Yangtze River Basin Biodiversity Conservation Programme

Child Projects

1. Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Development of Yangtze Economic Belt
2. Strengthening in-situ biodiversity conservation in the Yangtze River Economic Belt

GEF-7 CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT

CHILD PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Child Project

PROGRAM: (choose Program)

Child Project Title:	Mainstreaming biodiversity in the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt
Country:	People's Republic of China
Lead Agency	IUCN
GEF Agency(ies):	IUCN (select) (select)

INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
BD-1-1 (select)	GEFTF	3,119,266	24,765,000
Total Project Cost		3,119,266	24,765,000

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: Safeguarding biodiversity in Yangtze River Economic Belt by integrating biodiversity considerations in the productive sectors and municipal development						
Project Components	**Component Type**	**Project Outcomes**	**Project Outputs**	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
					GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
Component 1: Coordination and policy development for ecological and environmental protection in Yangtze	Technical Assistance	M1. Coordination mechanism, new policies and legislation for biodiversity conservation and mainstreaming in the Yangtze River Basin established and in place	M1.1 An ecological and environmental supervision and coordination mechanism developed at the Yangtze basin level for ecological protection, sustainable land and water use, and waste and emission management etc. M1.2 Needs and experience	GEFTF	950,000	6,475,000

			with reference to monitoring of nature conservation and supervision of human impacts summarized and provided for the formulation and implementation of the Yangtze River Protection Law M1.3 Lessons from supervising the enforcement of existing protected areas regulations in the Yangtze River Basin consolidated and provided for the development and implementation of the new national protected areas legislation			
Component 2: Integration of biodiversity in development and economic sectors in Yangtze	Technical Assistance	M2. Human impacts from pollution and municipal development activities on important biodiversity mitigated in	M2.1 Biodiversity considerations integrated into development planning and policies of selected municipalities in Sichuan,	GEFTF	1,650,000	14,950,000

		the Yangtze River Basin	Jiangxi and Anhui M2.2 Production practices of identified sectors to reduce their negative impacts and to be more biodiversity positive demonstrated in Sichuan, Jiangxi and Anhui			
Component 3: Knowledge, capacity and information management	Technical Assistance	M3. Improved knowledge base, technical capacity and information exchange for integrated river basin management.	M3.1 Knowledge products and events delivered to disseminate experience and raise awareness and capacity.	GEFTF	300,000	2,100,000
			M3.2 Child project M&E and support to Program level coordination conducted		70,730	
				Subtotal	GEFTF	2,970,730	23,525,000
				Project Management Cost (PMC)	GEFTF	148,536	1,240,000
				Total Project Cost		3,119,266	24,765,000

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

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount ($)

Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Ecology and Environment	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	8,000,000
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Ecology and Environment	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	16,665,000
GEF Agency	IUCN	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	100,000
Total Co-financing				24,765,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified. Recipient Government: Investments have been mobilized through the Ministry of Ecology and Environment's programs including "Critical Battle for the Conservation and Restoration of the Yangtze River

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
IUCN	GEFTF	People's Republic of China	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	3,119,266	280,734	3,400,000
Total GEF Resources					3,119,266	280,734	3,400,000

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

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

No ☐ If no, skip this item.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
IUCN	GEF TF	People's Republic of China	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	137,615	12,385	150,000
Total PPG Amount					137,615	12,385	150,000

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

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

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	
2	**Marine protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	
3	Area of **land restored (**Hectares)	
4	Area of **landscapes under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	1,250,000
5	Area of **marine habitat under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	
6	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated** (metric tons of CO2e)	
7	**Number of shared water ecosystems** (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management	———
8	Globally over-exploited **marine fisheries** moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)	———
9	**Reduction**, disposal/destruction, phase out, **elimination** and avoidance of **chemicals of global concern** and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)	
10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of **POPs to air** from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	
11	Number of **direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender** as co-benefit of GEF investment	F: 2500 M:1500

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicators targets are not provided. The area target for indicator 4 is developed as per Core Indicator Worksheet, for the expected area with improved practices undertaken by municipalities and production sectors, supported by the project. It is outside the protected areas. The gender-disaggregated target for beneficiaries is developed based on estimate of likely coverage and scope of beneficiaries of the project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Country Context (*maximum 500 words*)

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

The Yangtze River is an important strategic water source for China's economic and societal development, but its environmental management and protection are increasingly challenging. With the implementation of the national strategy for the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt (YREB), there will be significant challenges among development, resource extraction and biodiversity conservation.

In June 2018, National Audit Office of China released the first "medical report" on the ecological and environmental protection of the YREB, showing that all the provinces and cities in the YREB have problems regarding development and biodiversity conservation, pollution control and management. For example, the water quality of five nationally important lakes such as Dongting Lake and Poyang Lake, though under long, continuous management, were still Class IV or below in 2017 due to ineffective management of pollutions from upstream, leading to enormous impacts on aquatic organisms.

Inadequate legislations, policies, institutions and coordination at basin level were the main systematic issues behind the ecological and environmental problems. But China has been taking great efforts to address them.

As early as the 1990s, China has undertaken preliminary research on the legislation for the protection of Yangtze. Currently, the Yangtze Protection Law has been included in the 2019 legislative work plan of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and a draft has been released for public consultation in early 2020. However, as law is relevant to a wide range of stakeholders ranging from local to national, various interests have to be balanced and the law-making process will still take time.

China has started to implement the most stringent of Three Red Lines water policy since 2012 as the guideline released by the State Council, which sets targets for total water use, water use efficiency, and water quality for a number of benchmark years to 2030 by province and prefecture.

Now, China is speeding up efforts to establish the national territory spatial planning system by 2020, with ecological protection being the priority among the three "red lines" that guide the construction. In

2019, the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the State Council released guidelines on the spatial planning and management system and the supervision of its implementation. The three red lines are: 1) The ecological red line is to guarantee the safety of areas that are crucial, and must be protected for the protection of water sources, biodiversity, water and land maintenance and coastal safety, as well as wind control and sand fixation 2) The red line for permanent farmland designation aims to ensure farmland safety, improve farmland quality and prevent farmland from being used for other purposes; and 3) The red line for urban and rural development will have an overall consideration for the local population and economic distribution, giving a long-term picture and boundary of development in both rural and urban areas.

In 2019, Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) and National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) jointly issued the Action Plan for the Critical Battle for the Conservation and Restoration of the Yangtze River. The Action Plan will also help promote the formulation and promulgation of the Yangtze Protection Law to provide legal safeguards for the sustainable development of the YREB, and to comprehensively and systematically address major issues such as water resources utilization and protection, water pollution prevention and control, and water ecological conservation.

MEE, the Executing Agency of this Child Project, was established from the Ministry of Environmental Protection, through a State Council reform in 2018, aiming to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness, and reduce contradictions and overlaps. MEE's main responsibilities include supervising the efforts to prevent environment pollution, and supervising the management of PAs and Ecological redlined areas.

MEE has also been actively developing its capacity for environmental regulatory and administrative enforcement at basin level. In 2019, MEE officially established the Yangtze River Basin Ecological Environmental Supervision Administration. It is mainly responsible for the ecological and environmental supervision of water resources, water ecology and the water environment in accordance with the provisions of laws and administrative regulations under the authorization of MEE, other responsibilities including: organizing the preparation of ecological and environmental planning for the river basin and water function zones,; proposing suggestions on pollution-bearing capacity and total effluent limitation schemes for watershed water function zones; and, guiding and coordinating the supervision of ecological environmental protection in the basin, etc.

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

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

In the past two decades, the land use of the Yangtze River Basin has changed drastically, with the urban area increasing by 39% at the cost of natural habitats being lost. Lakes and wetlands in the middle and lower reaches of the river have shrunk. This has led to the continuous declining of the Yangtze River's

aquatic biodiversity, and many threatened species are on the verge of extinction; fish eggs and fry of Acipenser sinensis, Acipenser dabryanus, and Myxocyprinus asiaticus have been greatly reduced. Threatened fish species in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River account for 40% of the country's total, Lipotes vexillifer is functionally extinct and Neophocaena asiaeorientalis is in critically threatened condition.

Meanwhile, pollutions in the Yangtze are increasing. More than 40% wastewater in China is discharged to Yangtze. In addition, the rapid development of phosphate mining and processing and phosphorus chemical industry has made total phosphorus the primary pollution source of the Yangtze River. Agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, tourism, infrastructure and extractive activities are still using natural capital unsustainably while causing pollutions and emissions. The contradiction between resource development and ecological environmental protection is prominent.

The lack of consideration of biodiversity in the development planning and production sector, the ineffective management of related agencies, and the lack of cooperation among sectors have also put more pressure on the biodiversity conservation and pollution management in Yangtze river basin. A robust and sound management and cooperation mechanism is still under development along with the Yangtze Protection Law. Also, although the establishment of Yangtze River Basin Ecological Environmental Supervision Administration may provide an opportunity for consistent and effective management at basin level, as a new agency, it still requires continuous capacity development.

Three provinces have been identified as the target provinces for the project, namely, Jiangxi, Anhui and Sichuan Provinces. The provinces were identified through a screening of several aspects, including 1) the biodiversity values and protected area estate, as they all have large number of PAs; 2) the social context of all the provinces located in the YREB, among which, all three provinces have the lowest GDP per capita, 3) the existence of pressure from climate change and human impacts; and, 4) the willingness for participation and cooperation in the project, as well as 5) potential co-financing and financial leverage from selected provinces.

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

The Child project is well aligned with the ongoing policies, and will mutually benefit with each other through the developments and implementation:

- Yangtze River Economic Belt Environmental Protection Plan (by MEE, NDRC, Ministry of Water Resources, 2017-2021). The plan aims to establish a harmonious, healthy and clean Yangtze River through improvement of the ecological environment, restoration of the ecological functions, and improvement of protection system and mechanism.

- Suggestions on the Delineation and Strict Observance of the Eco-redline Protection (by General Office of China, Central Committee and General Office of the State Council, 2017). The Suggestion indicated that by 2030, the Eco-Redline system shall be effectively implemented.

- Action Plan for the Critical Battle for the Conservation and Restoration of the Yangtze River (by MEE, NDRC, 2019 – 2030). The action plan demands for the effective protection of the ecological functions of the wetlands of the Yangtze River, and effective reduction of environmental risks through improvement of water quality, securement of the drinking water resources and decline of the water pollution.

- Suggestions on Further Deepening Eco-Environmental Regulatory Services to Promote High Quality Economic Development (by MEE, 2019). The Suggestions aims to improve the market access mechanism, strengthen economic policy incentives and guidance, and coordinate and regulate ecological and environment supervision and law enforcement.

- Resolution of the Standing Committee of the NPC on Comprehensively Strengthening Ecological Environmental Protection and Promoting the Effective Tackling of the Pollution Prevention and Control Battle in accordance with Law (by MEE, 2018) calls for (1) vigorously overseeing the implementation of the responsibility system for the construction of ecological civilization; (2) actively promoting the construction of a legal system for ecological environmental protection; and, (3) strictly enforcing the legal system of ecological environmental protection.

- Yangtze River Revitalization Program (by World Bank and NDRC, expected to be formulated in Dec 2020) aims to improve institutional arrangements for ecological protection, water pollution abatement and green development in selected regions of the Yangtze River Basin.

- the GEF-7 Demonstrating Eco-Compensation Mechanisms in Yangtze River Basin project (ECM) being formulated by Asian Development Bank (ADB) and NDRC, addressing capacity for natural capital, conservation financing as well as chemical management in the Yangtze River Basin. ECM will be a p project with which close collaboration will be explored, with close coordination and cooperation already planned and going to be established.

- The GEF 7 ADB Eco-Compensation Mechanism project, promoting good chemical management and conservation and environment financing through the natural capital approach.

Regarding the stakeholder mapping and engagement, this project will follow the arrangement of the programme, which has been planned in the PFD. In general, in all the three target provinces, the demographic surveys suggest a 1:1 ration between male and female. However, according to the 2018

Monitoring and Investigation of Migrant Rural Workers National Report by National Bureau of Statistics, the population of migrant rural workers from Jiangxi, Anhui and Sichuan provinces are approximately 10 million, 20 million, and 20 million respectively, account for roughly 50% of total population of all three provinces. About 35% of the migrant rural workers are women, and more than 50% of the rural workers work in tertiary industry. These may imply that in rural areas, women account for a bigger part of remaining population and in sector like aquaculture and tourism, female may account for a significant proportion of the workers.

For this project, the gender considerations and integration will consider the following elements:

- Gender-sensitive design and implementation: conduct an analysis of livelihoods, gender and vulnerable groups during project preparation, to ensure a gender sensitive project design with considerations of especially the needs, interests and likely impact on the women in communities, and thus implementation that considers the needs and priorities of women. The analysis itself will need to be organized in a way that fits time and location to facilitate women's participation.

- Gender-balanced management: behavioral change and gender-balanced management is key to opening spaces that empower women. In the case of productive sectors, women associated with them will be trained and assisted for related activities that they have a role or interest in.

- Gender-disaggregated performance indicators: project M&E will include gender-specific indicators. Results will be disaggregated to demonstrate distribution of results across the different genders, socio-economic and ethnic groups, particularly including rural women.

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

The Programme adopts a Theory of Change (TOC) as explained in the PFD, aiming to achieve outcomes of improved conservation of biodiversity and mitigate human impacts to biodiversity, with concrete global environmental benefits identified.

The two Child Projects will both follow the Program's TOC. However, following their respective mandates, roles and responsibilities of the executing agencies of them, the Child Projects will each own certain parts of the TOC, yet collaborate and complement to each other on a few cross-cutting and supporting activities, which are expected to lead to greater impacts based on consolidated and coordinated efforts.

This Child Project will contribute to the improved habitat of global importance in Yangtze through consolidating the experience of supervising the enforcement of existing protected areas regulations in the Yangtze River Basin and contributing to the development and implementation of the new national

protected areas legislation. It will help mainstream biodiversity in the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt, as a main focus, through 1) establishing an ecological and environmental supervision and coordination mechanism at the Yangtze basin level; 2) integrating biodiversity considerations into development planning and policies of selected municipalities in Sichuan, Jiangxi and Anhui; 3) improving production practices of key sectors to be more biodiversity positive in Sichuan, Jiangxi and Anhui; and 4) Summarizing the needs, lessons and experiences regarding surveillance of protected areas, redlines, resource uses, emissions and pollution for the formulation and implementation of the Yangtze River Protection Law. On the improvement of knowledge and capacity, the Child Project will consolidate and disseminate knowledge products, awareness raising and capacity building events, and will conduct monitoring and evaluation of the Child Project and support Programme level coordination.

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

The incremental financing from the GEF will bring additional benefits to the usual practices, by introducing international experiences, promoting multi-stakeholder participation, fostering multi-agency coordination as well building stronger evidence and knowledge base. It will help provide consolidated and coordinated inputs to the legislation process for this CP and with complementary perspectives of NFGA CP to ensure and strengthen the representativeness of balanced needs and interests of the major stakeholders of the legislation and lead to greater practicality and operability of it. The additional investment will also maintain and ensure the needed willingness, interest and motivation of local governments and business sector stakeholders identified during the project preparation, through actively engaging them during implementation by providing needed participation opportunities.

This child project will deliver three sets of strategies and expected results taking advantage of the GEF financing:

Component 1: Coordination and policy development for ecological and environmental protection in Yangtze

Resulting from the 2018 State Council reform, MEE is no longer a management agency for protected areas, but a supervising/inspecting body for law enforcement, including those for PAs and for environment and human impacts in general. Periodic, nation-wide supervision missions have been conducted to nature reserves to inspect the enforcement of the Nature Reserve Regulation. However, as the regulation itself is outdated, considerable disputes, issues and problems have appeared during the inspections, and may become more significant after the new PA system is developed.

The additional GEF investment of this Child Project will support MEE to summarize the experience, lessons and issues identified from the inspections of PA regulation enforcement in the Yangtze River Basin and to develop practical suggestions for the new PA legislations. The coordinated approach of this

Programme will enable the regulatory authority (MEE) and the management authority (NFGA) to work closely together to identify issues, suggest new legislations from both perspectives, and promote the development of the Protected Areas Law.

Taking advantage of the new opportunities, the additional GEF investment will also help develop an ecological and environmental supervision and coordination mechanism at the Yangtze basin level for ecological protection, sustainable land and water use, and waste and emission management etc. This will include the institutional strengthening and capacity building for the Yangtze River Basin Ecological Environment Supervision Administration.

With the project support, needs, lessons and experiences regarding surveillance of protected area management, protection of key ecological areas through Ecological Redlines, resource uses, and emissions and pollution will be summarized and provided for the formulation and implementation of the Yangtze River Protection Law. Particular consideration may be included on bio-safety, given the COVID-19 and future pandemics, in order to address nature and human health from policy perspectives. The project will coordinate with ECM to collectively inform the Yangtze River Protection Law, and also coordinate with other GEF initiatives wherever possible and relevant

Component 2: Integration of biodiversity in development and economic sectors in Yangtze

The project will contribute in these three provinces to the integration of biodiversity in municipal development and productive sectors, and the achievement of effective water quality management in the Yangtze River Basin, by 1) integrating biodiversity considerations, especially Ecological Redlines, corridors and key biodiversity areas, to municipal development planning, so as to protect the areas important for significant biodiversity in the selected municipalities in Anhui, Jiangxi and Sichuan from being negatively impacted by development and infrastructure; and 2) reducing negative impact and improving the positive impacts of production sectors on biodiversity. Sectors that would be potentially focused on include aquaculture in central reach of Yangtze (Jiangxi and Anhui), mining and processing industries in upper reach (Sichuan), as well as tourism in all three provinces. Assessment of the linkage between pollution and distinction and threats to species in key freshwater habitats will be undertaken to inform the development and implementation of management and regulatory instruments. Possibilities to apply the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) and other international good practices on mining management, mitigation hierarchy, biodiversity friendly resorts etc. will also be explored during the project preparation.

The municipalities will be selected during the preparation phase and together with the critical landscapes to be identified for NFGA CP Component 1. Criteria for consideration includes: 1) inclusion of or strong ecological linkages, e.g. upstream vs downstream, with the selected landscapes with globally important biodiversity, 2) progress in undertakings related to biodiversity conservation and mainstreaming, as well as implementation of national initiatives, 3) willingness for participation and

cooperation in the project, as well as 4) the potential co-financing and financial leverage potential. The information and data used by the NFGA Child Project's work under component 1 will be referred to here. Also, an analysis of the sectors as per 1) linkages with globally important biodiversity, 2) existing impacts and/or potential risks of habitat destruction and degradation, 3) reasonable scale for the project to make impacts at large scales for sectors with reasonable GDP share, 4) possibility for identifying and developing champions and/or agents of change, and, 5) ability for the project to reach, with EA as "boundary partner", will be conducted during project preparation to further identify sectors that could bring the largest cost effectiveness and impacts.

Component 3: Knowledge, capacity and information management

Following the communication and knowledge management strategy that will be developed during the preparation for the programme, the incremental GEF funding will help this CP document, disseminate and up-scale project results, experiences and lessons learnt, and develop case studies, guidelines, handbooks, policy briefs etc. to inform stakeholders especially decision-makers, as well as provide a global scale opportunity for learning and sharing the project, while contributing to the information and data sharing and joint knowledge management and communications at programme level. Project level coordination and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) will be conducted and the needed support to the coordination and M&E at programme level will be provided.

The project has a high return ratio with regard to the investment, due to 1) the project working at the policy level that shall bring a broader impact than working at the site level. 2) the contribution to the Yangtze River Law will also benefits other provinces within YRB, thus the return ratio is even higher

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

At the global level, this project will contribute to SDG6 on Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG9 on Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG12 on Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG13 on Climate Action, and most important SDG15 on Life on land, and also contribute to the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework (updated zero draft version) in the following 2030 action targets:

- Targets 1 & 6 through improving freshwater habitats in Sichuan, Jiangxi, and Anhui.

- Target 2 through the support to the new national protected areas legislation.

- Target 13 through integrating biodiversity considerations to municipal development planning in Anhui, Jiangxi and Sichuan.

- Target 19 through documenting, disseminating and up-scaling project results, experiences and lessons learnt.

At the regional level, the Child Project will engage through the MEE with the Forum of Ministers & Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific in the area of "Environmental challenges related to natural resources management and halting biodiversity loss; chemicals and waste management"; and contribute to the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in the area of "water resource, environmental issues and biodiversity conservation"; and contribute to Belt and Road Initiative through sharing experiences and lessons.

Meanwhile the project will contribute to and engage with the framework and initiatives that IUCN is promoting, including the IUCN Programme 2021-2024 and the following ones developed for and agreed by some 1,400 member organizations of IUCN, as well as the IUCN World Conservation Congress and Asia Regional Conservation Forum, as appropriate forums to disseminate the project results and experiences and scale up impacts, in relation to SDGs, Post 2020 Framework etc.

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

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

Core Indicator 4	**Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)**					***(Hectares)***
			Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)			
			Expected		Expected	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			1,250,000			
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Sichuan Province	856,057	*856,057*			
	Jiangxi Province	271,162	*271,162*			

	Anhui Province	122,781	*122,781*			

GEF-7 CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT

CHILD PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Child Project

PROGRAM: (choose Program)

Child Project Title:	Strengthening in-situ Biodiversity Conservation in the Yangtze River Economic Belt
Country:	People's Republic of China
Lead Agency	IUCN
GEF Agency(ies):	IUCN (select) (select)

INDICATIVE FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS AND FINANCING

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	(in $)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
BD-2-7 (select)	GEFTF	3,302,752	26,540,000
Total Project Cost		3,302,752	26,540,000

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND FINANCING

Project Objective: Safeguarding biodiversity through sustainable protected areas networks in the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt of China						
Project Components	**Component Type**	**Project Outcomes**	**Project Outputs**	**Trust Fund**	**(in $)**	
					GEF Project Financing	**Co-financing**
Component 1: Strengthening protected areas networks in Yangtze	Technical Assistance	N1. In-situ conservation of globally significant biodiversity in the Yangtze River Basin improved through strengthened and better financed protected areas network	N1.1 Protected Area networks in Sichuan, Jiangxi and Anhui adjusted towards increased representativeness, coverage and viability by taking into account globally important biodiversity. N1.2 Governance and management capacity of selected protected areas in Sichuan,	GEFTF	2,000,000	18,000,000

			Jiangxi and Anhui enhanced as per international PA standard and supported by digital technology applications. N1.3 Mechanisms to diversify PA financing through actualizing the values and benefits of natural capital explored and demonstrated			
Component 2: Supporting policy development for protected areas and biodiversity management in Yangtze	Technical Assistance	N2. Values and conservation of biodiversity as natural capital are considered in the development of YREB	N2.1 Experiences and lessons from the protected areas across the Yangtze Basin consolidated and available for the development and implementation of the new national protected areas legislation N2.2 Inputs in terms of conservation of threatened species, protected areas, and sustainable use of natural capital provided for the formulation and implementation of the Yangtze River Protection Law	GEFTF	650,000	4,400,000

Component 3: Knowledge, information and program coordination	Technical Assistance	N3. Programme and project's knowledge and experience consolidated, documented and disseminated.	N3.1 Knowledge management and dissemination effectively conducted to enhance the capacity of protected areas associated stakeholders at all levels	GEFTF	300,000	2,820,000
			N3.2 Programme level coordination and M&E effectively conducted.		195,500	
				Subtotal	GEFTF	3,145,500	25,220,000
				Project Management Cost (PMC)	GEFTF	157,252	1,320,000
				Total Project Cost		3,302,752	26,540,000

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

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount ($)
Recipient Country Government	National and Local Forestry Authorities	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	10,000,000
Recipient Country Government	National and Local Forestry Authorities	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	16,390,000
GEF Agency	IUCN	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	150,000
Total Co-financing				26,540,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified. Recipient Government: Investments have been mobilized through the National Forest and Grassland Administration's conservation and protected areas development programmes, including but not limited to, the Compensation of Public Welfare Forest initiative and the Wildlife Conservation and Nature Reserve program.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=a+b
IUCN	GEFTF	China	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	3,302,752	297,248	3,600,000
Total GEF Resources					3,302,752	297,248	3,600,000

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

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

No ☐ If no, skip this item.

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
IUCN	GEF TF	China	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	137,615	12,385	150,000
Total PPG Amount					137,615	12,385	150,000

PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEF 7 CORE INDICATORS

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

Project Core Indicators		Expected at PIF
1	**Terrestrial protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	1,200,000
2	**Marine protected areas** created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (Hectares)	
3	Area of **land restored (**Hectares)	
4	Area of **landscapes under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	

5	Area of **marine habitat under improved practices** (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)	
6	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated** (metric tons of CO2e)	
7	**Number of shared water ecosystems** (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management	———
8	Globally over-exploited **marine fisheries** moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons)	———
9	**Reduction**, disposal/destruction, phase out, **elimination** and avoidance of **chemicals of global concern** and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)	
10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of **POPs to air** from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	
11	Number of **direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender** as co-benefit of GEF investment	F:3000 M:2000

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicators targets are not provided. The area target for indicator 1 is developed as per Core Indicator Worksheet, for the protected areas with improved management, resulted from the project. The gender-disaggregated target for beneficiaries is developed based on estimate of likely coverage and scope of beneficiaries of the project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Country Context (*maximum 500 words*)

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

China is one of the 12 mega-biodiversity countries in the world, with 34,984 known higher plants, ranking the third in the world, 6,445 vertebrate animal species, accounting for 13.7% of the total in the world, and more than 10,000 fungi species, making up 14% of the total in the world, according to China National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2011-2030), residing in diverse habitats ranging from terrestrial, alpine to coastal and marine ecosystems.

However, the accelerated urbanization and industrialization in China bring threats to and increases pressures on species and ecosystems. Overexploitation of biological resources and disorderly spatial development aggravates the negative impacts on biodiversity. Environmental pollution has great impacts on aquatic, river, and coastal biodiversity and habitats. The release of invasive alien species and genetically modified organisms into the environment has increased pressures on biological security. The production of biological fuels has created new threats to biodiversity conservation. The impacts of climate change on biodiversity are becoming obvious, yet to be quantified.

The main form of nature conservation in China is still through protected areas (PA), especially nature reserves. Since the first nature reserve in China was established in 1956, over 8 other types and over 11,800 PAs including 10 pilot national parks, and 474 national-level and 864 provincial-level nature reserves have been established, accounting for more than 18% of China's land area and meaning that China has achieved the Aichi Target 11 according to the data published by National Forestry and Grassland Administration in 2019.

The legal and policy system for biodiversity conservation is yet to be completed in China. The legislation applying to protected areas in China are still the Nature Reserve Regulation enacted in 1994 and the Scenic Area Management Regulation enacted in 2006, both by State Council. Baseline data and information base on biological resources are far from adequate. China also has such problems as an insufficient investment in biodiversity conservation, inadequate capacities of natural resource management, protection, and fundamental scientific research, and insufficient capacities to cope with new problems facing biodiversity conservation. Moreover, the awareness of biodiversity conservation of the whole country or society is yet to be raised.

Since September 2017, China has begun to build a PA system taking the National Parks as a core focus. Various following initiatives are ongoing in terms of piloting national parks, improving protected area categories, systems, and legislations, etc. Also to streamline the protected area management, the newly established National Forestry and Grassland Administration (NFGA), the Executing Agency of this Child Project, has been assigned as the management and law enforcement agency for all types of protected areas across China. The newly established Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) has no longer taken any direct management roles of the protected areas but focused on supervising the enforcement of the existing PA. However, as the existing PA legislations are outdated, there have been considerable challenges of enforcing them on the ground.

This Child Project will address the challenges and take advantage of the policy development and institutional reform for protected areas, to achieve the improved biodiversity conservation of 2 million hectares of protected areas across the Yangtze basin, while to leverage policy outcomes.

2. Project Overview and Approach (maximum 1250 words)

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

Yangtze River is the third longest river in the world and has some of the highest levels of biodiversity anywhere in the world, including flagship species — the giant panda, finless porpoise, and snow leopard. The Yangtze River Basin also hosts five of the Global 200 Ecoregions according to WWF.

The challenges presently facing the Yangtze Basin is climate change, biodiversity loss, infrastructure development, pollution, erosion etc. Collectively, these threats have severely damaged the basin's terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and led to species extinctions, such as that of the Yangtze River dolphin and the likely the Chinese paddlefish, and currently threaten the finless porpoise. These threats also severely jeopardize the ability of the Yangtze Basin to continue provide ecosystem services, such as provision of drinking water.

To conserve the biodiversity and create refugee for endangered species and important ecosystems, according to Chinese Academy of Sciences, over 3,000 protected areas have been established in the Yangtze River Basin (Figure 1). In the three provinces of the Yangtze River Economic Belt, where the project would focus its field activities on, protected areas were also established as Table 1.

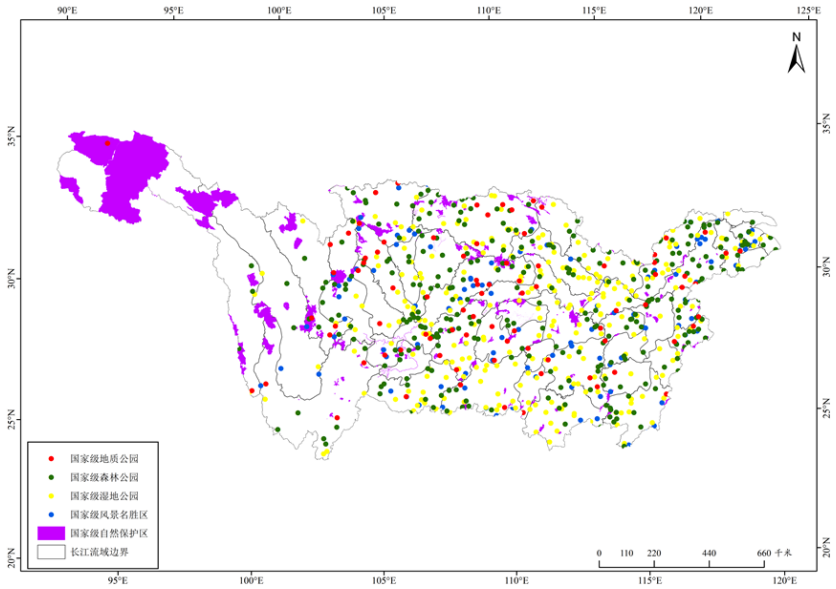

FIGURE 1. PROTECTED AREAS IN THE YANGTZE RIVER BASIN

TABLE 1: PROTECTED AREAS IN THE 3 PROJECT PROVINCES

Province	Protected areas	
	Number	Area (Hectares)
Anhui	310	1,316,574
Jiangxi	550	2,303,329
Sichuan	470	13,967,565
Sub-total	**1,330**	**17,587,468**

However, similar to the situation elsewhere in China, current protected area networks in Yangtze are in urgent need of improvement, given:

- Existing PA were developed based on local government's interests. Systematic planning and design based on fundamental biodiversity information is lacking.

- Historical legacy problems such as productive landscapes including urban areas, farmlands and community residential areas overlapping with the PAs are prominent, which leads to a conflict between local communities and PA managers, as well as between the PA agencies and the supervising agencies when enforcing the existing PA regulations;

- Lack of guidelines and policies on PA management for PA managers to follow and to improve their management effectiveness

- In addition, financing to PAs is not as diversified as being sustainable. Over 90% of PAs' income is from public investment and often project-based.

Three provinces have been identified as the target provinces for the project, namely, Jiangxi, Anhui and Sichuan Provinces. The provinces were identified through a screening of several aspects, including 1) the biodiversity values and protected area estate, as they all have large number of PAs; 2) the social context of among all the provinces located in the YREB, among which, all three provinces have the lowest GDP per capita, 3) the existence of pressure from climate change and human impacts; and, 4) the willingness for participation and cooperation in the project, as well as 5) potential co-financing and financial leverage from selected provinces.

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

The Child Project is relevant to the ongoing initiatives at national level regarding protected areas. The main one is the "Guiding Recommendations for the Establishment of the Nature Conservation Areas System Pivoting on National Parks" (the Guidance), issued by central government in June 2019. The Guidance calls for that by 2025, the national park system will be improved, the consolidation and optimization of PAs will be completed, the laws and regulations, management and supervision system of the PA system will be fully established, and by 2035, the management effectiveness of PAs and the provision capacity of ecosystem products will be significantly improved, the scale and management of PAs will reach the world advanced level, and a PA system will be fully established.

The Guidance offers a vision of a protected area system in China. Such a system would incorporate the 2,500 existing protected areas that are currently assigned to one or more of over a dozen different categories, including national parks. The challenges of this vision including to assign appropriate categories to existing protected areas, to consolidate the overlapping protected areas, to assess the coverage of the protected areas and the management of protected areas in relation to the biodiversity that needs to be protected.

Following the Guidance, as well as National People's Congress's plan to develop a legislation for National Parks, in October 2019 NFGA announced that a comprehensive PA legislation system shall be established and reinforced, including the establishment of a nature protection legal system with the coordinated national parks law and protected area law as the basic for all other regulations and laws for all the types of PAs. The legislation system will streamline the development of the PA system, the financing of PAs including but not limited to ecological compensation, transfer payments and other benefit sharing policy mechanisms etc. Specific research projects have hence been established by NFGA on the feasibility of the new PA legislations, especially in face of the existing complicated sector regulations promulgated in the past, and diverse interests from all stakeholders, including local governments.

Several ongoing and upcoming GEF initiatives are also relevant to this project, including:

- GEF-6 China's Protected Area System Reform program (C-PAR) being implemented by UNDP as the lead IA, with CI and Foreign Economic Cooperation Office of MEE, aiming to aims to transform China's national protected area system through systematic legal and institutional reform and innovation for conservation of globally significant biodiversity, through improving legal and institutional framework at national and provincial level, systematic PA planning and mainstreaming at national, provincial, county spatial planning and sectors, and raising site level management and supervision standards for different PA types. Sichuan is the common geography of this project and C-PAR, and MEE is the common EA. Overlapping sites in Sichuan will be avoided by clearly noting the two wetland parks as C-PAR's site in Sichuan. Coordination on technical activities to avoid duplications yet achieve complementary and larger impacts will be conducted among the involved agencies.

- GEF-7 Demonstrating Eco-Compensation Mechanisms in Yangtze River Basin project (ECM) being formulated by Asian Development Bank (ADB) and NDRC, including a component on protected areas in Chishui River Basin of Yangtze.

- GEF-7 Transformational wildlife conservation management in China (TWC), being formulated by UNDP and NFGA, aiming to mainstream globally important threatened wildlife conservation across sectors, by harnessing innovative frontier technologies supporting improved management practices. This project will focus on Sichuan and Yunnan, and will include activities on policy influencing and PA management improvement through new technologies.

The Guidance, the plan for protected areas legislation, as well as the streamlined mandates of NGFA and the related GEF initiatives present the baseline scenario of the Child Project.

This project will follow the approaches of the programme for stakeholder engagement. In general, in all the three target provinces, the demographic surveys suggest a 1:1 ration between male and female. However, as economy and urbanization develop, a big part of rural population have left communities for migrant work in cities. According to the 2018 Monitoring and Investigation of Migrant Rural Workers National Report by National Bureau of Statistics, the population of migrant rural workers from Jiangxi, Anhui and Sichuan provinces are approximately 10 million, 20 million, and 20 million respectively, account for roughly 50% of total population of all three provinces. About 65% of the migrant rural workers are male, implying female accounting for a bigger part of remaining population in rural areas and communities.

In addition, a first screening of the gender situation of the PAs shows that women accounts for 10% to 50% of the total 100 – 200 staffs of the sites, with 20% - 30% as the most common proportion. It is expected that, the introduction of Green List shall lead to a systematic governance improvement at the

target PAs to improve the gender equity both in the number of women staff, as well as the percentage of women in the leading role. Also, voices of women in the related communities will also be improved through increased participation in the stakeholder consultation of PA management, with a special focus on the participation of women.

Specific gender engagement approaches will include:

- Gender responsiveness: specific attention to gender equity throughout the project cycle will be ensured. During preparation, the project will consult with women's representatives especially from communities in the three provinces to ensure their voices are heard. Specific strategies will be delivered to engage women as primary actors in certain key activities of the project. To address the risks of low involvement of women and other marginalized groups, the project will adopt the participatory approach to ensure equitable participation and involvement of women and men in project activities.

- Delivering impacts through women: due to the large number of male migrant workers working out of rural communities in China, women are active participants in rural natural resource management nowadays. Therefore, it is expected that women will account for a significant proportion of project beneficiaries and help achieve impacts on the ground.

- M&E of the progress: potential benefits to and impacts upon women will be considered throughout the process of the child project design and implementation, and their roles within implemented community-related initiatives will be monitored.

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

The Programme adopts a Theory of Change (TOC) as explained in the PFD, aiming to achieve outcomes of improved conservation of biodiversity and mitigate human impacts to biodiversity, with concrete global environmental benefits identified.

The two Child Projects will both follow the Programme's TOC. However, following the distinct and respective mandates, roles and responsibilities of the executing agencies of them, the Child Projects will each own certain parts of the TOC, yet collaborate and complement to each other on a few cross-cutting strategies, which are expected to lead to greater impacts based on consolidated and coordinated efforts.

This Child Project will contribute to the improved protection of habitats of global importance through improving the coverage, management and financing of PA networks in all 3 provinces. Expected impact to ensure the sustainability of protected area networks will be achieved through the joint efforts from both Child Projects on legislation development at national level, specifically the new national PA legislation. This Child Project will also contribute to biodiversity mainstreaming through the provision of needed inputs to the legislation processes of the Yangtze River Protection Law at basin level. The inputs will mainly be based on NFGA's mandates and focused on ensuring that the conservation needs, experience and lessons regarding wildlife, protected areas, and values and sustainable use of natural capital in general are integrated in to the formulation and implementation of Yangtze Protection Law. Lastly, the Child Project will also contribute to improved knowledge and information base as well as the stakeholders' capacity in close coordination with another Child Project.

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

The incremental investment from the GEF will provide additional benefits to baseline initiatives and usual practices, by introducing international good practices and approaches into the project. Also, the additional investment will enable multi-stakeholder and cross-agency cooperation, and will fully consider the tenure issues and stakeholder rights and participation in the preparation and implementation. This child project will deliver three sets of strategies and expected results taking advantage of the GEF financing:

Component 1: Strengthening protected areas networks in Yangtze

The additional investment from the GEF will help adjust the PA networks of critical landscapes in Anhui, Jiangxi, and Sichuan Provinces. Target landscape will be identified based on critical information about species and ecosystem redlists, Key Biodiversity Areas, tenure situation, scale and coverage of representative habitats, stakeholder interests etc, to be collected and consolidated during the project preparation. The GEF investment will also introduce global experience regarding protected area governance, planning and management to the three provinces. The IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas (Green List), its associated standard and evidence-based assessment processes will provide the main guidance. It is expected that at least 6 sites in 3 provinces will be certified by the Green List at the end of the project, recognizing and celebrating the achievements of good governance, sound planning, effective management and achieved conservation outcomes of those PAs, which can leverage similar undertaking from a wide range of PAs. Opportunities will also be explored during the project preparation for integrating sustainable wildlife management in the selected PAs, with the aim to enable PAs to play a buffer role between wildlife and human contact for health considerations, considering the diseases including the COVID-19. The evolving knowledge from IUCN and its Species Survival Commission will provide critical reference.

The Child Project will also explore the feasibility of diversified financing mechanisms for realizing the ecosystem service values of PAs in the Yangtze River Basin, the values of ecosystem services will be identified through natural capital assessment and accounting, and marketed through PES, crowd funding etc, which may benefit from MEE CP's business engagement activities under its component 2. The project will also demonstrate the application of technologies to conservation and protected areas, including digital connections, AI and cloud-based computing. The biodiversity data and information consolidated and used by this component, will also contribute to the biodiversity mainstreaming activities undertaken by the MEE Child Project under its component 2. The project will coordinate with other GEF initiatives wherever possible and relevant, especially C-PAR, TWC and ECM. Particular coordination will be actively pursued with the C-PAR, to achieve that 1) data and information base established by C-PAR could be used by this project, 2) selected sites won't not duplicate those of C-PAR, and 3) coordinated approach can be practiced for technical activities and subjects on, e.g. PA management effectiveness, PA financing and policies etc.

Component 2: Supporting policy development for protected areas and biodiversity management in Yangtze

The additional investment from the GEF will help the Child Project contribute to the planned legislation process of the new National Protected Area Law, by consolidating and incorporating to the new law the experiences and lessons in PA development, management, financing as well as the enforcement of current PA regulations from Yangtze. Also, the Child Project will provide inputs and contributions to the legislation and implementation processes of the Yangtze River Protection Law, through analytical papers, policy recommendations, consultations with various stakeholders as well as policy influencing events and activities. Based on the mandates of NFGA, the consolidated inputs will focus on conservation of threatened species, protected areas, and sustainable use of natural capital. The sustainable and safe use of wildlife could potentially be considered in this process, given COVID-19 and future pandemics. The inputs from this project, combined with those from MEE CP will greatly improve the comprehensiveness, representativeness and integrity of the law, and will highlight the needs of conservation among many other interests from environmental protection, development and industrial stakeholders that are also involved in the legislation process. Coordination with C-PAR and ECM will also be pursued, in order to achieve concerted approach toward successful and impactful policy influence, while reducing duplications and redundancies.

Component 3: Knowledge, information and program coordination

Following the communication and knowledge management strategy that will be developed during the preparation for the programme, the incremental GEF funding will help document, disseminate and up-scale project results, experiences and lessons learnt, and develop case studies, guidelines, handbooks, policy briefs etc. to inform stakeholders especially decision-makers. It will also help the knowledge exchange and dissemination within the programme and with others, including the peer projects in the

Yangtze Basin, China and internationally, as well as other organizations, countries and conventions. Among the two Child Projects, this one will take a leading role in terms of Program coordination and program-level Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) that includes reporting. Therefore the incremental GEF fund will also help ensure not only the M&E of this Child Project, but also the coordination and M&E at program level and in an adaptive manner. The project will coordinate with other GEF initiatives wherever possible and relevant.

Lastly and most importantly, all components of this Child Project together will help ensure that 1.2 million hectares habitats within protected areas in Yangtze are better conserved and managed. The project has a high return ratio with regard to the investment, due to 1) the project is focused on the improvement of the policies, standards and legislation for better conservation outcomes, which will bring a broader impact than working site by site with equal cost. 2) the target summarized above includes the sites within the focal provinces. However, as the Yangtze River Protection Law and Protected Area Law will also have a great impact at other provinces even outside of the YRB, the return ratio is even higher

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

At the global level, the Child project will contribute to SDG6 Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG13 Climate Action, and SDG15 Life on land, and also contribute the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework (updated zero draft version):

- The project will contribute to both the targets 1 & 2 through strengthening the protected areas;

- The project will contribute to the target 13 through contributing to the new national PA legislation and the new Yangtze River Protection Law.

- The project will contribute to the target 19 through documenting, disseminating and up-scaling project results, experiences and lessons learnt.

At the regional level, the Child project will contribute to Asia Protected Areas Partnership, in which NFGA is a member, through promoting best practices and innovative solutions to the challenges facing the region's protected areas, sharing knowledge and capacity building; and, raising awareness of the multiple benefits of protected areas, both within and outside the region.

Meanwhile the project will contribute to and engage with the framework and initiatives that IUCN is promoting, including the IUCN Programme 2021-2024 and the following ones developed for and agreed by some 1,400 member organizations of IUCN. The IUCN World Conservation Congress and Asia Regional Conservation Forum will also be appropriate forums to disseminate the project results and experiences and scale up impacts, particularly in relation to SDGs, Post 2020 Framework etc.

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

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

Indicator 1.2	Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness						
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
					Endorsement	MTR	TE
Mount Huangshan	26654	II National Park	15,400	NA			
Sichuan Giant Panda Sanctuaties – (Wolong, Mt Siguniang and Jiajin Mountains), possible to extend to Giant Panda National Park	902902	II National Park	924,500	NA			
Yading	901246	other	70,000	NA			
Poyang Nanji Wetlands	NA	other	82,151	NA			
Poyanghu National Nature Reserve	555542692	other	22,400	NA			
Mount Sanqingshan Scenic Area	903136	other	22,400	NA			
Shengjin Lake National Nature Reserve	555624181	other	22,950	NA			
Sum			1,159,801				