

GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2024
Reporting from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Project Details

GEF ID: 10695	Umoja WBS: SB-023210.01 SB-023210.02 SB-023210.03 SB-023210.04 SB-023210.05 SB-023210.06
SMA IPMR ID: 156110	Grant ID: S1-32GFL-000855
Project Short Title: Eswatini Mbuluzi River Basin	
Project Title: Restoration of Ecosystems, Integrated Natural Resource Management and Promotion of SLM in Mbuluzi River Basin of Eswatini	
Duration months planned:	48
Duration months age:	12
Project Type:	Full Sized Project (FSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	
Project Scope:	National
Region:	Africa
Countries:	Eswatini
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity, Land Degradation
GEF financing amount:	\$ 3,916,950.00
Co-financing amount:	\$ 31,760,400.00
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2023-06-23
UNEP Project Approval Date:	
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):	2023-08-06
Date of Inception Workshop, if available:	2023-09-15
Date of First Disbursement:	2023-07-07
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:	\$ 391,695.00
Total expenditure as of 30 June:	\$ 311,924.00

Midterm undertaken?:	n/a
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	2025-12-31
Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2027-06-08
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	2029-06-30
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2029-12-31
Expected Financial Closure Date:	2029-12-31

1.2 Project Description

Eswatini (located between 25° 43' S - 27° 19' South and 30° 47' - 32° 08' East is a landlocked country mostly bordered by the Republic of South Africa on the north, west and partly southeast, and the Republic of Mozambique in the east. Its land area is 17,364 km², lying at a mean altitude of 1,200 m above sea level with a sub-tropical climate consisting of dry winters and wet summers. The country has four administrative regions, namely: Hhohho in the north, Manzini in the center, Shiselweni in the south and Lubombo in the east of the country. In meeting the economic growth, poverty reduction and industrialization plans, Government has identified and prioritized equitable access to productive land, sustainable natural resources management and integrated landscape planning and management as critical development pathways.

One of Eswatini's critical landscapes faced with vast land management challenges is the Mbuluzi River Basin. This is one of the five major river basins in Eswatini, covering a total land area of 3,200 square kilometers or 18% of the country land area. It is a trans-boundary ecosystem that straddles the border between Mozambique and Eswatini. In Eswatini, it forms the third largest basin after the Komati-Lomati and the Usutu (locally known as Lusutfu) basins. The Mbuluzi catchment is an important watershed that nourishes the Mbuluzi River (also known as the iMbuluzi or Umbeluzi), one of the main rivers of Eswatini. The Mbuluzi river basin runs through all four agroecological zones in Eswatini.

The Mbuluzi River Basin is exposed to various forms of unsustainable land and biodiversity management practices. Many socioeconomic and policy-related factors, such as population pressure; poverty; agricultural commercialization; privatization of the delivery of basic services, land-tenure relationships; and general policy reforms, can be considered as being the root causes of land degradation in the Mbuluzi landscape. The overall legal and policy framework for the management of natural resources in Eswatini suffers from insufficiently clear and consistent policies and regulations that are a barrier to the sustainable use of these resources. Also, mandates for regulation of land and resource use are scattered among different authorities. Coordination among these regulatory authorities is weak. Decision-makers lack solid information on which to base decisions regarding land use allocation and management. The local authorities lack the capacity to generate, implement and enforce integrated land management plans. In addition, there is inadequate demonstrated experiences in SLM approaches due to lack of capacity: this is also apparent in the management of protected areas, which is only mainly focused on tourism regulation and anti-poaching activities. The maintenance of intact ecosystems and restoration of degraded

ecosystems are seen as secondary activities and only necessary if funds are available. To cap all of the above, there is insufficient documentation of any available knowledge and lessons learned on integrated natural resource management. This is exacerbated by lack of mainstreaming of youth and gender participation in integrated land management.

The long-term solution is to facilitate a transformative shift from unsustainable to integrated sustainable land and forest management in the Mbuluzi River Basin in order to secure habitat for biodiversity conservation, to maintain a flow of multiple ecosystem services and to support rural development of livelihoods opportunities. The goal of this project, therefore, is to improve food security and natural resource management in the Mbuluzi landscape and contribute to rural livelihoods, national, regional and global environmental benefits. The project objective is to enhance the conservation of an eco-resilient and highly productive Mbuluzi River landscape and effectively managed protected areas that provide critical ecosystem goods and services. This will be achieved through the following four components: 1) Strengthening Policy, Legislative and Institutional Frameworks for integrated natural resources management in the Mbuluzi river catchment area, 2) Ecosystem restoration through capacity strengthening for Promotion of sustainable land management (SLM) practices, 3) Effective management of 3 protected areas within the basin, and 4) Knowledge Management, Gender and Youth mainstreaming and M&E.

Component 1 will support the strengthening of policy, legislative and institutional frameworks for integrated natural resources management in the Mbuluzi river catchment. This will be done by revising the institutional and legislative frameworks for SLM and ecosystem restoration, developing and implementing an Integrated Land Management Strategy and Action Plan for the Mbuluzi landscape, and mainstreaming SLM and ecosystem restoration into Chiefdom Sustainable Development Plans. Using participatory approaches, these frameworks, strategy and action plan as well as the chiefdom sustainable development plans will be scaled up for adoption in the landscape. Achievement of this component will contribute to the success of the National Development Strategy which is being implemented by the Government of Eswatini.

In component 2, sustainable land management (SLM) practices will be achieved through capacity strengthening. A total of 60,700 hectares of degraded land in the Mbuluzi river basin are targeted for restoration through innovative SLM technologies. Primary emphasis will be placed on i) strengthening the capacity of agriculture extension workers in SLM and all staff in relevant ministries and departments, ii) Training of trainers at local community levels including chiefdoms, iii) establishing Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and organizing SLM demonstration sites for farmer groups, iii) implementing SLM practices (especially targeting maize and legumes for crops and livestock) in communities to improve soil fertility and reduce land degradation for improved food security and livelihoods, iv) promoting tree planting in degraded communal lands and along riverine areas to reduce land degradation, and v) capacity building of Community Forest Associations (CFAs) for community biodiversity conservation enhancement.

Component 3 will develop and implement a landscape protected Area network (PAN) Conservation Strategy over 32,676 hectares in three nature reserves in the Mbuluzi landscape, namely Malolotja Nature Reserve, Mlawula nature reserve and Hawane Dam (Ramsar site). Management frameworks and governance models for PAs including Management plans will be revised and aligned with the PAN developed and these revised Management frameworks and governance models will be implemented. The Capacity of PA Management staff will be supported and strengthened to implement actions of the PAN and also to implement and enforce provisions and obligations of Management frameworks and governance models that will have been developed/revised and aligned to the PAN. In order to enhance maintenance of the ecological

integrity of the targeted PAs, Protected Area Integrated fire management systems, that include participation of local communities, will be developed and implemented. The fire target areas will also include communal lands around protected areas and hence reduce the land degradation therein. Finally, the PA Management Effectiveness of the Mbuluzi landscape will be monitored and tracked and analyzed.

Component 4 will ensure that all the knowledge generated, and lessons learnt from the project are documented. In addition, a women and youth engagement strategy on biodiversity and land degradation will be developed and implemented. Knowledge of lessons and best practices will be documented through a monitoring system which will be established for that purpose. Such knowledge so documented will be published and disseminated for further scaling out of project achievements. One way of scaling out these achievements will be through the establishment and implementation of multi-stakeholder platforms of the African Restoration Initiative (AFR 100) to champion INRM practices in the country. to ensure that gains achieved from gender mainstreaming are perpetuated, a women and youth engagement protocol will be developed and adopted for use by the project and other similar initiatives.

This project has been designed in a fully participatory manner, based on stakeholder workshops, baseline studies, consultations with government authorities and local communities. This was done deliberately in order to capture a representative baseline and propose gender responsive interventions that capture the needs of even the marginalized groups. The project duration will be four years with a total budget of US\$ 44,984,950 to be financed through a US\$ 3,916,950 grant from the GEF Trust Fund and US\$ 41,068,000 co-financing contribution. The project will be implemented by UNEP and executed nationally by the Eswatini National Trust Commission. UNEP will monitor the implementation of the project, review progress in the realization of the project outputs, and ensure the proper use of GEF funds. ENTC will execute the project through Project Management Unit (PMU) that will provide the strategic oversight and guidance to project implementation. In addition, a National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) will be constituted to serve as the project oversight, advisory and support body for the project.

The project will follow UNEP standard monitoring, reporting and evaluation processes and procedures. Reporting requirements will be an integral part of the UNEP legal instrument that will be signed by ENTC and UNEP. Progress implementation reports will be prepared and submitted quarterly, biannually and annually throughout the duration of the project. A mid-term management review or evaluation will take place after 24 months while an independent terminal evaluation will take place at the end of project implementation. The Evaluation and Oversight Unit of UNEP will manage the terminal evaluation process.

1.3 Project Contacts

Division(s) Implementing the project	Ecosystems Division
Name of co-implementing Agency	
Executing Agency (ies)	Eswatini National Trust Commission (ENTC), Min of Agriculture, Ministry of Tinkhundla Administration and Development
names of Other Project Partners	Ministry of Tinkhundla Administration and Development Ministry of Agriculture World Vision Eswatini Department of Forestry
UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Johan Robinson
UNEP Task Manager(s)	Jane Nimpamya
UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	George Saddimbah
UNEP Support Assistants	Ruth Igamba & Evelyn Machasio
Manager/Representative	Thobile Dlamini
Project Manager	Thulani Methula
Finance Manager	Sanele Dlamini
Communications Lead, if relevant	

2 Overview of Project Status

2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):	Thematic: Nature action subprogramme
UNEP previous Subprogramme(s):	
PoW Indicator(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature: (iii) Number of countries and national, regional and subnational authorities and entities that incorporate, with UNEP support, biodiversity and ecosystem-based approaches into development and sectoral plans, policies and processes for the sustainable management and/or restoration of terrestrial, freshwater and marine areas
UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages	UNSDCF Strategic objectives: 3.1: By 2025, state institutions deliver effective public services to all and oversight bodies are strengthened. 3.2: By 2025, women and marginalized groups are able to participate meaningfully in decision making processes and access justice, 4.2: By 2025, natural resources are managed and utilized sustainably for improved livelihoods and well-being of vulnerable communities;
Link to relevant SDG Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
Link to relevant SDG Targets:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world

2.2. GEF Core and Sub Indicators

GEF core or sub indicators targeted by the project as defined at CEO Endorsement/Approval, as well as results

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
1.2- Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness	32,676	32,676	32,676	
3.1- Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration	20,700	20,700	20,700	
4- Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas)	30,000	30,000	30,000	
6.1- Greenhouse gas emission mitigated in the	5,469,132	5,469,132	5,469,132	

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
AFOLU sector				
11.1- Male	25,000	25,000	50,000	
11.2- Female	50,000	50,000	100,000	10,000

Implementation Status 2024: 1st PIR

2.3. Implementation Status and Risks

	PIR#	Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 4.2)
FY 2024	1st PIR	S	S	S
FY 2023				
FY 2022				
FY 2021				
FY 2020				
FY 2019				
FY 2018				
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

Summary of status

Key Project Management Unit (PMU) personnel were engaged in April 2024 and sensitisation and mobilisation of landscape stakeholders commenced. The project was successfully introduced to two Tinkhundla councils: Mkhweni and Lomahasha, followed by introductions to traditional authorities (4) and their inner councils. The project experienced some challenges in enrolling Motshane Inkhundla. The Ministry of Tinkhundla Administration and Development (MTAD) engaged in a series of meetings with the PMU and traditional authorities, and it was eventually decided that the project focus on the neighbouring Nkhaba Inkhundla and Chiefdom which is also within the Mbuluzi Catchment Area. Once that decision had been made, arrangements were made to sensitise and mobilise the latter Inkhundla. Following project adoption by inner councils, the PMU and project stakeholders introduced the Mbuluzi Ecosystems Restoration project in five (5) Chiefdoms; Shewula, Lomahasha, Dvokolwako, Mbelebeleni and Nkhaba to a collective audience of 1,128 people.

During this reporting period, four chiefdoms underwent weeklong training for transformation workshops.

Implementation, driven by a participatory approach is anchored in Component 1’s Chiefdom Development Planning process which has been initiated in four (4) Chiefdoms; Lomahasha, Shewula, Mbelebeleni and Dvokolwako. Training for Transformation (T4T) sessions for Chiefdom inner councils and Chiefdom Development Committees (CDCs) were facilitated by the Ministry of Tinkhundla Administration and Development (MTAD) reaching a total of 123 beneficiaries of which 48% were women and 52% were men. An ongoing landscape scale land use and ecosystems assessment has been done in four (4) project sites; Shewula, Lomahasha, Dvokolwako and Mbelebeleni. Remote sensing, GIS and field reconnaissance surveys were utilized to assess land degradation sites, wetlands, rangelands, and forests. The exercise will also produce a scope of potential sites for land rehabilitation/restoration, wetland rehabilitation/protection, and water harvesting technologies. A M&E consultant was engaged by the project to develop a monitoring and evaluation system for tracking project implementation. The consultant has assisted the PMU and project stakeholders in developing a detailed logical framework which will be used to report against project indicators. The M&E consultant together with a gender specialist capacitated the PMU during the facilitation of gender mainstreaming trainings for inner councils and CDCs from Lomahasha, Shewula, Mbelebeleni and Dvokolwako where a total of 139 beneficiaries were reached, of which 33.8% were women and 66.2% were men.

2.4 Co Finance

Planned Co-finance:	\$ 31,760,400
Actual to date:	
Progress	Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges: There is no cofinance reported yet

2.5. Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2024-07-19
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	The inception meeting and PSC meetings involved all stake holders. the technical working committee meets regularly is made of key stakeholders namely ENTC, JBRA, MTAD, MTEA’s Forestry Department, MoA’s Land Use and, EEA.

	<p>Project introductory meetings with traditional authorities (Bandlancane/Inner councils) held at Lomahasha, Shewula, Dvokolwako, Mbelebeleni and Nkhaba. The activity was facilitated by MTAD together with the PMU. All the traditional authorities met expressed excitement for the project and committed their assistance to project implementation.</p> <p>Project introductory meetings conducted in all five (5) project pilot Chiefdoms. Introductory meetings were facilitated by MTAD together with the PMU, MTEA's Forestry Department, MoA's Land use and Land Development department and World Vision.</p>
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2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	<p>Gender mainstreaming</p> <p>Two-days gender mainstreaming training sessions for inner councils and CDCs were facilitated for four (4) Chiefdoms. The training was led by the project's M&E consultant who facilitates these trainings in collaboration with a gender specialist and the PMU.</p> <p>Mbelebeleni's gender mainstreaming training session had a total of 25 participants of which 17 were males, 8 were females and 3 were youth.</p> <p>Dvokolwako's gender mainstreaming training session had a total of 29 participants of which 20 were males, 9 were females and 5 were youth.</p> <p>Shewula's gender mainstreaming training session had a total of 39 participants of which 22 were males, 17 were females and 4 were youth.</p> <p>Lomahasha's gender mainstreaming training session had a total of 46 participants of which 33 were males, 13 were females and 8 were youth.</p> <p>In total, 139 beneficiaries were reached through this capacity building activity. 47 (33.8%) were women and 92 (66.2%) were men.</p>

	<p>Community focused group discussions</p> <p>Conducted focused group discussions at community level where each group was required to have the following representation: youth (5 males, 5 females) and adults (5 males, 5 females). The inclusion on the following people was also emphasised; farmers, disabled, handcraft makers, sells firewood, carpenters, and traditional healers.</p> <p>Mbelebeleni’s focused group discussions had a total of 19 attendees where 16 were males, 3 were females and 7 were youth.</p> <p>Dvokolwako’s focused group discussions had a total of 13 attendees where 6 were males, 7 were females and 8 were youth.</p> <p>Shewula’s focused group discussions had a total of 18 attendees where 10 were males, 8 were females and 11 were youth.</p> <p>Lomahasha’s focused group discussions had a total of 22 attendees where 13 were males, 9 were females and 11 were youth.</p> <p>In total 72 beneficiaries were reached for this activity. 27 (37.5%) were women and 45 (62.5%) were men.</p> <p>Inner council and CDC have been trained on gender mainstreaming. Women and youth and the disabled are represented in the decision-making structures and the project will continue to include these groups in all project activities.</p>
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2.7. ESSM

<p>Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)</p>	<p>Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>New social and/or environmental risks</p>	<p>Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, describe the new risks or changes?</p> <p>N/A</p>

Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts	Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period? No If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken? N/A
Environmental and social safeguards management	Gender and social safeguards for participation in biodiversity conservation and SLM identified. Public awareness is undertaken

2.8. KM/Learning

Knowledge activities and products	<p>Recruitment finalised for communication expert.</p> <p>Project Visibility Material</p> <p>A custom project logo was developed and submitted to UNEP for approval.</p> <p>During this reporting period, PMU-branded PPE, including safety boots, pants, shirts, jackets, and hats, was procured.</p> <p>Project banners and car stickers were designed and submitted for approval to UNEP.</p> <p>Project knowledge management products</p> <p>A Mbuluzi Ecosystems Restoration Project brochure has been developed and awaits review and approval. Draft brochure can be accessed on url: https://www.canva.com/design/DAGD1vRXbEk/JUdCz9mzrJoCauSi_KW5Q/edit?utm_content=DAGD1vRXbEk&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton </p>
Main learning during the	<p>Community involvement in development of chiefdom development planning is important and rewarding. Implementation, driven by a participatory approach is anchored in Component 1's Chiefdom Development Planning process which has been initiated in four (4) Chiefdoms. Lomahasha, Shewula, Mbelebeleni and Dvokolwako.</p>

period	<p>Training for Transformation (T4T) sessions for Chiefdom inner councils and Chiefdom Development Committees (CDCs) were facilitated by the Ministry of Tinkhundla Administration and Development (MTAD) reaching a total of 123 beneficiaries of which 48% were women and 52% were men.</p> <p>Since the community was involved from the beginning, the process of developing CDCs is going on smoothly and this output will be attained earlier than planned because the communities and the councils have fully embraced the project and are willing to implement the plans after they have been developed.</p>
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2.9. Stories

Stories to be shared	<p>A Mbuluzi Ecosystems Restoration Project brochure has been developed and awaits review and approval. Draft brochure can be accessed on url: https://www.canva.com/design/DAGD1vRXbEk/JUdCz9mzrJoCauSi_KW5Q/edit?utm_content=DAGD1vRXbEk&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton</p>
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3 Performance

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
To promote ecosystem restoration for a productive Mbuluzi River landscape and effectively managed protected areas providing ecosystem goods and services	Extent and use of updated and enabling policy, institutional and legal frameworks for SLM and ecosystem management in Mbuluzi River landscape	Mbuluzi landscape is currently managed under outdated policies; fragmented, conflicting and competing mandates; with no clear articulation of priority actions on SLM and ecosystem management	Operational gaps in existing policy, institutional and legal frameworks established and measures to address them identified	SLM and ecosystem restoration policy, institutional and legal frameworks in place and under implementation.	0%	Recruitment of consultants to lead the assessment and review of policy, institutional and legal arrangements is ongoing.	S
	Extent of use of innovative SLM technologies in productive landscapes across the Mbuluzi River Basin	Inadequate demonstrated experiences in SLM approaches due to lack of capacity	Operational gaps in utilization of SLM technologies in the Mbuluzi river basin established and measures	Innovative landscape level SLM technologies in place and operational in the Mbuluzi river basin	0%	Recruitment of consultant to lead the integrated land management strategy is ongoing.	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
			to address them identified				
	Effectively managed protected areas (Malolotja Nature Reserve, Mlawula nature reserve and Hawane Dam (Ramsar site) in the basin	Ineffective wildlife protection and management of protected areas on the ground.	Strategies and programs for effective management of Malolotja Nature Reserve, Mlawula nature reserve and Hawane Dam are identified	Malolotja Nature Reserve, Mlawula nature reserve and Hawane Dam are under effective management	0%	Recruitment of consultant to guide management plan review and Protected Area Network strategy is ongoing.	S
	Level of women and youth engagement in management of biodiversity and land degradation	Insufficient documentation of knowledge and lessons on biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management. Low participation of youth and vulnerable groups in biodiversity conservation and SLM; Women	Tools for documentation of best practices and lessons learned developed. Gender and social safeguards for participation in biodiversity conservation and SLM	Best practices and lessons learned documented and shared among relevant sectors and actively being utilized by women and youth in management of biodiversity and land degradation. Women, youth and vulnerable groups	0%	Tools for documentation are being developed by the Monitoring and Evaluation Office in consultation with project partners. Women, youth and vulnerable groups have been enrolled in decision-making structures (i.e. inner councils and community development committees) and active participation to be tracked by the project.	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
		participation in biodiversity and SLM is high but is low at decision-making level.	identified; Public awareness is undertaken	(including persons living with disabilities) are strongly and actively participating in biodiversity conservation and SLM; Women are strongly and actively participating in decision making in biodiversity conservation and SLM			
1. The Government of Eswatini adopts and starts enforcing an updated policy, institutional and legislative framework for SLM and ecosystem restoration	Institutional and legislative frameworks for SLM and ecosystem restoration in the Mbuluzi landscape are in place and operational	Inadequate legal, regulatory and institutional framework for Integrated Natural Resource Management	Three institutional frameworks (National Environment Policy, Flora Protection Act of 2000 and Forest Bill of 2016) updated. Three regulatory frameworks (Integrated Natural	Three institutional frameworks (National Environment Policy, Flora Protection Act of 2000 and Forest Bill of 2016) in place and operational. Three regulatory frameworks (Integrated Natural Resources Strategy and Action Plan, National Forest Regulations and	0%	Terms of Reference for engagement of a Policy and Legal consultant drafted and validated through technical support from key stakeholders. A call for proposals advertisement was published with a deadline of 26th June 2024.	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
			Resources Strategy and Action Plan, National Forest Regulations and Forest Management Regulations) developed	Forest Management Regulations) in place and operational			
	Existence and use of gender responsive governance system (strategy and action plan) for sustainable land management	Inadequate governance systems leading to unsustainable land management practices	Gender responsive Integrated Sustainable Land Management Strategy and Action Plan for the Mbuluzi landscape is in place and operational	Gender responsive Integrated Sustainable Land Management Strategy and Action Plan for the Mbuluzi landscape is in place and operational	0%	Terms of Reference for engagement of an Integrated Land Management (ILM) consultant drafted and validated through technical support from key stakeholders. A call for proposals advertisement was published with a deadline of 26th June 2024. Expression of interest garnered some applications and ENTC evaluation processes are underway to secure a consultancy for this task. Gender mainstreaming workshop for traditional authorities (inner council and chiefdom development committee) conducted for four Chiefdoms/project sites. Traditional authorities and their communities are now better positioned to contribute towards gender sensitive interventions. This mindset transformation will serve as a foundation which the ILM consultant will	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
						build upon during the development of a landscape ILM strategy.	
	Ecosystem restoration is mainstreamed and being implemented by the Chiefdom Sustainable Development Plans	Sustainable Land Management and ecosystem restoration are currently not strong and adequately mainstreamed in the Chiefdom Sustainable Development Plans	There is a framework to align SLM projects to chiefdom development plans and existing projects.	Chiefdom Sustainable Development Plans are actively being used to implement SLM and ecosystem restoration in the Mbuluzi Basin	0%	The process to formulation of Chiefdom development plans has been initiated in four project pilot Chiefdoms through training for transformation sessions with inner councils and Chiefdom Development Committees. The engagement of an ILM consultant will allow for the progress and completion of these CDP documents.	S
2. Reduced Land degradation through capacity strengthening for innovative SLM technologies in productive landscapes across 50,700 ha of the Mbuluzi River Basin	Tools for sustainable land management and ecosystem restoration are in place and are actively being used for rehabilitation and investment in the Mbuluzi basin	Basin specific tools for ecosystem restoration are only sectoral rather than holistic in nature	The state of the ecosystems, ecological values, forests, and productive areas for restoration through SLM and ecosystem restoration identified.	Assessment and restoration tools such as forest and wildlife maps for the Mbuluzi basin are in place and used for landscape-scale ecosystem and land use assessment and restoration	5%	A reconnaissance survey to carry out land-use and landcover mapping, assessment of rangeland, forests, wetlands, land degradation and identification of potential sites for land rehabilitation, wetland rehabilitation and water harvesting technologies was undertaken during this reporting period.	S
	Percentage of agriculture extension workers able to deliver SLM practices and	Inadequate extension officers) and not	50% of agricultural extension	100% of agricultural extension officers from MoA,	5%	Meetings with partners, World Vision Eswatini, and the Ministry of Agriculture to coordinate the nomination	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
	technologies to sub-national level institutions and local communities	well capacitated on SLM practices.	officers from MoA, parastatals, agencies and NGOs able to deliver SLM practices and technologies to sub-national level institutions and local communities	parastatals, agencies and NGOs able to deliver SLM practices and technologies to sub-national level institutions and local communities		extension workers in the landscape in readiness for capacitation.	
	Number of SLM trainers available at local community levels and chiefdoms	Inadequate SLM trainers in Mbuluzi landscape	50 agricultural extension officers from MoA, parastatals, agencies and NGOs trained as trainers of SLM practices to local communities and chiefdoms	100 agricultural extension officers from MoA, parastatals, agencies and NGOs trained as trainers of SLM practices to local communities and chiefdoms	5%	Correspondence sent to the Ministry of Agriculture requesting the nomination of extension workers in the landscape.	S
	Number of Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and SLM demonstration sites established for training of	Inadequate farmer field schools available for training	5 Farmer field schools and SLM demonstration	10 Farmer field schools and SLM demonstration sites established and	5%	An MoU has been signed with World Vision which will be managing this activity.	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
	farmers and farmer groups	communities and farmers in SLM	sites established and actively training and demonstrating SLM practices to farmers	actively training and demonstrating SLM practices to farmers			
	Area of landscapes under sustainable management in production systems for improved food security and livelihoods	Inadequate ILM practices due to lack of finances	25,000 ha of landscape across the Mbuluzi river basin are under sustainable land management	50,000 ha of landscape across the Mbuluzi river basin are under sustainable land management.	5%	An MoU has been signed with the Ministry of Agriculture which will be managing this activity.	S
	Area of landscapes under sustainable management in maize and legume production systems for improved food security and livelihoods	Inadequate SLM practices due to lack of finances	15,000 ha of landscape across the Mbuluzi river basin are under sustainable land management on maize and legume production systems	30,000 ha of landscape across the Mbuluzi river basin are under sustainable land management on maize and legume production systems	5%	An MoU has been signed with the Ministry of Agriculture which will be managing this activity.	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
	Area of degraded communal lands and riverine areas restored through tree planting to promote biodiversity conservation	There is high deforestation due to excessive harvesting of forests and land degradation through unsustainable practices in the Mbuluzi basin	300 ha of communal lands and riverine areas restored for biodiversity conservation.	700 ha of communal lands and riverine areas restored for biodiversity conservation.	5%	An MoU has been signed with the Department of Forestry which will be managing this activity.	S
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated	GHG emissions high due to high degradation through unsustainable land management	-1,000,000 metric tons of CO ₂ e sequestered or avoided	-5,469,132 metric tons of CO ₂ e sequestered or avoided	5%	Activity not yet started	S
3. Capacity strengthening for Effective management of the three nature reserves of (Malolotja Nature Reserve, Mlawula nature reserve and Hawane Dam (Ramsar site) in the basin is undertaken	A protected Area network (PAN) Conservation Strategy for the Mbuluzi landscape in place and operational	PAs already have environmental management plans that govern their operations and a Game Ranchers Association.	Draft PAN conservation strategy for the basin for the Mbuluzi landscape developed.	PAN conservation strategy for Mbuluzi landscape that incorporates both PAs and CFs approved and fully operational	5%	Terms of Reference for engagement of a PAN Conservation consultant drafted and validated through technical support from key stakeholders. A call for proposals advertisement was published with a deadline of 26th June 2024. PAN network stakeholder mapping initiated.	S
	Management plans, frameworks, and governance models for PAs in place and operational	Currently, PAs have individual environmental management	Draft management frameworks and	Approved management plans aligned to the PAN conservation	5%	ENTC Protected Area Management training on PAME tools facilitated in preparation for review of management frameworks.	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
		plans. So, a comprehensive landscape-wide strategy will require the PAs to review and revise their plans.	governance models for PAs in place	strategy and validated governance models in place and operational			
	Number of Protected Area Management (PAM) staff actively enforcing the provisions and obligations of the PAN, Management frameworks and governance models	Capacity and personnel remain limited, especially from an enforcement standpoint.	20 PAM staff are able and actively participating in enforcement of the protected Area network (PAN) Conservation Strategy, management frameworks and governance models	47 PAM staff are able and actively participating in enforcement of the protected Area network (PAN) Conservation Strategy, management frameworks and governance models	5%	Activity has not yet started.	S
	Number of Protected Area Integrated Fire Management Systems in place and under implementation	Currently, adhoc fire management networks exist in Eswatini, especially common among forest plantations	Draft integrated fire management system with inputs from local communities is	Approved protected area integrated fire management system that incorporate both PAs and CFs is in place and	5%	Approved protected area integrated fire management system that incorporate both PAs and CFs is in place and operational for Mbuluzi landscape.	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
		and their neighboring communities. Existing PAs already have environmental management plans that govern their operations. National fire management committee exist	in place. A draft handbook developed on fire and its management	operational for Mbuluzi landscape. A fire management handbook is in place.			
	Area of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use in the Mbuluzi landscape	32,676 ha of protected areas in the Mbuluzi basin are under dire need of improved management for effective conservation and sustainable use	15,000 ha of protected areas are under improved management for conservation and sustainable use	32,676 ha of protected areas are under improved management for conservation and sustainable use	5%	This activity will be next year	S
4. Women and youth engagement strategy on biodiversity and land degradation developed and implemented.	M&E reports based on actual data that show trends in adoption of SLM and ecosystem-based approaches.	Current M&E reports do not show trends in adoption of SLM and ecosystem based approaches	M&E reports based on actual data showing trends in adoption of SLM and ecosystem-	All the tinkhundla in the project implementation area producing M&E reports based on actual data showing trends in adoption	5%	M&E Consultant engaged and a draft logical framework. Gender mainstreaming training has been conducted on four chiefdoms	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
			based approaches	of SLM and ecosystem-based approaches			
	Project supported communities, tinkhundla and protected area management replicating shared best practices and lessons learned at the landscape, national and regional levels	There is limited adoption of best practices and lessons learned from projects and other government interventions at landscape, national and regional level	At least 4 project-supported entities (communities, tinkhundla, protected area management) adopting / replicating best practices and lessons learned at landscape level	At least 10 project-supported entities (communities, tinkhundla, protected area management) adopting / replicating best practices and lessons learned at landscape level	5%	A Communications Officer has been engaged by the project to develop a communication and awareness strategy and lead its implementation to replicate shared best practices and lessons learnt	S
	Landscape level African Forests Landscape Restoration (AFR) 100 multistakeholder platforms in place and championing SLM practices	Although multistakeholder platforms exist at landscape level, they are not specifically established to champion ILM under the AFR100 platform	At least one landscape level multi-stakeholder platform (AFR100) in place and actively championing ILM practices in the Mbuluzi basin	At least two landscape level multi-stakeholder platform (AFR100) in place and actively championing ILM practices in the Mbuluzi basin	5%	Planned for next year	S

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
	An engagement strategy to mainstream women and youth participation project activities is in place and operational.	There is usually an unequitable participation of women, youth and other marginalized and vulnerable groups in many investment projects	Project protocols and strategy for gender and youth mainstreaming in project activities are developed	Project protocols and strategy for gender and youth mainstreaming in project activities are validated and operational	5%	Focus group discussions have been conducted on four chiefdoms	S
	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender directly benefiting from GEF interventions	Past GEF interventions in the country have usually involved a sizeable number of beneficiaries in their interventions	100,000 beneficiaries (50,000 women and 50,000 men) are actively participating in GEF interventions	100,000 beneficiaries (50,000 women and 50,000 men) are actively participating and benefiting from GEF interventions	5%	So far we have worked with 1521 people.	S

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
1 Component 1. Strengthening Policy, Legislative and Institutional Frameworks for Integrated Natural Resources Management (INRM)	Output 1.1 Institutional and legislative frameworks for SLM and ecosystem restoration in the Mbuluzi landscape revised, enacted, implemented and enforced and monitored to ascertain their effectiveness	2027-12-31	0%	5%	Policy and Legal consultant TORs were drafted and reviewed by the technical working committee (ENTC, JBRA, MTAD, MTEA's Forestry Department, MoA's Land Use and, EEA). Expression of interest was published in June 2024 to solicit consultant applications.	S
	1.2 An Integrated Land Management Strategy and Action Plan for the Mbuluzi landscape developed in a participatory and gender responsive manner and implemented.	2027-12-31	0%	5%	ILM Consultant TORs were drafted and reviewed by the technical working committee (ENTC, JRBA, MTAD, MTEA's Forestry Department, MOA's Land Use Department, and EEA).	S
	1.3 SLM and ecosystem restoration mainstreamed into Chiefdom Sustainable Development Plans and implemented to scale up their adoption in the basin, using participatory approaches.	2027-12-31	0%	5%	Project introductory meetings with traditional authorities (Bandlancane/Inner councils) held at Lomahasha, Shewula, Dvokolwako, Mbelebeleni and Nkhaha. The activity was facilitated by MTAD together with the PMU. All the traditional authorities met expressed excitement for the project and committed their assistance to project implementation. Project introductory meetings conducted in all five (5) project pilot Chiefdoms. Introductory meetings were facilitated by MTAD together with the PMU, MTEA's Forestry Department, MoA's Land use and Land Development department and World Vision.	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					<p>At Mbelebeleni Chiefdom, the meeting had a total of 78 community attendees in total. 60 were males, 18 were females, and 20 were youth. At Shewula Chiefdom, the meeting had a total of 223 community attendees in total. 110 were males, 113 were females, and 25 were youth. At Lomahasha Chiefdom, the meeting had a total of 375 community attendees in total. 169 were males, 206 were females, and 145 were youth. At Dvokolwako Chiefdom, the meeting had a total of 223 community attendees in total. 149 were males, 74 were females, and 23 were youth. At Nkhaba Chiefdom, the meeting had a total of 229 community attendees in total. 104 were males, 125 were females, and 35 were youth. In total, 1128 people were reached through this sensitization activity. 592 (52.5%) were women and 536 (47.5%) were men. Week-long training for transformation (T4T) sessions targeting inner councils and CDCs from four (4) project pilot Chiefdoms were facilitated during this reporting period. Dvokolwako Inner council and CDC T4T had a total of 33 participants where 23 were females, 10 were males and 4 were youth. Mbelebeleni Inner council and CDC T4T</p>	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					had a total of 21 participants where 8 were females, 13 were males and 1 youth. Lomasha Inner council and CDC T4T had a total of 33 participants where 10 were females, 34 were males and 8 were youth. Shewula Inner council and CDC T4T had a total of 36 participants where 18 were females, 18 were males and 2 were youth. In total, 123 beneficiaries were reached through this capacity building activity. 59 (48%) were women and 64 (52%) were men	
2 Component 2: Ecosystem restoration through capacity strengthening for Promotion of sustainable land management (SLM) practices	2.1 Landscape-scale ecosystem and land use assessment conducted for Mbuluzi Basin to inform output 1.1.2 below	2027-12-31	0%	10%	A reconnaissance survey to assess land use, land cover, and the health of rangelands, forests, and wetlands. The study also identified areas that may benefit from land rehabilitation, wetland restoration, and water conservation techniques. The survey covered four (4) project sites namely, Lomasha Inkhundla (Shewula and Lomasha) and Mkhweni Inkhundla (Dvokolwako and Mbebebeni). The exercise was led by the Ministry of Agriculture's Land Use and land development department supported by the PMU, ENTC, Joint River Basin Authority (JBRA), MoA's livestock department and the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs' Forestry	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					department. Relevant maps and the following assessment reports are being compiled:- Potential sites report (land restoration, wetland rehabilitation, water harvesting technologies) - Land degradation assessment report - Catchment delineation maps - State of rangelands and forests reports - Land-use maps and report. These reports will inform restoration and protection activities for the landscape and the respective Chiefdom Development Plans.	
	2.2 Capacity of agriculture extension workers in SLM and all staff in relevant ministries and departments strengthened	2027-12-31	0%	5%	An MoU has been signed by the Ministry of Agriculture that will be responsible for this activity. Correspondence was sent to the Ministry of Agriculture for the nominations of extension workers to be capacitated within the Mbuluzi landscape.	S
	2.3. Training of trainers at local community levels including chiefdoms conducted	2027-12-31	0%	0%	This activity will be done by World Vision next year.	S
	2.4 Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and SLM demonstration sites established for farmer groups and farmer open field-days organized	2027-12-31	0%	0%	This activity will be done by World Vision next year.	S
	2.5 SLM practices targeting maize and legumes for crops and livestock piloted in communities to improve soil fertility and reduce land degradation	2027-12-31	0%	0%	This activity will be done by World Vision next year.	S
	2.6 Tree planting in degraded communal lands and along riverine areas promoted to reduce land degradation.	2027-12-31	0%	0%	This activity is dependent on the completion of Activity 2.1.1 on the identification and mapping of degraded	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					areas. A site visit to discuss the expansion of Luvu Nursery's proposed rehabilitation works was undertaken during this reporting period. The proposed expansion would add 0.2 Ha to the proposed project bringing the total area of operation to 0.5 Ha. Cost implications of the proposed deviation will be calculated and reviewed.	
	2.7 Capacity building of Community Forest Associations (CFAs) for community biodiversity conservation enhancement	2027-12-31	0	0%	This activity is dependent on completion of Activity 1.3.1 on CDPs.	S
3 Component 3: Effective management of protected areas	Output 3.1. A protected Area network (PAN) Conservation Strategy for the Mbuluzi landscape developed and implemented	2027-12-31	0%	5%	PAN conservation strategy consultant TORs were drafted reviewed by the technical working committee (ENTC, JBRA, MTAD, MTEA's Forestry Department, MoA's Land Use and, EEA). Expression of interest was published in June 2024 to solicit consultant applications. A stakeholder mapping exercise for the Mbuluzi River Basin protected areas network has been initiated by ENTC and the PMU. The ongoing mapping exercise has identified players in the biodiversity conservation sector who own land parcels under formal and informal conservation. Conservation within the landscape includes National PAs, privately owned PAs (under ENTC Act. and Game Act.), OECMs (Privately-owned and community-owned), RAMSAR sites and	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					informal conservation sites.	
	3.2. Management frameworks and governance models for PAs including Management plans revised and aligned with the PAN developed in 3.1	2027-12-31	0%	5%	PAME training targeting ENTC's senior Park Managers for three (3) Protected Areas namely Mlawula Nature Reserve, Malolotja Nature Reserve and Hawane Nature reserve conducted during this reporting period. Tools covered during the training were Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) and EpiCollect. The same activity will be undertaken for other PA managers (Private, Big Game Parks, OECMs etc.) in the next reporting period.	S
	3.3 Capacity of PA Management staff strengthened to implement actions of the PAN in 3.1 and to implement and enforce provisions and obligations of Management frameworks and governance models on good governance systems for PA Management in output 3.2	2027-12-31	0%	0%	This output is dependent on the completion of activity 1.1.1 - recruitment of the policy analyst	S
	3.4: Gender responsive, Protected Area Integrated fire management systems, that include participation of local communities, developed and implemented for Biodiversity and ecological infrastructure enhancement in Mbuluzi landscape	2027-12-31	0%	0%	This activity is planned for next year	S
	3.5 Management Effectiveness of Mbuluzi landscape PAs monitored and tracked	2027-12-31	0%	0%	This activity is dependent on the completion of Activity 3.1.1 on the recruitment of a PAN strategist	S
4 Component 4: Knowledge Management, Gender and	output 4.1 Systems established for monitoring progress and outcomes of the project.	2027-12-31	0%	10%	A web-based data storage server for a decentralised PMU has been set-up on NextCloud platform. url: https://164.92.136.155/Data management	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
Youth mainstreaming and M&E					<p>platform is at ongoing development stage and being mainly used by Field Officers for sharing and safe keeping important project related documents and media. A M&E consultant was engaged by the project to develop a monitoring and evaluation system for tracking project implementation. The consultant has assisted the PMU and project stakeholders in developing a detailed logical framework which will be used to report against project indicators. The M&E consultant together with a gender specialist capacitated the PMU during the facilitation of gender mainstreaming trainings for inner councils and CDCs from Lomahasha, Shewula, Mbebebeleni and Dvokolwako. A M&E consultant was engaged by the project to develop a monitoring and evaluation system for tracking project implementation. The consultant has assisted the PMU and project stakeholders in developing a detailed logical framework which will be used to report against project indicators. The M&E consultant together with a gender specialist capacitated the PMU during the facilitation of gender mainstreaming trainings for inner councils and CDCs from Lomahasha, Shewula, Mbebebeleni and</p>	

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
					Dvokolwako	
	output 4.2 Documentation, publication and dissemination of best practices and lessons learnt.	2027-12-31	0%	10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment finalised for communication expert. Project Visibility Material A custom project logo was developed and submitted to UNEP for approval. During this reporting period, PMU-branded PPE, including safety boots, pants, shirts, jackets, and hats, was procured. Project banners and car stickers were designed and submitted for approval to UNEP. Project knowledge management products A Mbuluzi Ecosystems Restoration Project brochure has been developed and awaits review and approval. Draft brochure can be accessed on url: https://www.canva.com/design/DAGD1vRXbEk/JUdCz9mzrJoCauSi_KW5Q/edit?utm_content=DAGD1vRXbEk&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton An M&E consultant and gender specialist have facilitated focused group discussions with stakeholders from participating chiefdoms in preparation for a women and youth engagement strategy for the project. 	S
	output 4.3: Multi-stakeholder platforms (AFR 100) to champion INRM practices in the country established.	2027-12-31	0%	0%	This activity is planned for next year.	S
	4.4 Women and youth engagement protocol developed for adoption	2027-12-31	0%	0%	This activity is planned for next year.	S

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
	by the project.					
	Output 4.5: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender directly benefitting from GEF interventions	2027-12-31	0%	0%	The M& E Officer records and tracks the number of beneficiaries benefitting from the GEF intervention. This is an ongoing activity. During the Two-days gender mainstreaming training sessions for inner councils and CDCs were facilitated for four (4) Chiefdoms. The training was led by the project's M&E consultant who facilitates these trainings in collaboration with a gender specialist and the PMU. In total, 139 beneficiaries were reached through this capacity building activity. 47 (33.8%) were women and 92 (66.2%) were men. Conducted focused group discussions at community level where each group was required to have the following representation: youth (5 males, 5 females) and adults (5 males, 5 females). The inclusion on the following people was also emphasised; farmers, disabled, handcraft makers, sells firewood, carpenters, and traditional healers. In total 72 beneficiaries were reached for this activity. 27 (37.5%) were women and 45 (62.5%) were men.	HS

The Task Manager will decide on the relevant level of disaggregation (i.e. either at the output or activity level).

4 Risks

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

Please refer to the Risk Help Sheet for more details on rating

Risk Factor	EA Rating	TM Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	Low	Low
2 Governance structure - Oversight	Low	Low
3 Implementation schedule	Low	Low
4 Budget	Low	Low
5 Financial Management	Low	Low
6 Reporting	Low	Low
7 Capacity to deliver	Low	Low

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in Table B below

4.2 Table B. Risk-log

Implementation Status (Current PIR)

Insert ALL the risks identified either at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous/current PIRs, and MTRs. Use the last line to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
1. Capacity and resources constraints limit the implementation of key activities such as M&E. documentation. and dissemination of lessons learnt and best practice.	All outcomes and outputs	L						L	=	

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
empowerment of women and youth. capacity development needs.										
2. Limited local level ownership/buy-in of project activities by stakeholders that limits upscaling	All outcomes and outputs	L						L	=	
3. Social and cultural barriers inhibit equitable participation by women and youth.	All outcomes and outputs	M						L	↓	
4. Health risk for staff, partners and communities in the pilot sites. including disruption and/or suspension of activities; and spread of COVID-19 among targeted communities	All outcomes and outputs	M						L	↓	
5. Climate change is affecting rainfall patterns and exacerbating land slides and flooding conditions. exacting additional stress on the already vulnerable ecosystems	All outcomes and outputs	M						M	↓	
	All outcomes and outputs	M						L	↓	

4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

Additional mitigation measures for the next periods

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks. Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks. Moderate Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks. Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

5 Amendment - GeoSpatial

Project Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate

5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

Minor Amendments	Changes
Results Framework:	No
Components and Cost:	No
Institutional and implementation arrangements:	No
Financial Management:	No
Implementation Schedule:	
Executing Entity:	No
Executing Entity Category:	No
Minor project objective change:	No
Safeguards:	No
Risk analysis:	No
Increase of GEF financing up to 5%:	No
Location of project activity:	No
Other:	No

Minor amendments

5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM)

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision

GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as OpenStreetMap or GeoNames use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking here

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
Msengeni area	-26.018	32.0288			
Sifundza area	-26.0555	32.038918			
Mliba area	-26.20100	31.5894			
Mbelebeleni area	-26.27736	1.45612			
Epulazini area	-26.23264	31.09315			
Hawane area	-26.19589	31.10348			

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate. *

Below is the summary of the coordinates. The figures are in the maps attached as a file

Figure 15. Msengeni area (latitude -26.018745° and longitude 32.028895°) under Lomahasha inkhundla.

Figure 16. Sifundza area (latitude -26.055561° and longitude 32.038918°) under Lomahasha inkhundla.

Figure 17. Mliba area (latitude -26.201003° and longitude 31.589460°) under Mkhiweni inkhundla.

Figure 18. Mbelebeleni area (latitude -26.277368° and longitude 31.456129°) under Mkhiweni inkhundla.

Figure 19. Epulazini area (latitude -26.232642° and longitude 31.093152°) under Motshane inkundla.

Figure 20. Hawane area (latitude -26.195898° and longitude 31.103484°) under Motshane inkhundla.

[Annex any linked geospatial file]

Additional Supporting Documents:

Filename	File Uploaded By	File Uploaded At	
Annex E - Project Map(s) and Coordinates.docx	BDLD TM	2024-08-14 21:37:00	<u>Download</u>