

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: 10524	Umoja WBS: SB-021180. 01 SB-021180.02 SB-021180.03 SB-021180.04 SB-021180.05
SMA IPMR ID: 128926	Grant ID: S1-32GFL-000800
Project Short Title: South Africa IAS	
Project Title: Capacity strengthening for management of invasive alien species in South Africa to enhance sustainable biodiversity conservation and livelihoods improvement	
Duration months planned:	60
Duration months age:	17
Project Type:	Full Sized Project (FSP)
Parent Programme if child project:	
Project Scope:	National
Region:	Africa
Countries:	South Africa
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity
GEF financing amount:	\$ 3,411,644.00
Co-financing amount:	\$ 22,844,660.00
Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:	2022-09-06
UNEP Project Approval Date:	2022-06-09
Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):	2023-01-20
Date of Inception Workshop, if available:	
Date of First Disbursement:	2023-02-20
Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:	\$ 200,000.00
Total expenditure as of 30 June:	\$ 8,629.00

Midterm undertaken?:	n/a
Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:	
Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:	2026-06-30
Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:	2028-06-30
Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:	2028-06-30
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:	2028-06-30
Expected Financial Closure Date:	2028-06-30

1.2 Project Description

The Project is entitled "Capacity strengthening for management of invasive alien species in South Africa to enhance sustainable biodiversity conservation and livelihoods improvement". The project goal is to directly mitigate the negative impacts of invasive alien species on South Africa's biodiversity assets, and indirectly contribute to the improvement of rural food security and livelihoods. The objective of the project is to improve efficiency and effective management of high-risk invasive alien species in South Africa. The Executing Agency is the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment. The Implementing Partners are:

- South African National Biodiversity Institute
- Department of Water and Sanitation
- Agricultural Research Council
- Border Management Authority
- Birdlife South Africa

The project has the following components:

Component 1: Strengthened IAS detection and surveillance capacities at key national ports of entry - The component has four outputs focusing on establishing an Inter-agency 'Biosecurity Risk Assessment/ Targeting Centre (BRA/TC); piloting a sea container and break-bulk cargo biosecurity risk management system; having a small team of biosecurity detection dogs and their handlers operational at key ports of entry and monitoring and controlling new and emerging invasive species. The targeted ports of entry are the Oliver Tambo International Airport, Durban harbour, and Beitbridge Border Post, representing the air, sea and land modalities respectively. The expected outcome is to see South African authorities adopt new tools and methods of high-risk IAS surveillance at key national ports.

Component 2: Enhanced biosecurity communications and information flows - The component has three outputs focusing on implementing a biosecurity awareness and involvement campaign; operationalising a centralized Biosecurity Information and Risk Analysis System; controlling invasive alien species at key sites in the Eastern Cape

and Gauteng Provinces with the involvement of rural communities using the Adopt-a-River approach. The expected outcome is to see stakeholders partner with and support state biosecurity agencies in pre-border and post border risk analysis, surveillance, detection, reporting and control of high-risk IAS.

Component 3: Improved effectiveness of control measures for high risk IAS - This component has five outputs. Two of these are focusing on eradicating Invasive House Mice from Marion Island and developing improved biosecurity protocols for the Prince Edward Islands. The expected outcome is to see relevant agencies having increased capacity to secure and manage a rodent-free status at the Prince Edward Islands. Three outputs are focusing on developing and releasing biocontrol agents for *Tecoma stans* (yellow bells), *Biancaea decapetala* (Mauritius thorn), *Anredera cordifolia* (Madeira vine), *Xanthium strumarium* (Cocklebur), and *Schinus terebinthifolius* (Brazilian peppertree); mass-rearing and releasing existing biocontrol agents for *Tecoma stans* (yellow bells) and *Anredera cordifolia* (Madeira vine) and enhancing capacity of researchers in the development of biocontrol agents. The expected outcome is to have the spread of high-risk invasive plant species controlled.

1.3 Project Contacts

Division(s) Implementing the project	Ecosystems Division
Name of co-implementing Agency	
Executing Agency (ies)	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)
names of Other Project Partners	Barney Kgope ; Fumani Mpikanisi
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	Rampedi Masemola
Project Manager	Thato
Finance Manager	Rampedi Masemola
Communications Lead, if relevant	Marubini

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	Output 2.5. Relevant MDAs, LGAs and communities have the knowledge and skills to co-create and implement policies, plans and programmes to ensure the sustainable management and conservation of South Sudan's natural resources # of people directly benefitting from initiatives to protect nature and promote sustainable use of resources disaggregated by Gender IFAD
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"> 15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements 15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species 15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species

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	15000 ha	33400 ha cumulative	33400 ha	
4.1- Area of landscapes under improved	100000 ha	300000 ha cumulative	300000	

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	
management to benefit biodiversity				
6.7- Emissions avoided outside AFOLU sector (Direct)		8,703,692 metric tons of CO2 equivalents	8,703,692 metric tons of CO2 equivalents	
11.1- Male	100	200 cumulative	200	20
11.2- Female	210	420 cumulative	420	20

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

The Project Cooperation Agreement between UNEP and DFFE came into effect on 20 January 2023. With regards to the agreements with implementing partners, agreements with two of the project partners have been signed, namely: ARC and SANBI. The agreement with DWS was finalised and is awaiting signatures by the Director Generals of the two departments. The draft agreement with the BMA is in place. The DFFE is working with the BMA to finalise for signatures. The BMA is leading outputs 1,1, 1.2 and 1,3 which were transferred to them when the entity started operating on 1st April 2023, following the signing into law of the Border Management Authority Bill that gave effect to its establishment as an organ of state tasked with all functions relating to the management of national borders, including the ports of entry targeted in this project. At the time of approval, these output were going to be led by the DFFE, however, following transfer of all DFFE biosecurity officials who were going to lead

outputs relating to ports of entry to the BMA, the outputs had to be transferred for efficiency in execution. The draft Agreement with Birdlife SA is in place and the DFFE is in engagements with them to finalise the agreement for signature. UNEP transferred the first tranche of 200 000 USD, however, there have been some challenges with locating the funds at National Treasury, however, the DFFE is taking the necessary steps to locate the funds for disbursement to project partners. In the interim, project partners have undertaken some work in line with the project workplan as follows:

Output 1.1: An inter-agency 'Biosecurity Risk Assessment/ Targeting Centre (BRA/TC) is established and operational - Draft ToR for the appointment of the Risk Indicator, Technical Specification for system and sub-system and Operating Model consultants have been compiled.

Output 1.2: A sea container and break-bulk cargo biosecurity risk management system is piloted - Engagements were held with Department of Transport and Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) on 22-23 April and 31 May 2024 to identify a suitable site at the Durban harbour. Initial exchanges with New Zealand have been undertaken for their guidance on possible facilities that could help execute the planned activities.

Output 1.3: A small team of biosecurity detection dogs and their handlers are operational at key ports of entry - Procurement of four (4) Sniffer Dogs under the Agricultural Specialized Function has been initiated.

Output 1.4: New and emerging invasive species monitored and controlled - A strategy and implementation plan for how Outputs 1.4 will be executed has been developed;

Output 2.1: A 'biosecurity awareness and involvement campaign' is developed and implemented as a leverage point through which to engage the community about the importance of pre- and post-border biosecurity and influence public perception about biosecurity - A draft awareness guidance framework has been developed; An initial stakeholder mapping for various target groups was conducted.

Output 2.2: A centralized Biosecurity Information and Risk Analysis System is operational and freely accessible to all responsible public biosecurity institutions- A strategy and implementation plan for how Outputs 1.4 will be executed has been developed;

Output 2.3: Invasive alien species are controlled at key sites with the involvement of rural communities using the Adopt-a-River approach - A site visit was undertaken in Eastern Cape in September 23 to conduct a baseline monitoring survey to assess the current state of the Tsitsa catchment; to select potential river sites for citizen science water monitoring; and to engage relevant stakeholders in the area; Several stakeholder engagements were held in the Eastern Cape, including with Traditional leaders and area Councilors Walter Sisulu University Meeting with the Eastern Cape Counterparts; A site visit was conducted at the Tolwane River catchment in Gauteng; An Engagement was held with the Winterveldt community, ward councilors, and the City of Tshwane; and a first draft of the stakeholder engagement report has been developed and will be a living document throughout the project.

Output 3.1.1: Invasive House Mice eradicated from Marion Island - Appointed staff to conduct on-island monitoring for operational planning and long-term monitoring.

Output 3.1.2: Improved biosecurity protocols developed and implemented for the Prince Edward Islands (Marion Island and Prince Edward Island) - DFFE circulated draft Biosecurity Handbook for comments, BLSA inputs provided. DFFE developed biosecurity presentation and provided training to Marion Island overwintering team on 08/04/2024.

Output 3.2.1: Biocontrol agents for priority invasive plant species developed and released - Collection and propagating of target and test plants and desktop research was conducted.

Output 3.2.2: Existing biocontrol agents for T. stans and A. cordifolia mass-reared and released- Collection and propagating of target and test plants and desktop research was conducted.

Output 3.2.3 Capacity of researchers in the development of biocontrol agents enhanced - Collection and propagating of target and test plants and desktop research was conducted.

Establishment of the project management unit - The DFFE finalised the recruitment process, however this was affected by the halting of recruitment due to cost containment measures, which also affected donor funded projects. This was resolved and three project management staff have been appointed as follows: Project Manager (assumes duty on 1 September); Biodiversity Officer (assumes duty on 1 August); and Biodiversity Officer (assumes duty on 1 September).

Project Steering Committee - A PSC was constituted and the first meeting which established the PSC was held on 20 June 2023, which also served as the inception meeting given the inception meeting was held on 3-4 November 2022, prior to signing of the agreement. The second PSC was held on 27 June 2024.

2.4 Co Finance

Planned Co-finance:	\$ 22,844,660
Actual to date:	
Progress	Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges: The project has just started. The partners will report on their co-finance after they have received their grant and started working on the project

2.5. Stakeholder

Date of project steering committee meeting	2024-06-27
Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)	<p>The following stakeholder engagement have been held:</p> <p>Inception meeting - 3-4 November 2022</p> <p>Technical Meeting - 25 June 2024</p> <p>Project Steering Committee - 20 June 2023; 27 June 2024</p> <p>Technical Working Group Meetings for Output 1.2</p> <p>Briefing of the Commissioners of the BMA</p> <p>Stakeholder engagement during the site visit in the Eastern Cape in September 23 to conduct a baseline monitoring survey to assess the current state of the Tsitsa catchment and to select potential river sites for citizen science water monitoring.</p> <p>Stakeholder engagements in the Eastern Cape, including with Traditional leaders and area Councilors</p> <p>Meeting with Walter Sisulu University</p> <p>Stakeholder engagement during the site visit at the Tolwane River catchment in Gauteng, including engagement with the Winterveldt community, ward councilors, and the City of Tshwane</p>

2.6. Gender

Does the project have a gender action plan?	Yes
Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):	The stakeholder engagements included participation of the targeted gender groups as per the gender action plan.

2.7. ESSM

Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)	<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>
New social and/or environmental risks	<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	<p>Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?</p> <p>No</p> <p>If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken?</p> <p>N/A</p>
Environmental and social safeguards management	The project is still new. Most of the activities have not yet been done as they were waiting for recruitment of project staff that have just came on board in July 2024. Therefore the substantial reporting on safeguards will be done in the subsequent reporting

2.8. KM/Learning

Knowledge activities and products	<p>The project is still new. Most of the activities have not yet been done as they were waiting for recruitment of project staff that have just came on board in July 2024.</p> <p>Therefore the substantial reporting on knowledge management will be done in the subsequent reporting</p>
Main learning during the period	<p>The project is still new. Most of the activities have not yet been done as they were waiting for recruitment of project staff that have just came on board in July 2024.</p> <p>Therefore the substantial reporting on knowledge management will be done in the subsequent reporting</p>

2.9. Stories

Stories to be shared	<p>The project is still new. Most of the activities have not yet been done as they were waiting for recruitment of project staff that have just came on board in July 2024.</p> <p>Therefore the substantial reporting on knowledge management will be done in the subsequent reporting</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
The efficient and effective management of high-risk invasive alien species (IAS) directly mitigates their negative impacts on South Africa's biodiversity assets, and indirectly contributes to the improvement of rural food security and livelihoods	New tools and methods of high-risk IAS surveillance are adopted by South African authorities at key national ports	There are numerous new and emerging invasive species that are currently not under management due to the absence of specific biosecurity risk management and surveillance systems.	South Africa's biosecurity systems are able to mitigate the negative impacts of IAS on biodiversity	Effective management of IAS is able to contribute to improved biodiversity and rural food security as well as livelihoods	0	Too early to describe attainment of the outcome level indicator	S
	Stakeholders partner with and support state biosecurity agencies in pre-border and post border risk analysis, surveillance, detection, reporting and control of high-risk IAS	Biosecurity management and systems (including data collection, storage, and sharing) are currently fragmented across several government departments and their agencies. The level of success in managing invasions is only 5.5%. In	A centralised biosecurity information and risk analysis system is in place. A biosecurity awareness campaign targeting all key stakeholder groups is in place Bioblitz projects in key areas developed and implemented.	Key stakeholders are actively engaged with state biosecurity agencies to conduct risk analysis, surveillance, reporting and control of IAS using a functional centralised biosecurity information and risk	0	Too early to describe attainment of the objective level indicator	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
		addition, there are very low levels of awareness on biological invasions and its legislation are low key stakeholder groups.		analysis system			
	Marion Island and Prince Edward Islands native biodiversity and ecosystem function are restored due to the absence of the invasive House Mouse	The House Mouse has re-configured species relationships on Marion Island through predation and competition.	Improved biosecurity and incursion response systems are in place to minimize future pest invasions	There is adequate research capacity and implementation of enhanced biosecurity measures leads to restoration of Marion Island ecosystems	0	Too early to describe attainment of the objective level indicator	S
	High risk plant species in South Africa are managed and controlled	Only 24.3% of the 556 listed invasive alien taxa in South Africa are subjected to regular management. The	Biocontrol agents, mass rearing and release protocols, as well as research capacity for IAS is developed.	Research capacity and biocontrol agents are available and actively being used for control of IAS	0	Too early to describe attainment of the objective level indicator	S
1. South African authorities adopt new tools and methods of high-risk IAS surveillance at key national ports	There is enhanced capacity at key national ports of entry to conduct integrated and coordinated surveillance of high risk IAS	Biosecurity risk information is currently processed at separate centres depending on the nature of the IAS involved. There is no	South Africa is operating under a regulatory regime that facilitates exchange of biosecurity risk data from between and	South Africa is operating integrated and coordinated surveillance of IAS at key ports of entry through an operational	0	Too early to describe attainment of the objective level indicator	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
		Biosecurity Risk Assessment/ Targeting Centre (BRA/TC)	within government entities and/or the private sector	Biosecurity Risk Assessment/ Targeting Centre (BRA/TC)			
	Durban harbour is able to mitigate the unintentional risks of introductions of the priority invasive species from container ships and break bulk cargo.	Durban harbour handles approx. 2.8 million containers per year (about 60% of the total number of containers handled at South African ports). It is estimated that three new alien taxa arrive in South Africa accidentally or illegally every year through ports of entry.	Watch lists of priority IAS, risk profiles of sea containers and break-bulk cargo and protocols for visual inspection of medium and high risk sea containers and break-bulk cargo are developed and under implementation at Durban harbor as part of a biosecurity risk management system	A biosecurity risk management system based on a national biosecurity risk policy and involving high-pressure container cleaning and washing, automated inspections and implementing a cost recovery module is operational and in use at Durban harbor	0	Too early to describe attainment of the outcome level indicator	S
	Affected ports of entry are utilizing biosecurity detection dogs for detection of high risk invasive species	There are no dedicated units where dogs are used by the Department of Forestry and Fisheries and the Environment for the	12 skilled and dedicated biosecurity detection dogs and 12 handlers are available and deployed for	ORTIA, Durban and Beit Bridge ports of entry are utilizing a team of four (4) biosecurity detection dogs and four (4) handlers to enhance	0	Too early to describe attainment of the outcome level indicator	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
		detection of potentially harmful agricultural pests in South Africa.	biosecurity detection at the 3 ports of entry i.e. ORTIA, Durban and Beit Bridge	their IAS surveillance			
	New and emerging invasive species are under effective monitoring and control	A Species Under Surveillance – Possible Eradication or Containment Targets (SUSPECT) list and a watch list for South Africa are currently available. There is inadequate investigation and management of the species contained in these lists.	Profiles of 29 prospective IAS by distribution, ecology, population density, reproductive strategy, patterns of distribution, impacts and feasibility of eradication are available	South Africa is actively controlling the new and emerging invasive species through five-year species-specific management plans	0	Too early to describe attainment of the outcome level indicator	S
2. Stakeholders partner with and support state biosecurity agencies in pre-border and post border risk analysis, surveillance, detection, reporting and control of high-risk IAS	Key stakeholders are aware and supporting state biosecurity agencies in surveillance, detection, reporting and control of high risk IAS	Many stakeholders are not aware of their role in the biosecurity and the problem of biological invasions in the country.	A communication plan is in place and under implementation to disseminate specific targeted messages on biosecurity to key stakeholders	12 stakeholder groups, including nursery owners; Green Industries Council; Landscapers Institute; fruit and nuts import and export companies; forestry and fishing industry; farmers	0	Contracts with SANBI and DWS have been finalised. Awaiting signatures. Undertook site visit for the adopt a river output as part of baseline gathering and planning for implementation. Held meetings with SANBI to discuss collaboration with DFFE on the awareness campaign	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
				urban and rural communities; environment clubs; conservancies; and pet trade industry are of aware and actively involved in biosecurity.			
	A centralized Biosecurity Information and Risk Analysis System is actively being utilized to engage communities about the importance of pre- and post-border biosecurity and influence public perception about biosecurity	There is no centralized biosecurity risk information system. Inter-agency coordination for biosecurity is currently fragmented/not clear across several government departments and their agencies (including data collection, storage, and sharing).	Appropriate plans are in place and being utilized to develop a centralized Biosecurity Information and Risk Analysis System	Communities and responsible biosecurity agencies are actively coordinating biosecurity responses through a centralized information and risk analysis system.	5	Contracts with SANBI and DWS have been finalised. Awaiting signatures. Undertook site visit for the adopt a river output as part of baseline gathering and planning for implementation. Held meetings with SANBI to discuss collaboration with DFFE on the awareness campaign	S
	Tsitsa and Tolwane rivers in the Eastern Cape and Gauteng provinces of South Africa	The Tsitsa and Tolwane river vegetation are composed of	Communities along the Tsitsa and Tolwane river systems are aware of	The abundance of IAS is cleared from the two river systems through	5	Contracts with SANBI and DWS have been finalised. Awaiting signatures. Undertook site visit for the adopt a river output as part of baseline	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
	are clear of invasive alien species	between 10 – 60% invasive alien species. Adopt-a-River approach has been utilized to clear IAS elsewhere but has not been tried in the Tsitsa and Tolwane river systems	the Adopt-a-River approach and are involved in the clearing of the two river systems of invasive alien species	community awareness and participation		gathering and planning for implementation. Held meetings with SANBI to discuss collaboration with DFFE on the awareness campaign	
	GHG emissions avoided/sequestered in the Tsitsa and Tolwane river systems	Emissions of 1,985,457 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e) are being avoided/sequestered in the Tsitsa and Tolwane river systems	At least 3,600,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e) avoided/sequestered in the Tsitsa and Tolwane river systems	5,253,575 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e) avoided/sequestered through reforestation in the Tsitsa and Tolwane river systems	0	Too early measure the outcome indicator level	S
	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment in management, risk analysis, surveillance, detection, reporting and control of high-risk IAS	Only a few stakeholders (women and men) have been directly capacitated and involved in management, risk analysis, surveillance,	At least 310 stakeholders (100 men & 210 women) participate as direct co-beneficiaries of GEF investment in management, risk analysis, surveillance,	At least 620 stakeholders (200 men & 420 women) participate as direct co-beneficiaries of GEF investment in management, risk analysis, surveillance,	5	Contracts with SANBI and DWS have been finalised. Awaiting signatures. Undertook site visit for the adopt a river output as part of baseline gathering and planning for implementation. Held meetings with SANBI to discuss collaboration with DFFE on the awareness campaign	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
		detection, reporting and control of high-risk IAS	detection, reporting and control of high-risk IAS	detection, reporting and control of high-risk IAS			
3.1 Marion Island is free of the House Mouse and the reintroduction of the mouse is controlled	Area of Marion Island under improved management through eradication of the invasive House Mouse	33,400 ha of Marion Island is infested with around 800 000 individuals of the invasive House Mouse at an average of 28 mice per hectare across the island, and higher in some areas	House Mouse is down to 50% of baseline in 15,000 hectares of Marion Island	33,400 ha of Marion Island is under improved management and free of the invasive House Mouse	5	this activity will be done by BirdLife South Africa. Prepared the draft agreement. Sent the drafts to BirdLife South Africa (BLSA) for their review and inputsHeld several engagements with BLSA to try and address the issues they have raised regarding the budget and other technical aspects of the agreements	S
	Relevant agencies have adequate capacity to manage and maintain rodent-free status at the Marion and Prince Edward Islands	There are limited guidelines and protocols to prevent the introduction and control of rodents at the Prince Edward Islands. There is no Incursion Response Plan for the islands.	Appropriate guidelines, protocols and approaches (in the form of a biosecurity handbook, incursion response plan and trained staff) are available and being utilized to maintain a mouse free Marion Island and Prince Edward Islands	All relevant agencies have built the necessary capacity through skilled manpower and are actively using appropriate guidelines, protocols and approaches to maintain and control a rodent-free Marion and Prince Edward Islands	5	Prepared the draft agreement. Sent the drafts to BirdLife South Africa (BLSA) for their review and inputsHeld several engagements with BLSA to try and address the issues they have raised regarding the budget and other technical aspects of the agreements	S
3.2 South Africa contains the spread of five high-risk	Area of landscapes under	Only 0.36% (108,000 ha) of	-Biocontrol agents for 5 IAS	300,000 ha of landscapes under	5	Finalized the agreement with ARC. Awaiting signatures.ARC has maintained	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
invasive plant species (Tecoma, Biancaea, Anredera, Xanthium and Schinus).	improved management through control of the spread of 5 high risk invasive plant species (Tecoma, Biancaea, Anredera, Xanthium and Schinus)	invaded land is subjected to active management/control of IAS. Only 6.4% of IAS populations have either been eradicated or brought under complete biological control.	(Biancea, Xanthium and Schinus) screened and application to release them submitted to regulatory authorities. 2 - 100,000 ha of landscapes under improved management though biological control of 2 IAS (Tecoma and Anredera) spread throughout distribution range	improved management through biological control of 5 IAS (Tecoma, Biancaea, Anredera, Xanthium and Schinus) throughout their distribution range		existing cultures of the biological control agents for the two target weeds.	
	2 Greenhouse gas emissions sequestered through improved biodiversity as a result of controlled spread of invasive alien species	2 Emissions of 3,000,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e) are being avoided/sequestered in the landscapes with IAS	2 At least 3,200,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e) avoided/sequestered in the landscapes under IAS management	2 3,450,117 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e) avoided/sequestered through reforestation in the landscapes under IAS management	5	Finalized the agreement with ARC. Awaiting signatures. ARC has maintained existing cultures of the biological control agents for the two target weeds.	S
	Local scientists are able to develop and	The level of knowledge required	3 researchers at the ARC have the	3 researchers at the ARC have the	5	Finalized the agreement with ARC. Awaiting signatures. ARC has maintained	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
	implement biocontrol measures against the 5 IAS	to fast-track the management and control of some species e.g. Cestrum, Shinus and Arundo, and also sustain practice is limited	requisite capacity to develop biocontrol management practices and techniques for management of IAS	requisite capacity to develop biocontrol management practices and techniques for management of IAS		existing cultures of the biological control agents for the two target weeds.	

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
Component 1. Strengthened IAS detection and surveillance capacities at key national ports of entry	Output: 1.1. An inter-agency 'Biosecurity Risk Assessment/ Targeting Centre (BRA/TC) is established and operational	31 Dec 2027	0	5	Held several engagements with the BMA to officially transfer output 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 activities to them and to discuss their five year workplan and agreement and their co-finance commitment. Conducted a site visit and the Durban Harbour site and had engagements with BMA, DoT and officials based at the harbour to discuss the approach to output 1.3 given the	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
					different role players involved	
	Output1.2. A sea container and break-bulk cargo biosecurity risk management system is piloted.	31 Dec 2027	0	5	Held several engagements with the BMA to officially transfer output 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 activities to them and to discuss their five year workplan and agreement and their co-finance commitment. Conducted a site visit and the Durban Harbour site and had engagements with BMA, DoT and officials based at the harbour to discuss the approach to output 1.3 given the different role players involved	S
	Output1.3. A small team of biosecurity detection dogs and their handlers are operational at key ports of entry	31 Dec 2027	0	5	Held several engagements with the BMA to officially transfer output 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 activities to them and to discuss their five year workplan and agreement and their co-finance commitment. Conducted a site visit and the Durban Harbour site and had engagements with BMA, DoT and officials based at the harbour to discuss the approach to output 1.3 given the different role players involved	S
	Output1.4. New and emerging invasive species identified monitored and controlled.	31 Dec 2027	0	5	Held several engagements with the BMA to officially transfer output 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 activities to them and to discuss their five year workplan and agreement and their co-finance commitment. Conducted a site visit and the Durban Harbour site and had	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
					engagements with BMA, DoT and officials based at the harbour to discuss the approach to output 1.3 given the different role players involved	
Component 2. Enhanced biosecurity communications and information flows	Output 2.1 A 'biosecurity awareness and involvement campaign' is developed and implemented as a leverage point through which to engage the community about the importance of pre- and post-border biosecurity and influence public perception about biosecurity	31 Dec 2027	0	5	Nomination of officials to form part of the GEF 7 AIS Task team for Output on Awareness CampaignHeld meetings with SANBI to discuss collaboration on this output and the roles and responsibilities for each of the activities. Initiated the development of a situational analysis	S
	Output 2.2 A centralized Biosecurity Information and Risk Analysis System is operational and freely accessible to all responsible public biosecurity institutions	31 Dec 2027	0	5	Held meetings with SANBI to discuss the agreement, budget and workplanFinalised the agreement. Awaiting signatures.	S
	Output 2.3 Invasive alien species are controlled at key sites with the involvement of rural communities using the Adopt-a-River approach	31 Dec 2027	0	5	Conducted a site visit at the Gauteng site as part of gathering baseline data and planning for implementation. Finalised the agreement. Awaiting signatures.	S
Component 3. Improved effectiveness of control measures for high-risk IAS	Output 3.1.1: Invasive House Mice are eradicated from Marion Island	31 Dec 2024	0	5	Prepared the draft agreement. Sent the drafts to BLSA for their review and inputsHeld several engagements with BLSA to try and address the issues they have raised regarding the budget and other technical aspects of the agreements	S
	Output 3.1.2: Improved biosecurity protocols developed for the	31 Dec	0	5	Prepared the draft agreement. Sent	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
	Prince Edward Islands	2024			the drafts to BLSA for their review and inputsHeld several engagements with BLSA to try and address the issues they have raised regarding the budget and other technical aspects of the agreements	
	Output 3.2.1: Biocontrol agents for priority invasive plant species are developed and released	31 Dec 2024	0	5	Finalised the agreement with ARC. Awaiting signatures.No activities have been done. ARC has only maintained existing cultures of the biological control agents for the two target weeds.	S
	Output 3.2.2: Existing biocontrol agents for T. stans and A. cordifolia mass-reared and released	31 Dec 2024	0	5	Finalised the agreement with ARC. Awaiting signatures.No activities have been done. ARC has only maintained existing cultures of the biological control agents for the two target weeds.	S
	Output 3.2.3 Capacity of researchers in the development of biocontrol agents enhanced	31 Dec 2024	0	5	Finalised the agreement with ARC. Awaiting signatures.No activities have been done. ARC has only maintained existing cultures of the biological control agents for the two target weeds.	S

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) The government shifts its priorities from financing IAS control. biosecurity monitoring and enforcement which is critical for long-term sustainability of project interventions (Category = Financial)		M						L	↓	
2) Lack of cooperation and		M						L	↓	

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
coordination between different public institutions in the management of IAS leads to inefficiencies in project implementation Category = Operational										
3) Conflicts between stakeholders over the regulation and management of IAS with perceived benefits undermines the efficacy of IAS control measures Category = Strategic		L						L	=	
4) Project interventions will focus on control and management of priority IAS in order to reduce threats to native biodiversity and ecosystem functioning. As such there may be an incidental risk of the project causing damage or introducing/spreading IAS. (Safeguard Standard 1: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Sustainable Natural Resource Management; Qs 1.1-1.12)		L						L	=	
5) Climate change may adversely influence the potential outcomes of IAS interventions. (Safeguard Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks; Qs 2.1 and 2.6)		L						L	=	
6) Management and control of IAS could involve occupational health and safety risks through inappropriate use of chemicals (herbicides, fungicides, pesticides). (Safeguard Standard 3. Pollution Prevention		L						L	=	

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
and Resource Efficiency; Qs. 3.3 and Safeguard Standard 4: Community Health. Safety and Security; Qs 4.2 and 4.5)										
7) Emerging issues. such as COVID-19. particularly the emergence of variants that are resistant to vaccines. may hold up. delay or even jeopardize the implementation of the project altogether. In the short term. there is risk of increased COVID transmission due to people movements across project sites. while in the long term. there is a possible risk of other climate change-mediated diseases (and pandemics). (Safeguard Standard 4: Community Health. Safety and Security; Q4.3).		M						L	↓	
8) Project interventions (e.g. regulations. protocols. IAS control activities e.g. at ports of entry/exit and Adopt-a-River within river catchments) may result in changed access / restrictions on use / temporary loss of access to land and natural resources for local communities. (Safeguard Standard 6: Displacement and Involuntary Resettlement; Q 6.2)		L						L	=	
		L						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
OR International Airport	-26.13	28.24	993986		
Beitbridge	-22.22	29.08	1020393		
Durban Habor	-29.87	31.02	972056		
Marion Island	-46.90	37.75	7778802		
Tsitsa river of the Uzimvumbu catchment	-31.27	29.19	994438		
Tolwane river catchment in Winterveldt in Gauteng province	-25.17	27.64	948501		
Gauteng (Gerotek:	-25.70	28.56	1105723		
Limpopo (Letsitele:	-23.90	30.34	982996		
Albasini dam:	-22.61	29.87	1023472		
Mpumalanga (Mbuzini:	-25.93	31.95	977515		
White River:	-25.33	31.01	938694		

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

The project addresses IAS Management at national and municipal/district sites with a specific focus on:

Improving the operational management of high-risk introduction pathways for priority alien invasive species at the following port of entries:

OR International Airport (26° 08' 00" S, 028° 15' 00" E)

Beitbridge (22° 13' 51.6" S, 29° 59' 13.2" E)

Durban Habor (29° 52' 24" S, 31° 01' 28" E)

Increasing the capacity to secure and manage a rodent-free status on Marion Island (46° 53' 19" S, 37° 44' 08" E), one of the two Prince Edward Islands in the southern Indian Ocean, about 1190 miles (1920 km) southeast of Cape Town.

Controlling Invasive Alien Species at key sites with the involvement of rural communities using the Adopt-a-River approach at two river systems:

Tsitsa river of the Uzimvumbu catchment in the Eastern Cape at the following sites: Mpetsheni 31° 5' 17" S, 28° 40' 8" E; Sibomvaneni 31° 5' 1" S, 28° 37' 51" E; PG Bison Plantations 31° 9' 35" S, 28° 12' 31" E and Nontlangatshe 30° 45' 49" S, 28° 3' 23" E), and

Tolwane river catchment (25° 28' 53" S, 28° 1' 56" E) in Winterveldt in Gauteng province.

Containing the spread of high-risk invasive plant species at thirteen sites across the provinces of:

Gauteng (Gerotek: 25° 45' 40" S; 28° 1' 27" E),

Limpopo (Letsitele: 23° 54' 32" S, 30°22'34.1" E; Hoedspruit: 24° 21' 0" S, 30° 58' 0" E; Leroro: 24° 36' 33" S, 30° 47' 19" E; Albasini dam: 23° 05' 16.5" S, 30° 06' 45.8" E),

Mpumalanga (Mbuzini: 25° 55' 48" S, 31° 57' 0" E; White River: 25° 25' 21" S; 31° 15' 54" E),

KwaZulu Natal (Mandeni, 29° 9' 8" S, 31° 23' 15.9" E; Jozini: 27° 15' 7" S, 32° 23' 23" E; Pennington: 30° 22' 41" S, 30° 42' 1" E; Ferncliffe: 29° 33' 33.7" S, 30° 19' 31.4" E;

Isiphingo: 29° 59' 16.9" S, 30° 56' 15.87" E), and

Eastern Cape (Near Bisho: 33° 30' 83" S; 27° 20' 89" E).

A synoptic map of the locations of the above-mentioned project sites is attached

[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 20:44:18	Download
Draft minutes of the GEF 7 AIS PSC Meeting - 20 June 2023.docx	Executing Agency	2024-07-30 14:45:19	Download
GEF7 AIS PSC TORs.docx	Executing Agency	2024-07-30 14:43:51	Download
Draft PSC Meeting Minutes 27 June 2024.docx	Executing Agency	2024-07-30 14:42:47	Download
Draft Minutes of the GEF 7 Technical Group Meeting of 25 June 2024.docx	Executing Agency	2024-07-30 14:41:46	Download