture at village level, in addition to biodiversity aspects in regards to the management of the PA. Thus the project will also adress the production of charcoal by promoting more efficience technologies. One of the key innovations will be to introduce individual portable kilns to allow farmers to efficiently convert wood into charcoal. Small kilns made from barrels will be experimented. This innovative low-cost technology does exist in other countries such as Kenya. Farmers can transform biomass from clearing fields in a more efficient manner. These could easily be produced by the stove manufacturers or local welders. These kilns have more 30% efficiency and cost less than $50 with a lifetime of more than 3 years.

Regarding to innovations for the regeneration of degraded lands, farmers agree that there used to a set of practices, abandoned today, which allowed a plot development favorable to the fight against erosion and thus the maintenance of soil fertility. For example, they would leave a forest cover sufficiently large in the fields with a precise density of trees. The project will promote a faster regeneration of soil fertility, it is desirable to systematize agroecological practices by introducing leguminous plants into crop rotations and fallows. This allows a more intensive use of the cultivated areas, as much in the alluvial zones where market gardening is not practiced as in the external fields. The use of leguminous, such as local cowpeas "balé" or mucuna, will be promoted. This need a solid closure, including during the long fallow period, which would also make it possible to manage the pasture of cultivated fodder plants that can be introduced into the plots. To this end, it is necessary to encourage the installation of living fences with local bamboo ties if there is no money to buy grillage.

**Sustainability and potential for scaling up**

The project, through activities carried seeks to promote an integrated and sustainable management of natural ressources overt he long-term, even after the project-related interventions are over. The project will ensure environmental, institutional, financial and social sustainability.

* *Environmental sustainability:* is the primary objective of the project as it is focused on expanding PA network of Guinea through the creation of two protected area in the Bafing Falémé landscape considered as a hot spot for biodiversity conservation. Collaboration with ongoing and future partners project such as WCF and its affiliated partners will promote alternative sustainable livelihoods (sustainable agriculture farming and timber/non-timber extractive activities, eco-tourism).
* *Institutional sustainability:* The Ministry of Environment through OGUIPAR is fully engaged in the process of expanding the network of PA, with a focus on the Bafing Falémé landscape. The government is committed to expand its current network of PA and is ready to enhance OGUIPAR leadership given its current role of PA. The World Bank, AFD, WCF, and Jane Goodall Institute, will provide support in the PA management.
* *Financial sustainability:* A trust fund is supposed to be established to support the operational cost of the PNBM. Funding will be provided by GAC and CBG mining companies within the off-set mechanism already in place.
* *Social sustainability* will be encouraged through the adoption of a participatory decision-making approach for planning and implementing the management of natural resources in the ecovillage (EMP). Social sustainability will be improved through the development of income-generating activities that will contribute to alleviate the pressures on biodiversity due to detrimental activities that are associated with poverty, unemployment and lack of alternatives.

The project’s replicability will be supported by the project structure itself. The creation and empowerment of 2 national protected areas will assure successes developed at the specific site level will be transferable to other protected areas in Guinea, especially within the extreme far north east of the Haute Guinee (Bakoye watershed) who used to be considered as one of the key hot spot savannah biodiversity.

*For more details, please refer to the UNDP ProDoc, PART IV: Feasibility Section iv. Sustainability and Scaling-up.*

**A.2. Child Project?**

 *If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.*

N/A

**A.3.** [**Stakeholders**](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/document/Public_Involvement_Policy.Dec_1_2011_rev_PB.pdf)

*Identify key stakeholders and elaborate on how the key stakeholders engagement is incorporated in the preparation and implementation of the project. Do they include civil society organizations (yes* *[x]  /no**[ ] )? and indigenous peoples (yes [ ]  /no[x] )?*

The table below proposes a stakeholder involvement plan for the implementation phase.

| **Outputs**  | **Stakeholders** | **Key responsibilities** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1.1**: The “Bafing-Falémé Landscape Management Board” is established and operationalized as an integrated governance platform that serves as a joint decision mechanism for land use in the landscape. | MEEFMinistry of Energy and Hydraulic, Ministry of Mining, WCFPrivate sector, sub-national authorities, civil society, community leaders.AVODEPPE, ADJEDELOPE, ADECOM, VAPE, SYNADEV | Create the BF board based on the Inter-ministerial commission. Organise 3 regional committees.Provide information and documentation about land use in the landscape.Bring capitalization and promote exchange between stakeholders.Identification of major threat to biodiversity and CC, key activities, support the implementation of activities, mobilization of communities. |
| **1.2**: A Landscape Management Plan is developed to ensure protection of key biodiversity areas (KBAs) including core wildlife habitats and corridors, and maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services. | PMUOGUIPARWCFMinistries, Private sector, sub-national authorities, civil society, community leaders.CERESCORGuinée Ecologie | Conduct wildlife inventoryMapping of existing community forestCapitalize results from different studies and disseminate them to different stakeholdersDesign a landscape management plan for each project areas |
| **1.3**: The PAs within the BF landscape (Middle Bafing National Park, Gambia-Falémé Wildlife Reserve and the three Community Forests) are officially proclaimed. | PMUOGUIPAR WCFGuinée Ecologie | Discuss the Delineation of the border of the PA and key corridorsSupport consultations at RC level and community level to determine the delineation of the borderCreate synergies between the community reserve of Mali and the proposed Bafing Gambie National ReserveRecognition of the community forests (eastern part) |
| **2.1**: PA management system established within the Bafing-Falémé landscape with adequate staffing | WCFOGUIPARDNEF | Conduct study to develop adapted infrastructure in the PNMB, and a road master plan to ease access to specific sitesSupport the building of 3 home basis in the PNMBCapacity building and deployment of necessary staff |
| **2.2**: Management plans of the PAs within the Bafing-Falémé landscape (PNMB, Gambia Falémé National Reserve, Community Forests), covering 1,119,600 ha, are developed integrating climate change and land management dimensions. |  WCFOGUIPARDNEFGuinée EcologieCERESCOR | Conduct surveys (wildlife inventories, socio-economic surveys, etc.) |
| **2.3**: Buffer zones and corridors are established | WCFOGUIPAR | Conduct robust wildlife monitoring and forest cover annual monitoring (PNMB)Socio-economic survey between existing classified forestsConsultation with mining companiesDefinition of the buffer zones and corridors |
| **2.4**: A pilot biodiversity-based ecotourism site is developed in the Bafing-Falémé landscape and brings alternative incomes to the communities | WCFOGUIPARFouta Trekking Association | Design the ecotourism projectConduct feasibility study for Chimpanzee habituationOrganize a study field tripIdentification of equipment and accommodationEnsure participation of local communities |
| **3.1**: The Eco-village concept is promoted in at least 10 villages around PAs of the Bafing-Falémé landscape | PMUANEVGuinée EcologieCSO | Establish baseline situation avec 10 selected ecovillagesOrganize field visits to share experience from ecovillages in SenegalOrganize management committeesElaborate EMP by identifying and defining zones and areas of land and water |
| **3.2**: Improved cookstoves and kilns are disseminated within the ecovillages to reduce GHG emissions and pressure on forests | PMUECREEEGuinée44 | Awareness campaign for cookstovesTrain and equip in the production and commercialization of cookstovesTraining of women (utilization of banco stoves)Capacity-building trainings for artisans in manufacturing of improved cookstoves |
| **3.3**: Community based afforestation (river banks, water sources) and the creation of a “green belt” increase the carbon stock | PMUCommunities | Assist communities in the creation of nursery in each villageSupport communities in planting woodlots for fuelwood production |
| **3.4**: Farmers and and agro-pastoralists (of which 30% are female) adopt agro-ecology and fire management practices to reduce lands degradation | PMUGRETCNOP-GCommunitiesIRAG | Introduce sustainable agro-ecology practicePromote the dissemination of healthy, disease-resistant seeds adapted to climate change (IRAG)Assist communities in organizing and creating stone lines, Zaï and ANR techniquesSensitize farmers on the effectiveness of sustainable practicesSupport bushfire preventionTechnical expertise, provide adapted seeds (IRAG). |
| **3.5**: Local livelihood is enhanced through value chains improvement (including transformation techniques) | PMUGRETCNOP-GCommunitiesFédération des Apiculteur du Fouta | Assess technical and organizational aspects of value chains (shea, honey, cashew…) and promote sustainable productionTraining producersSupport the creation of a “miellerie”Establish partnership with the “Fédération des Apiculteurs du Fouta” |
| **3.6**: A community engagement and educational program is operationalized | PMUGuinée EcologieCSOsCommunities | Design an educational programOrganize training at the village |
| **4.1:** Gender mainstreaming strategy developed and implemented | PMUOGUIPARCommunities | Design a gender strategyInclude gender mainstreaming consideration into the project strategy and implementationOrganize gender sensitivity in villages |
| **4.2:** Key experience and lessons learnt are compiled and widely disseminated | PMUOGUIPARNGOs, government organizations, local communities | Develop a web-site gathering all information of the areasOrganize workshop to share best practices and lessons learnt |

**A.4.** [**Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.**](http://www.thegef.org/gef/policy/gender)

*Elaborate on how gender equality and women’s empowerment issues are mainstreamed into the project implementation and monitoring, taking into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of women and men. In addition, 1) did the project conduct a gender analysis during project preparation (yes [x]  /no[ ] )?; 2) did the project incorporate a gender responsive project results framework, including sex-disaggregated indicators (yes [x] /no[ ] )?; and 3) what is the share of women and men direct beneficiaries (women 50%, men 50%)?*

The proposed project is designed to promote an integrated and sustainable management of natural ressources by introducing landscape approach and establishment and operationalisation of a cluster of protected areas (Middle Bafing National Park, Wildlife reserve and community forests) with a strong community involvment, along the Bafing and Falémé rivers. The total direct beneficiaries will be around 50,000 in the Bafing-Falémé landscape who will benefit from improvements to sustainable natural resources management through integrated landscape approach and women represent 53% of the overall population of the 15 communes within the PNMB. They are a distinct heterogeneous group with different status and rights from those of men. Despite their importance in natural resources use, women are under-represented within decision-making bodies.

Gender relations will be considered in every aspect of the project’s implementation, in particular in regard to Components 2 and 3. Women are a very important group under this project. While also relevant to the consumption of wood-based resources, their role as the primary collectors and users of non-timber forest products, in seed selection, seed saving, and use of wild plants for food and medicines plays a major role in biodiversity conservation and sustainable land-use. Especially, with regards to clean cooking, fuelwood use for domestic purposes is synonymous with women in the country. Although women may share the task of collecting fuel wood with children, they are entirely responsible for cooking in the households. Therefore, this project will directly impact women. It is estimated that the time spent for wood collection varies between 2 to 3 hours per woman per day in the country. With adequate management of firewood and improved cookstoves, this can be reduced to only 2 or 3 hours per week.

Women are also a privileged channel for community education and capacity building (particularly through the community’s children) and are usually receptive to local development actions that aim at improving livelihoods and reducing pressures on the landscape. Furthermore, women, children and the elderly are frequently amongst the more vulnerable of the poor. In the face of climate change and lower landscape-level resilience, their vulnerability will likely be exacerbated. Hence, women will not only be a key indirect beneficiary of conservation measures under this project, but they will also play a protagonist role in promoting the mainstreaming of sustainable resource-use of this landscape. The focus on women and their economic empowerment is crucial for the sustainability of the project and for addressing gender developmental issues including those who are particularly poor and may be excluded. It does so by creating surpluses – of energy, water, food and ultimately free-time.

The project’s Components adopt a participative approach in order to guarantee maximum coverage of impact: the inclusion of all social groups, including marginalized groups, with particular attention to the participation and inclusion of women. Gender considerations will be part of the formulation process, and attention paid to identifying and promoting appropriate forms of benefit-sharing that acknowledge and reward the differing contributions of women and men to conservation. Women will be represented in all consultations conducted by the proposed management board, and will certainly have a representative on the board itself. Women’s participation in all stages of the project will ensure that their needs are met and that their constraints are addressed.

The involvement stakeholders will be ensured with special regard to involving women and men. A Gender and Community Engagement expert will be recruited within the PMU, and will ensure the implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy. Women will be recruited in the Project Board to support the implementation of the project activities in a gender-sensitive manner.

*For more details, please refer to the UNDP ProDoc, Annex G: Gender Analysis and Action Plan.*

**A.5 Risk.**

*Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation. (table format acceptable):*

|  |
| --- |
| **Project risks** |
| **Description** | **Type** | **Impact &****Probability (1-5)** | **Mitigation Measures** | **Owner** | **Status** |
| The Republic of Guinea has faced political instability in the past. Since 2010, a new elected and more stable government has been ruling. However political instability could occur suddenly as it was the case in August 2018 during the oil rising price strike. The upcoming presidential election will be held in 2020 and might bring political tension or political change with negative impact on the project implementation level. | *Political* | Impact: 4Probability: 4 | The project focuses mainly on the Bafing Faleme landscape with on the ground oriented activities. It will work mostly with decentralized authorities in regions. The political will to support this project in these regions is strong. The impact of political instability at national level is seen more in the capital, Conakry. The project will also build a wide coalition of partners and stakeholders at the BF landscape level whose interest in rural development will likely sustain, even in case of regime change.Current high governmental support for sustainable planning in the BF landscape will support launch of Project.It is likely that the priority in terms of protected areas creation will remain the same. | *MEEF*  | *High.* |
| Difficulties in constructing the required collaborative process through an effective management board;Lack of collaboration between different sectorial ministries, regions, agencies, and communities’ organizations. | *Regulatory framework* | Impact: 4Probability: 2 | The project will build upon the Inter-ministerial commission at national level already implemented for the PNMB. This commission has already proven its effectiveness for the PNBM and will therefore be replicated for the whole landscape approach. To support the inter-ministerial commission work, Regional committees, for each landscape area will be established. They shall bring together key stakeholders (extension services, decentralized organizations, NGO, private sector, community leaders) will be implemented at the landscape level to deeper enhance collaborative process on the ground and take appropriate decisions to better articulate economic development (planned dam, mining activities) and environment protection. | *MEEF* | *Medium – Decreasing.* |
| Widespread poverty and lack of sustainable sources of income, resulting in low ability to pay for new services (ex. Cookstoves);Market fluctuation or failure (carbon and value chains) | *Financial* | Impact: 2Probability: 2 | *The project will work closely with IMF and cereal/seed banks to buffer / offset shortfalls or stabilize prices.**The project will enhanced diversified resilient value chains for managing risks on specifics products.* |  | *Low – decreasing.* |
| Local communities and relevant groups of are not receptive to changing unsustainable practices that threaten the provision of ecosystem services.Although communities do not eat chimpanzees in the Fouta Djallon, bush-meat trafficking with the Forested Guinea may happen. | *Social* | Impact: 3Probability: 1 | *Communities are very enthusiastic. During the PPG stage, the team of experts used a list of criteria to select project villages for inclusion in the project. A key criterion was social cohesion and commitment. The selection of a small number of pilot villages (10) will allow thorough development of activities which are chosen by all stakeholders in villages and have strong technical and financial support to ensuring their effectiveness.**Moreover the project will provide capacity building, regular meetings, and ensure involvement in each stage of the process.**As regards the risk of bush-meat trafficking, the involvement of CSO and NGO in the project implementation will contribute to sensibilize communities and avoid the dissemination of these practices. CSOs will facilitate increased involvement of local communities in wildlife enforcement and monitoring activities, and address the need for enhanced sustainable livelihood opportunities to reduce dependency on vulnerable habitats and wildlife within the Bafing-Falémé landscape.* | *PMU* | *Low* |
| Several dams are under development in the Bafing-Falémé landscape, and may have negative impact on the natural resource | *Environmental* | Impact: 4Probability: 4 | *The project will ensure more coordination between Ministry of energy (dam project developers) and other Ministries such as Environment. The Bafing-Falémé landscape management board will deeper and enhance collaborative process and take appropriate decisions to better articulate economic development (planned dam, mining activities) and environment protection. In particular, environmental impact studies will be reviewed within the board. Besides, OMVS is co-financor through the Ministry of Energy, which highlight the political willingness to conciliate energy development and biodiversity protection.* | *PMU**Board* | *High* |
| Climate change risks may cause changes in the Bafing Falémé landscape | *Climate* | Impact: 3Probability: 1 | *The project will promote climate resilient varieties, implementation and dissemination of good practices in the EV. This will reduce the vulnerability of farmers and agro-pastoralists.**The eco-village model will contribute to increase overall resilience of families living in the BF landscape.**The project will collaborate with adaptation projects.* | *PMU* | *Low* |
| Social resistance against the involvement of women in activities;Low participation of women in local committee / governance;Project interventions are not gender-sensitive and gender-responsive. | *Gender* | Impact: 2Probability: 1 | *To mitigate these risks, the project will pursue thorough and gender responsive communication showing the benefits of gender equality for both women and men. The involvement of stakeholders will be ensured at all levels, with special regard to involving women and men. A Gender and Community Engagement expert will be recruited within the PMU, and will ensure the implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy. Women will be recruited in the Project Board to support the implementation of the project activities in a gender-sensitive manner.*  | *PMU* | *Low – decreasing.* |
| This is a multi-focal areas project, which covers a large landscape, and requires the engagement of an array range of stakeholders with different views/interests. Adequate project management will be a key challenge. | *Operational* | Impact: 3Probability: 1 | The process recruitment will be carefully done to select the best profile project coordinator to carry out the day-to-day project (terms of references whilst prepared by UNDP will also be reviewed by OGUIPAR and WCF). Among the key required assets: a strong experience in stakeholder’s engagement. A Chief Technical Advisor will be also recruited (part time) to support the project implementation.The management unit will be established at Labe and will work closely with OGUIPAR and WCF to ensure a smooth collaborative implementation. OGUIPAR and WCF will also play a key role in the public good and services procurement process (review tors, validation of the propose budget) to ensure that the best skilled experts and firms are selected to conduct their assignments. | *PMU**UNDP* | *Low – decreasing.* |

**A.6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination.**

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

The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forest (MEEF), including OGUIPAR (Parks and Reserves Office in Guinea), though a Project Management Unit (PMU). The PMU will work in close collaboration with UNDP and will imply several executive partners including Ministry of Energy and Hydraulics, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Mines and Geology, UNOPS, OMVS, WCF, ECREEE, Fouta Trekking association. The PMU will take attention to harmonize practices between the on-going projects.

The steering committee, will include representatives of all major stakeholders of the project. The steering comitte will be common for two UNOPS and World Bank projects implemented in the Bafing-Falémé Landscape: Support Program to the Reform of the Security Sector – environment component (UNOPS) and Programme d’Appui aux Communautés Villageoises-3ème Phase (World Bank). Different projects have agreed to work in close collaboration to take advantage of possible synergies and complementarities.

Moreover, OGUIPAR and the WCF in collaboration with GAC and CBG, are conducting the Creation of the Middle Bafing National Park. The overall objective of the project is to create and operationalize the PNMB with a focus on the protection of the western chimpanzees. To be operational, the National Park needs to pass through a normative framework which include; delineation of boundaries, delineation of the corridors and the core area, agreement with the local communities through in-depth consultations, socio-economic studies, clarification on the potential overlaps between conservation activity and mining activity, impact assessment of the Park. WCF and OGUIPAR are currently supporting this operationalization phase, based on a memorandum of agreement, signed in May 2017 and following a joint action plan (2018 – 2020). A first proposed delineation of the boundaries of the Park, the core area, the buffer zone and the corridors has been proposed. Both entities operate work in partnership based where know-how transfer is promoted in order to build the overall technical and institutional capacities of OGUIPAR. The GEF project will support the operationalization of the park launched by WCF and OGUIPAR.

**A.7 Benefits***.*

The project will contribute towards the reduction of threats on biodiversity and natural resources, strengthening natural resources management through landscape approach, allowing to safeguard biodiversity and ecosystem services and for significantly reduce GHG emissions from forest loss in Guinea.

The project will expand and strengthen a total of 11,196 km² of PA in the Bafing-Falémé landscape, and will develop an appropriate and integrated regulatory framework for both ecosystem preservation and basic needs of population depending on natural resources. The project will help (i) impacted populations and (ii) decision makers to better manage their environment. The sustainable management of natural resources will protect livelihoods from the effects of climate change.

At local level the project will promote sustainable development in rural areas and improve livelihoods, developing the ‘ecovillage concept” in 10 villages surrounding the Protected Area. By promoting low-carbon technologies (energy efficient production and utilization of wood energy) and climate-smart agriculture, the project will reduce the pressure on forest for firewood production and utilization, look for alternative long-term solutions to firewood, and disseminate best agricultural practices. Sustainable land management (SLM) practices will be implemented by communities to reduce threats to the PA and to increase food security, agricultural productivity and resilience. The project will support local communities through the development of sustainable income-generating activities including ecotourism, Karité, Néré and honey value chains (and cashewnuts if well framed) and vegetable gardening.

The table below presents for each output, Global Environmental Benefits and contributions to achieving corporate strategic objectives compared to baseline.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outputs** | **Outcomes** | **Impacts and GEBs** | **Assumption** |
| **Component 1: Integrated Bafing-Falémé landscape management** |
| **Output 1.1** The “Bafing-Falémé Landscape Management Board” is established and operationalized as an integrated governance platform that serves as a joint decision mechanism for land use in the landscape. | A Board dedicated to the management of the Bafing-Falémé landscape is institutionalized and includes main sectors and stakeholders.The Board has adequate capacities for planning, coordinating, managing, monitoring and evaluating the land uses in the BF landscape in collaboration with relevant stakeholders. The Board is supported in its mission by capacitated collaborators in line with their responsibilities, especially regarding information circulation and multi-sectoral coordination. | Through strengthening coordination between relevant partners involved in the Bafing Falémé landscape, sustainable land-use and PA management effectiveness will be strengthened greatly (objective outcome). Impacts through increased mining and agricultural development activities will be minimized, and land resources, biodiversity and living resources will be protected from negative impacts (GEB).  | MEEF is a suitable institution to coordinate stakeholders and to lead the Landscape Management Board.Government will take the leadership and make necessary provisions to establish the Landscape Management Board (extension of the ministerial commission, staff and financial resource allocations). The Landscape Management Board receives higher-level political support.The Landscape Management Board can effectively facilitate multi-sector and multi-stakeholder collaborations. |
| **Output 1.2** A Landscape Management Plan is developed to ensure protection of key biodiversity areas (KBAs) including core wildlife habitats and corridors, and maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services. | The Management Plan is validated by the Board and includes all relevant information regarding land-use, biodiversity and natural resource. The development projects of all sectors (mining, agriculture, PA, energy, etc.) are clearly stated in the Management Plan and coordinated between stakeholders. |
| **Output 1.3** The PAs within the BF landscape (Middle Bafing National Park, Gambia-Falémé Wildlife Reserve and the three Community Forests) are officially proclaimed.Additional and formally recognised PA areas will be established. | Guinea’s PA system expanded to add the Gambia Wildlife reserve and 3 community forests to the adjacent under-creation Moyen Bafing National Park to form one large management unit within the overall Bafing-Falémé landscape.Strengthened PA management effectiveness allows engagement with a wide range of stakeholders, including those economic sectors having adverse impacts on biodiversity related to mining developments, as well as energy and agriculture. |
| **Component 2: Operationalization of Bafing-Falémé Protected Areas and buffer zone management** |
| **Output 2.1:** PA management system established within the Bafing-Falémé landscape with adequate staffing | OGUIPAR has adequate capacities for planning, coordinating, managing, monitoring and evaluating the system of PAs in collaboration with relevant stakeholders. | Improved management effectiveness of existing and newly established PAs in the Bafing-Falémé landscape, contribute to the conservation of globally relevant biodiversity and habitats, and contribute to increasing the global area of landscapes under improved management (GEB). | PA establishment will bear visible results and benefits to partners.Government will provide relevant long-term support to PA management, including through adequate staffing and financial resources. |
| **Output 2.2:** Management plans of the 5 PAs within the Bafing-Falémé landscape are developed integrating climate change and land management dimensions. | Increased management effectiveness for the Bafing-Falémé landscape’s PAs provides greater protection to globally significant habitats and species habitats over approx. 1,119,600 ha, including 642,600 ha under creation (PNMB).  |
| **Output 2.3** Buffer zones and corridors are established | Buffer zones and corridors are established and degraded areas and rehabilitated for effective functioning of the ecosystems. Corridors are established between classified forests |
| **Output 2.4:** A pilot biodiversity-based ecotourism site is developed in the Bafing-Falémé landscape and brings alternative incomes to the communities | Direct benefits to local communities and stakeholders create tangible incentives to support biodiversity conservation objectives, through the development of sustainable tourism. |
| **Component 3** |
| **Output 3.1**: The Eco-village concept is promoted in at least 10 villages around PAs of the Bafing-Falémé landscape | Ecovillages management Plans are established and include all relevant information regarding land-use, biodiversity and natural resource at the village level.  | Dissemination of low carbon emission technologies for domestic use, afforestation activities will promote conservation and enhancement ofcarbon stocks in forest, and other land-use, and support climate smart agriculture.At total of 7,000 ha will be restored, through afforestation and sustainable land management in production systems. | Communities will commit to engage and change behaviors.Government will provide relevant long-term support to ecovillages development. |
| **Output 3.2:** Improved cookstoves, kilns, biogas and solar technologies are disseminated within the ecovillages to reduce GHG emissions and pressure on forests | Pressure on surrounding forests decreased thanks to the dissemination of appropriate domestic energy use.At least 72,094 tCO2 will be avoided during the 20 years lifetime. |
| **Output 3.3:** Community based afforestation (river banks, water sources) and the creation of a “green belt” increase the carbon stock | At least one million trees will be planted each year for afforestation of riverbanks, water sources and degraded land. This will result of about 1,771,222 tCO2 over the 20 years lifetime. |
| **Output 3.4:** Farmers and and agro-pastoralists (of which 30% are female) adopt agro-ecology and fire management practices to reduce lands degradation | SLM techniques will be implemented : ecological perimeter in each ecovillage, and agro-ecological practices on at least 500 ha. |
| **Output 3.5:** Local livelihood is enhanced through value chains improvement (including transformation techniques) | Direct and indirect benefits to local communities and stakeholders create tangible incentives to support biodiversity conservation and CC mitigation objectives, through the development of sustainable value chains. |
| **Output 3.6:** A community engagement and educational program is operationalized |
| **Component 4: Gender Mainstreaming, Knowledge Management and learning** |
| **Output 4.1:** Gender mainstreaming strategy developed and implementedGender will be systematically mainstreamed into the project strategy and implementation tracked. The project will hire a Gender and Community Engagement Expert. | Gender mainstreaming will strengthen project strategies and implementation.  | Thus, effect of the project will be strengthened and multiplied leading to an improvement of PA management effectiveness, carbon emission reduction and land restoration (Mid-Term Impact) and a stabilization of biodiversity and land resources (Long-Term Impact) | Gender mainstreaming will be appreciated as an important success factor for PA management and ecovillages development in Guinea. Other stakeholders have interest to learn from lessons and successful practices developed by the project. |
| **Output 4.2:** Key experience and lessons learnt are compiled and locally disseminatedThe project will engage CSO/NGO to mobilize best practice lessons, as well as systemize lessons learned from the implementation by encouraging national and international stakeholders to participate in the project M&E and KM | Participatory approach in M&E and strong lesson learning system will allow effective Adaptive Management of lawenforcement and community-based conservation and development. Best practices will be disseminated at local level by local CSO/NGOs leading to increase of PA effectiveness and ecovillage approach development (Objective Outcomes). |

**A.8 Knowledge Management.**

*Elaborate on the knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives (e.g. participate in trainings, conferences, stakeholder exchanges, virtual networks, project twinning) and  plans for the project to assess and document in a user-friendly form (e.g. lessons learned briefs, engaging websites, guidebooks based on experience) and share these experiences and expertise (e.g. participate in community of practices, organize seminars, trainings and conferences) with relevant stakeholders.*

The project will be led in close collaboration with a various recent or on-going projects and programs to share lessons learned and increase overall positive impact on natural resources in the Bafing-Falémé landscape. For example, the project and WCF, in charge of the creation the Middle Bafing National Park, will work in close collaboration in the PNMB zone on all the four components. A collaboration with UNOPS, supporting the enabling PA framework, will be also done to support capacity-building of the MEEF to conduct sustainable natural resources. Capacity building activities will use the existing training material developed by UNOPS and WCF.

The component 3, that plans to promote Eco-village concept in villages around the PA, is based on the successful experience of Ecovillages program in Senegal and knowledge-sharing. The project will organize field visits in the Dindefelo Community Reserve (Senegal), with selected local communities from the PNMB, to share experience learn from the Senegalese National Ecovillages Agency (ANEV) experiences. Thus, communities in the Bafing-Falémé landscape will benefit from the experience of Senegal, and capacity-building in order to replicate and adapt the ecovillage concept implemented in Senegal.

The project includes, through the component 4, the capitalization and dissemination of experiences and lessons learned under the project. The project will facilitate the systematic tracking of implementation of the three first project components via a participatory M&E framework that builds on but goes beyond the regular UNDP-GEF M&E activities. This capitalization will support the discussion of the Bafing-Falémé landscape board, which serves as an integrated platform for land use in the landscape. Best practices and lessons learnt from all projects implemented in the landscape will be shared during these workshops. Resources are specifically set aside to monitor progress and facilitate best-practice adaptive management during the project’s lifetime and in the achievement of long-term impacts. Knowledge Management under the project will serve to: (i) identify and collect information generated by the project and other past and ongoing initiatives on biodiversity, PA, landscape approach, ecovillage biodiversity in Guinea and in West Africa; (ii) identify gaps with regard to biodiversity research and PA system interventions; (iii) share locally knowledge and practices on conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Through Component 4, the Knowledge Management activities will contribute to: (i) identify and collect information generated by the project and other past and ongoing initiatives on biodiversity, PA, landscape approach, ecovillage biodiversity in Guinea and in West Africa; (ii) identify gaps with regard to biodiversity research and PA system interventions; (iii) share locally knowledge and practices on conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. Specific Activities under will include: (i) Produce best practices on conservation and sustainable use of natural resources; (ii) Identify research needs and develop scientific partnerships; (iii) Contract with local CSOs to share information and best practices on conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

**B. Description of the consistency of the project with:**

**B.1 *Consistency with National Priorities.* Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions such as NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.:**

The project is anchored in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). The main commitments, described below, are directly addressed by this project:

* Implementation of measures necessary for the protection, conservation and management of ecosystems, revitalization of economic activities and strengthening of the resilience of coastal zone populations.
* Supporting the adaptation efforts of rural communities to develop agro-silvo-pastoral techniques that allow for both continuing their activities and preserving the resources on which they rely.
* Sustainable forest management.
* Support the dissemination of technologies and practices that use less or are an alternative to wood energy and charcoal production and consumption
* Protection of the quality and quantity of water resources.

The country's commitment to combat climate change was also underlined by the Minister of the Environment, Water and Forests during the Council of Ministers' meeting on 18 April 2018, in which she insisted that "*the degradation of the forest cover due to human activities and climate change, although persistent, has not yet reached its point of no return and it is possible to reverse the trend by actions of restoration and protection of watersheds*."

The eco-villages model, which embraces the concepts of integrated sustainable development (low carbon development, biodiversity conservation, income generation based on sustainable resource management), will be first introduced in the Republic of Guinea as a test model to feed into a national strategy for replication across the country.

The proposed project is also consistent with the National Strategy and action plan on biological diversity (NBASP, 2016), developed by the Government, with the following objectives: conservation, sustainable use of biological resources and the strenghtening of international cooperation. This seven-year framework program for sustainable management of the network focuses on: i) conservation of biological diversity at national and transboundary levels, ii) local development and sustainable use of biodiversity, iii) sustainable development of tourism (iv) scientific research, capacity-building, monitoring and evaluation of biodiversity conservation, (v) environmental information, education and communication, (vi) sustainable financing of biodiversity conservation, biological diversity; (vii) inventory and monitoring; establishment and development of national parks; and (viii) protection of the basins of the major Sudano-Sahelian rivers. The NBASP states an objective of PA coverage of 25% by 2025.

**C. Describe the budgeted m &e plan:**

| **GEF M&E requirements** | **Primary responsibility** | **Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget (US$)** | **Time frame** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **GEF grant** | **Co-financing** |
| **Standard UNDP monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP**  | UNDP Country Office | None | None | Quarterly, annually |
| **Risk management** | Project ManagerCountry Office | None | None | Quarterly, annually |
| **Monitoring of gender and project indicators in results framework**  | Project Manager, CTA, Gender & Community Engagement Expert, M&E Expert | $24,000 = 2,000\*6yrs Gender Expert + 2,000\*6yrs M&E ExpertPro rata of PM salary & CTA fee not counted | *None* | Annually before PIR |
| **GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)**  | Project Manager and UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF team | None. Pro rata of PM salary & CTA fee & UNDP staff not counted | None | Annually  |
| **Lessons learned and knowledge generation** | Project Manager, CTA & Communication Expert | $30,000 Communications ExpertPro rata of PM salary & CTA fee not counted | *None* | Annually |
| **Monitoring of environmental and social risks, and corresponding management plans as relevant** | Project Manager,CTAUNDP Country Office | None. Pro rata of PM salary & CTA fee & UNDP staff not counted | *None* | On-going |
| **Addressing environmental and social grievances** | Project ManagerUNDP Country Office | *None* | *None* | On-going |
| **Supervision missions** | UNDP Country Office | None**[[10]](#footnote-10)** | *None* | Annually |
| **Oversight missions** | UNDP-GEF team | None | *None* | Troubleshooting as needed |
| **GEF Secretariat learning missions/site visits**  | UNDP Country Office and Project Manager and UNDP-GEF team | None | *None* | To be determined. |
| **Mid-term GEF Core Indicators to be updated by COSIE** | Project Manager, CTA & M&E Expert, UNDP-GEF team | *$ 2,500*  | *None* | *Before mid-term review mission takes place.* |
| **Independent Mid-term Review (MTR) and management response**  | *MTR local and international consultants,**UNDP Country Office and Project team, CTA and UNDP-GEF team* | $40,000 = 30,000 IC, 10,000 LCPro rata of PM salary & CTA fee & UNDP staff not counted | *None* | *Between 2nd and 3rd PIR.*  |
| **Terminal GEF Core Indicators to be updated by COSIE** | Project Manager, CTA & M&E Expert, UNDP-GEF team | $ 2,500  | *None* | Before terminal evaluation mission takes place |
| **Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE) included in UNDP evaluation plan, and management response** | *MTR local and international consultants,**UNDP Country Office and Project team, CTA and UNDP-GEF team* | $40,000 = 30,000 IC, 10,000 LCPro rata of PM salary & CTA fee & UNDP staff not counted | *None* | At least three months before operational closure |
| ***Translation of MTR and TE reports into English*** | *UNDP Country Office* | $8,000 = $4,000 each | *None* | *As required. GEF will only accept reports in English.* |
| **TOTAL indicative COST** Excluding project team staff time, and UNDP staff and travel expenses  | ***$ 107,000*** | *None* |  |

**PART iII: certification by gef partner agency(ies)**

1. **GEF Agency(ies) certification**

|  |
| --- |
| **This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies[[11]](#footnote-11) and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for CEO endorsement under GEF-6.** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency Coordinator, Agency Name** | **Signature** | **Date****(MM/dd/yyyy)**  | **Project Contact Person** | **Telephone** | **Email Address** |
|       |  |       |       |       |       |
|       |  |       |       |       |       |

**ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK**

*(either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).*

|  |
| --- |
| **This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s):** *Goal 1* – Ending poverty; *Goal 2* – Food security; *Goal 8* – Decent work and economic growth; *Goals 12* – Sustainable Consumption and Production patterns; *Goal 13* – Climate Action; *Goal 15* – Life on land; *Goal 16* – Peaceful and inclusive development. |
| **This project will contribute to the following country outcome included in the UNDAF/Country Programme Document:** UNDAF : Outcome 2: By 2022, the national institutions, civil society and the private sector will have implemented the policies that improve food security, sustainable management of environment, resilience of populations to climate change and disaster risk managementCPD : Outcome 1: Growth and development are inclusive and sustainable, incorporating productive capacities that create employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded. |
| **This project will be linked to the following output of the UNDP Strategic Plan:**Output 1.3: Solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.Output 1.4: Scaled up action on climate change adaptation and mitigation cross sectors which is funded and implemented.Output 2.5: Legal and regulatory frameworks, policies and institutions enabled to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, and access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems, in line with international conventions and national legislation. |
|  | **Objective and Outcome Indicators****(no more than a total of 15 -16 indicators)** | **Baseline** | **Mid-term Target** | **End of Project Target** | **Data Collection Methods and Risks/Assumptions** |
| **Project Objective:**To promote an integrated and sustainable management of natural ressources by introducing landscape approach and establishment and operationalisation of a cluster of protected areas (Middle Bafing National Park, Wildlife reserve and community forests) along the Bafing and Falémé rivers and establishing eco-villages around the protected areas. | Indicator 1: GEF Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT): METT scores for PAs show improvements in management and biodiversity conservation effectiveness | Baseline score for the 5 PAs of the Bafing-Falémé landscape:PNMB: 32Gambia-Falémé Wildlife Reserve: 4Manden Woula Forest: 10Naboun Woula Forest: 10Faranwaliyatou Forest: 10 | *METT scores for all 5 PAs show increases of at least 20% from baseline over 3 years.**All scores are > 20.* | *METT scores for all 5 PAs show increases of at 40%.**All scores are > 50.* | Data collection methods:*Project reports – METT analysis repeated as part of project M&E process.**PMU’s yearly reports.**Project site visits and evaluation for verification.* |
| Risks:*Political and institutional instability disrupts minimal governance conditions necessary for project implementation.**The Government of Guinea assigns less priority and limited support for PA expansion within the BF landscape.* *Weak capacity or lack of commitment at the Ecovillage level means that integrated approaches/ Ecovillage model with global environmental benefits are not achieved.**MEEF capacities do not develop sufficiently to achieve ambitious BF landscape management.*Assumptions:*Continued commitment of project partners, including Government agencies and investors/developers.**Approval by the GoG of the gazettal dossiers for the BF landscape will not meet political barriers.*  |
| Indicator 2: Number of Ecovillage Management Plans (EMPs) adopted by pilot sites | *No plans are yet developed* | *At least 6 plans for project sites have been successfully developed and adopted (endorsed) by communities.**At least 4 plans are under implementation.* | *At least 10 plans for project sites have been successfully developed, adopted (endorsed) and implemented by communities.* |
| Indicator 3: # direct project beneficiaries.  | *0* | *6,000 people in the EV; 10,000 people in the BF landscape.* | *> 10,000 people in the EV; > 50,000 people in the BF landscape.* |
| Indicator 4: Aichi’s Target: % of PA in Guinea | *8% of PA (20,000 km2)* | *10,6% of PA in Guinea**(At least 6,424 km2 more are fully gazette, around 26,000 in total)* | *12,5% of PA in Guinea**(At total of 11,196 km2 of protected areas are established, around 31,000 km2 in total)* |
| **Outcome 1**Strengthen integrated management of the Bafing-Falémé landscape. | *Indicator 5: The “BF landscape management board” is established for the coordination of stakeholders within the landscape and successfully validated the “landscape management plan” (LMP).* | *Neither existing governance mechanism nor integrated land-use plan at the landscape level.**NB: the inter-ministerial commission is partially functioning at the PNMB level.* | *The Inter-ministerial commission is fully operational.**3 regional committees are functioning at the landscape level*  | *Effective working relationships at all levels, local to national.**The Landscape Management Plan (LMP) has been successfully developed, adopted (endorsed) and implemented stakeholders.* | Data collection methods:*Inter-Ministerial protocol.**Reports of the regional committees and the interministerial commission meetings.**The LMP report.**Official Document or government gazette.* |
| Risks:Political will is lacking or processes too involved to achieve effective coordination and removal of barriers within the project timescales.Lack of commitment or capacity of regional stakeholders means that land allocation and planning processes (LMP) cannot be achieved.Assumptions:Capacity of MEEF and working relations with other Ministries can be strengthened to achieve project outcomes and ambitious BF landscape management.Formal gazettement of new PAs will be fast tracked. Political willingness to declare these new PAs remains. |
| *Indicator 6:* Area (ha) of protected areas legally established within the Bafing-Falémé landscape  | *0 ha fully gazette.**NB: the PNMB (6,426 km2) is under creation.* | *At least 6,424 km2 are fully gazetted, and 3,372 km2 are under creation.* | *At total of 11,196 km2 of protected areas are established and functioning to conserve biodiversity within the BF landscape.* |
| **Component/ Outcome 2**Biodiversity of the Bafing-Falémé landscape is conserved through an operational and interconnected PA system. | *Indicator 7: Increased score on the UNDP’s Capacity Development Scorecard for Protected Areas Management over the baseline.* | *Systemic**Institutional**Individual* | *Scores, expresses in absolute terms, increase by at least 20%.* | *Scores, expresses in absolute terms, increase by at least 40%.* | Data collection methods:*Application of the UNDP’s Capacity Development Scorecard through CEO Endorsement, mid-term and final evaluations.**Project’s reports and UNOPS reports.**Aerial photography and satellite image.**Buffer and corridors marked on the ground - legal status clarified.**Fauna survey.* |
| Risks:*Bauxite mining activities expand near the proposed area for the PNMB, the GFWR and the community forests.* *Climate change will exacerbate habitat fragmentation in terrestrial ecosystems.*Assumptions:*Political will* to sustainably manage the BF landscape and to declare these new PAs remains*. Commitment of the various Government institutions.**Ecosystems in the BF landscape can regenerate fast from degradation and are resilient enough to withstand the most immediate climate change effects.* |
| *Indicator 8: Existence of buffer zones and corridors within the BF landscape* | *Absence of buffer and corridor*  | *A corridor is under creation between the PNMB, the Wildlife Reserve and the Community Forests in Senegal.* | *A corridor is created between the PNMB, the Wildlife Reserve and the Community Forests in Senegal.**At least 50% of village leaders in surrounding village understand the legal status of the corridors.* |
| *Indicator 9: The status of emblematic species such as the western Chimpanzees, bongo, waterbuck, elephant, leopard, lion and panther in the BF landscape*  | *There are approximately 5,000 chimp individuals in the BF landscape.**Bongo, waterbuck, elephant, leopard, lion and panther survey will require update.* | *Populations of emblematic species maintained stable.* | *Populations of emblematic species maintained stable.* |
| **Component/ Outcome 3**Farmers and agro-pastoralist households (of which 30% are female) adopt gender responsive improved practices to manage natural resources through the ecovillage model establishment. | *Indicator 10: Percentage of households in project EVs with an improved cook stove, and number of improved kilns* | *0*  | *At least 40% of all Project Ecovillages households use improved cook stoves.* | *At least 1,000 banco cookstove are used in the ecovillage, and 4,000 improved stoves in the surrounding urban areas.**At least 50 kilns are disseminated within the BF landscaper.**At least 10 solar kits are used in the ecovillages.* | Data collection methods:*Project’s yearly reports.* *Project site visits and evaluation for verification**Monitoring scheme.**Socio-economic survey: evolution of domestic cooking practices**Results and analysis from the application of the MSC technique by mid-term and final evaluators.* |
| Risks:*Village level commitment to change and adopt new methods is not sufficient to achieve the widespread adoption of new forms of energy use that will achieve low carbon development.* Assumptions:*Communities are supporting of PAs in the BF landscape as they realize and share benefits.* *Project Ecovillages will make available sufficient land and manpower to achieve planting targets.**Communities in the BF landscape are amenable and receptive to change.*  |
| *Indicator 11: Carbon stocks enhanced and GHG emissions reduced though afforestation, reduction of deforestation and use of clean cooking technologies.* | *No large-scale reforestation does exist in the BF landscape.**A loss of approx. 9,4 million tCO2 every year in the 1,119,600 ha of forest in the project sites.**No clean cooking technologies do exist in the landscape.* |  *(1) At least 3,000 ha reforested* *(2) At least 1,119,600 ha protected* *(3) At least 3,000 improved coockstoves and 20 kilns disseminated.* | *A total of 15,435,991 tCO2 reduced during the 20 years lifetime by:**1) At least 6,000 ha reforested (1,771,222 tCO2 sequestered over the 20 years project)* *(2) At least 477,000 ha protected (an enhancement of 13,592,293 tCO2).* *(3) At least 5,000 improved coockstoves and 50 kilns disseminated.* |
| *Indicator 12:* *Communities’ perception of their livelihood stake in the good stewardship of biological resources in Bafing-Falémé landscape, measured through the periodic and independent application of the ‘Most Significant Change’ (MSC) technique.*  | *Not Applicable* *The MSC technique is to be applied once the project has been launched and some form of change has occurred. The baseline corresponds to all assessments that corroborate the situation analysis for this project, particularly with respect to land-uses and livelihoods*.  | *Changes in livelihoods are perceived through the independent application of the MSC technique*  | *Changes in livelihoods are perceived through the independent application of the MSC technique*  |
| **Component/ Outcome 4**Gender is systematically mainstreamed in the project implementation and efficient M&E support the knowledge management for dissemination of best practices. | *Indicator 13:* % of women among all participants of the project activities, including M&E | *5%* | *> 20%* | *> 30%* | Data collection methods:*Project’s reports. Project database.* |
| Risks:Assumptions:Women are interested to participate in the project directly.Other stakeholders are interested in the lessons learned by this project. |
| *Indicator 14:* Number of project lessons published and disseminated by local CSO/NGO on mitigating sector pressures on the landscape approach and the ecovillage model  | *0* | *2* | *10* |

**ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS**

***(****from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).*

During the PPG, only comments from STAP had to be addressed, there were no pending comments from GEF Secretariat or GEF Council. We fully agree with and considered the comments from STAP.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Comments from STAP (October 25, 2017)** | **Response** |
| 1. Integrated Landscape Management is a laudable aim for this part of Guinea, being a long-term collaborative process by land managers and local stakeholders that is capable of addressing the multiple challenges of looking after a mosaic of complex land uses. The development of a landscape plan is a necessary starting point. But what is missing is an understanding of the ecological, social, and economic interactions among different parts of the landscape that will need to be managed, in order to realize positive synergies among interests and actors and to mitigate negative trade-offs. Trade-off analysis is mentioned but is not set in context with the institutions and agencies that will need to coordinate their activities. The primary activity in Component 1 appears to be the establishment of the long-promised Protected Area. As it stands, this component is unconvincing in its present formulation to achieve the stated aim of ‘integrated landscape management'. STAP suggests that some of the recent literature on the landscape approach be consulted and referenced, and then used to build a component that is truly integrated. See, for example, "the five elements of integrated landscape management" put forward by Ecoagriculture Partners that include collaborative, community-engaged processes for dialogue, planning, negotiating and monitoring: all issues that seem to be missing in the current proposal (Defining Integrated Landscape Management for Policy Makers. Ecoagriculture Policy Focus No. 10, October 2013).  | The integrated landscape management was made explicit and raised throughout the PRODOC. The first component of the project isn’t only about establishing a cluster of Protected Areas, but also to strengthen coordination between all stakeholders involved in the Bafing Falémé landscape. The current landscape governance mechanism put in place for the creation of the PNMB framework will be reviewed, enhanced and deployed beyond the Bafing-Falémé landscape. Activities developed in the PRODOC are indeed based on collaborative, community-engaged processes for dialogue, planning, negotiating and monitoring. Regional committees will be implemented within the three areas of the landscape (center, North East, North West) and will serve as a platform to ensure harmonization between economic development purposed and environmental protection at local level through a sustainable management plan. Key stakeholders (private sector, sub-national authorities, civil society, community leader) will be invited to share, discuss and take decision together. This will allow to coordinate and realize synergies between different actors and different part of the landscape. The project will make every stakeholder contributing in a sustainable land management.Capacity building activities are also planned to make regional committees able to fully operate (about leadership management, the role of sustainable land management plan, biodiversity potential wildlife habitats and corridors within each area, mainstreaming biodiversity conservation within infrastructure, etc.)Moreover, to develop an integrated and global approach, the project will support the conduction of biodiversity inventories as well as socio-economic studies. These surveys will feed the discussions to design a sustainable landscape management plan. |
| 2. The PIF explicitly states under Component 2 that it will integrate climate change dimensions in the management plan of protected areas and classified forests. In order to ensure this is done adequately, it will be necessary to revise the sources of climate information as presented on p.7 of this PIF, information which is itself erroneous. Specifically, it is not possible to express a projected change in temperature as a percentage. It should rather be presented as a change in degrees Celsius. In addition, the expressed historical changes in precipitation seem extreme. It should be noted that the baseline time period used to determine the changes in precipitation may be the cause. In fact, Guinea saw some extreme high precipitation in the 1960s (see UNDP Climate Change Country Profile available here: http://www.vub.ac.be/klimostoolkit/sites/default/files/documents/cccp\_guinea.hires\_.report.pdf). Hence, if that decade was used as the baseline it may bias the interpretation of historical trends in precipitation. STAP recommends looking at the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report published in 2013 and 2014 for more accurate and relevant climate information, rather than relying on the 2007 NAPA for Guinea. | The PPG used as reference the documents proposed by the STAP as well as some recent documents: the Second National Communication to the UNFCCC (July 2018), Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) under the UN Convention on Climate Change (CCNUCC), 2015. |
| 3. On p.11, under Component 3, there is a mention of biogas as an alternative energy source. The CO2eq mitigation potential associated with the production and use of biogas should be assessed, as is done for the case of the proposed improved cookstoves at the end of the document. | The project will establish 10 biogas units in the eco-villages. The 10 domestic digesters, will be owned by individuals and the gas produced will be used for cooking and lighting in gas lamps.The CO2eq calculations are detailed in annex J of the PRODOC. The biodigester will produce 30m3 of biogas/day (from year 2), hence 54,750 m3 at the end of the project, and 10,950 m3 of biogas every year after the project completion. According to the calorific power of the biogas (23 MJ/m3) and the mitigation potential of the biogas determined by the IPCC (1.87 kg CO2 / m3), the biodigesters financed by the project will reduce a total of 382 tCO2 during 20 years.The mitigation potential of sequestration and energy efficiency (improved kilns and cookstoves) is much higher. Among the low carbon energy solutions disseminates, the 5,000 cookstoves represent the majority of the direct avoided emissions (72,094 tCO2 in 20 years).  |
| 1. Would it be possible to add a reference for the following statement on p.14: "It is estimated that the time spent for wood collection varies between 2 to 3 hours per woman per day in the country. With adequate management of firewood and improved cookstoves, this can be reduced to only 2 or 3 hours per week"?
 | It is a general trend for Sub-Saharan Africa, sourced from “Clean and Improved Cooking in Sub-Saharan Africa” World Bank Group, ESMAP – 2014.The use of cookstove allows to reduce by half firewood consumption. Thus, the dissemination of 5,000 cookstoves will allow to reduce by half the time spent for wood collection for the 5,000 households. |
| 1. Component 4 promises ‘gender mainstreaming' and ‘knowledge management'. Both issues are crucial in the long-term effectiveness and sustainability of this project. However, the proposed activities are somewhat simplistic being framed in their intention rather than their process. Knowledge management, for example, will require more than simply a communication strategy; it will need a KM strategy that includes tools, users and responsible agencies. STAP's on-going advice to the GEF at http://www.stapgef.org/knowledge-management-gef might be a useful starting point in building a KM system.
 | To mainstream gender in the project, component 4 provides several activities: (i) the development and implementation of gender strategy, piloted by a “Gender and community involvement expert”, (ii) women leadership training, (iii) gender training for management teams. The PRODOC propose a detailed action plan for mainstreaming Gender is (presented in table 6 – section IV.6)Component 4 will allow that lessons learned from the project via active participation of all stakeholder groups in the project implementation and M&E are made available nationally and internationally to facilitate improved PA management and ecovillage establishment. The project will facilitate involvement of NGOs, government organizations and local communities in the M&E process via the project web-site, annual reporting, focus groups, round tables, meetings, and participation in project board meetings. This capitalization will support the discussion of the Bafing-Falémé landscape board, which serves as an integrated platform for land use in the landscape. Best practices and lessons learnt from all projects implemented in the landscape will be shared during these workshops. All activities of the component 4 are developed in the PRODOC. |

**Annex C: status of implementation of project preparation activities and the use of funds[[12]](#footnote-12)**

A. Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

|  |
| --- |
| PPG Grant Approved at PIF: **$ 200,000** |
| ***Project Preparation Activities Implemented*** | ***GETF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Amount ($)*** |
| ***Budgeted Amount*** | ***Amount Spent Todate*** | ***Amount Committed*** |
| Preparatory technical reviews & studies and stakeholder consultationsFormulation of the UNDP-GEF project document, GEF CEO Endorsement Request, and mandatory and project specific annexesConduct the validation workshop and report | 200,000 | 182,696.84 | 17,303.16 |
| **Total** | 200,000 | 182,696.84 | 17,303.16 |

The PPG objective of formulating detailed Project Document has been achieved. The project formulation was done through consultations involving a range of stakeholders. Consultative activities were taken up through individual.

**annex D: calendar of expected reflows**

***(****if non-grant instrument is used****)***

Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)

1. Project ID number remains the same as the assigned PIF number. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on [GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF](https://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/document/GEF6%20Results%20Framework%20for%20GEFTF%20and%20LDCF.SCCF_.pdf) and [CBIT programming directions](https://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/EN_GEF.C.50.06_CBIT_Programming_Directions_0.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% of the subtotal; above $2 million, PMC could be up to 5% of the subtotal. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project financing amount in Table D below.
 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. The PA surface considered here includes (i) the increased efficiency of the PNMB (6,426 ha), the creation of the Gambia Falémé Wildlife reserve (3,372 ha) and the three Community Forests in the eastern part (1,398 ha). The entire Bafing-Falémé landscape covers 3,267,500 hectares. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Increased land area under sustainable land management – i.e. effective agricultural management practices and supporting climate-smart agriculture in 7,000 ha, enhancing vegetation cover, protecting water resources and conserving soils (6,000 ha of community-based afforestation; ~350 ha of ecovillage forests, ~750 ha implementing Agroecological practices) [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. The carbon reduction estimates have been computed using the Ex-Ante Carbon-Balance Tool (EX-ACT) Tier Standard Edition, developed by FAO.The full [EXACT sheet](https://www.dropbox.com/s/32riyzj4otye2ny/EX-ACT-_v7%20-%20G.%20Conakry%205677%2027March2017.xlsx?dl=0) is attached to the PRODOC. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. For questions A.1 –A.7 in Part II, if there are no changes since PIF , no need to respond, please enter “NA” after the respective question. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project’s consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives
 and programs, please also describe which [Aichi Target(s)](http://www.thegef.org/gef/content/did-you-know-%E2%80%A6-convention-biological-diversity-has-agreed-20-targets-aka-aichi-targets-achie) the project will directly contribute to achieving.. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. The costs of UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF Unit’s participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and CBIT [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue to undertake the activities up to one year of project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities. Agencies should also report closing of PPG to Trustee in its Quarterly Report. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)