

# GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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## General Project Information

### Project Title

Sustainable management of water and rangeland resources for enhanced climate resilience of rural communities in Djibouti

### Region

Djibouti

### GEF Project ID

11284

### Country(ies)

Djibouti

### Type of Project

FSP

### GEF Agency(ies):

UNDP

### GEF Agency ID

9692

### Executing Partner

Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development

### Executing Partner Type

Government

### GEF Focal Area (s)

Multi Focal Area

### Submission Date

4/13/2023

### Project Sector (CCM Only)

Climate Change Adaptation Sector

### Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Sustainable Pasture Management, Sustainable Livelihoods, Income Generating Activities, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Productivity, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Community-based adaptation, Livelihoods, Climate resilience, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Least Developed Countries, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Stakeholders, Local Communities, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Participation, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Indigenous Peoples, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, SMEs, Beneficiaries, Communications, Awareness Raising, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Access to benefits and services, Participation and leadership, Capacity Development, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Integrated Programs, Food Security in Sub-Sahara Africa, Land and Soil Health, Resilience to climate and shocks, Integrated Land and Water Management, Small and Medium Enterprises, Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration, Comprehensive Land Use Planning, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Targeted Research, Knowledge Generation, Enabling Activities, Learning, Theory of change, Adaptive management

### Type of Trust Fund

MTF

### Project Duration (Months)

48

### GEF Project Grant: (a)

21,076,147.00

### GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

### Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

1,896,853.00

### Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

0.00

Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d) 22,973,000.00	Total Co-financing 63,300,000.00
PPG Amount: (e) 300,000.00	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f) 27,000.00
PPG total amount: (e+f) 327,000.00	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f) 23,300,000.00

Project Tags

CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No

### Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, including: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? (ii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? (iii), how will this be achieved (approach to deliver on objectives), and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. The purpose of the summary is to provide a short, coherent summary for readers. The explanation and justification of the project should be in section B “project description”. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

Djibouti is one of the lowest-income countries in the world, with an estimated 40% of the population living in poverty and 23% in extreme poverty (<USD1.9/per person/day)<sup>[11]</sup>. When only considering rural regions, this indicator increases to 63% for poverty, with 45% of that experiencing extreme poverty, highlighting a pronounced contrast between urban areas and the rest of the Country<sup>[2]</sup>.

Djibouti is one of the most water-stressed countries in the region and consistently exposed to the climate risks – flood and drought. The extent of climate risks imposed by flooding and drought is more pronounced among the rural communities whose livelihood is dependent on the natural resources. Extreme climatic conditions occur regularly in Djibouti. The average rainfall is 150 mm to 300 mm per year, and the frequency of extreme events, particularly droughts, has increased over the last three decades. Repeated droughts between 2008 and 2011 had severe and widespread consequences. Projections of future climate patterns show a temperature increase of between 0.6 and 2.4 °C by 2050 and a reduction in rainfall of up to 11%, resulting in severe droughts and sea level rise. This will in turn affect essential socio-economic sectors including agriculture, livestock, fishery, tourism and water resources.

Climate change is expected to significantly contribute to increasing food insecurity in the Country. Djibouti’s rural population is particularly at risk from increasing aridification and water shortages as they mainly reside in deserts or marginal lands. In remote areas in the northwest and central parts of the Country, increasingly recurrent droughts in the winter season have already led to reduced pasture areas. The proposed project will enhance rural communities’ climate resilience against the increasing intensity and occurrence of floods and droughts in Djibouti’s Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, Tajdoura and Obock regions by enhancing sustainable access to water and improving land management. The project objective is to promote food, water and livelihood security in the context of increasing intensity and occurrence of floods and droughts in Djibouti’s Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, Tajdoura and Obock regions. To support community climate resilience, the proposed project will improve national and regional capacity for incorporating ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) and integrated landscape management into policies and plans. Additionally, an enabling environment will be created for gender-responsive early warning systems (EWS) at the community level to strengthen the capacity of communities to respond to extreme climate events. By addressing communities’ need for improved water resources and land management through

Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), the project will contribute to their food and water security, which will be underpinned by sustainable livelihood development.

To achieve the project objective, four outcomes have been identified, including: i) the development of institutional capacity and policy for flood and drought management; ii) accessing EWS for floods; iii) enhancing water access and flood protection in vulnerable communities of the target regions through hybrid nature based solutions (EbA) and hard infrastructure; iv) applying improved EbA approaches to restore rangelands, specifically for pasturelands affected by overgrazing and over exploitation; and v) the diversification and development of sustainable livelihoods for enhanced adaptive capacity in the target communities. The expected results include national and regional policies for integrated climate change adaptation (CCA) and data-informed decision-making, improved community access to water resources, reduction of land degradation through restoration and management strategies, and sustainable community livelihoods.

The proposed project will target six water stressed rural areas of Djibouti throughout the four target regions — Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, Tajdoura and Obock. It is estimated that approximately 1,000 ha per region will undergo restoration activities, resulting in a total of 4,000 ha of restored land. The population in the rural remote areas is relatively sparse and is spread over small, remote localities with the highest water stress levels. The number of beneficiaries supported by the project interventions is estimated to be 7% of the total population. The exact number of beneficiaries will be determined at a later stage.

[1] World Bank Group. 2020. Poverty and equity brief. Available at: [https://datbankfiles.worldbank.org/public/ddpext\\_download/poverty/33EF03BB-9722-4AE2-ABC7-AA2972D68AFE/Global\\_POVEQ\\_DJI.pdf](https://datbankfiles.worldbank.org/public/ddpext_download/poverty/33EF03BB-9722-4AE2-ABC7-AA2972D68AFE/Global_POVEQ_DJI.pdf)

[2] Ibid

## Indicative Project Overview

### Project Objective

Enhancing climate change resilience for rural communities to achieve food, water and livelihood security by improving water access through water resource management and infrastructure, improved institutional capacity and climate risk preparedness

### Project Components

#### Component 1. Enabling environment for climate change adaptation in Djibouti.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
800,000.00	5,000,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1: Institutional capacity, policy and knowledge management developed.

Output:

- 1.1. Institutional capacity for national policy- and decision-makers built to incorporate Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) and integrated landscape management into policies and plans.
- 1.2. Regional administration and sectoral regional authorities trained (using existing Technical Assistance Networks) for developing and upscaling **integrated** water resource management techniques;.

## Component 1. Enabling environment for climate change adaptation in Djibouti.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,000,000.00	5,000,000.00

Outcome:

### Outcome 2: Early Warning System for flood preparedness strengthened

Output:

- Output 2.1: Enabling environment established/strengthened for community-based and gender-aware early warning systems (EWS) by training appropriate government institutions
- Output 2.2: Regional-level EWS installed and operationalized with technically sound human resources to facilitate better data collection, analysis and dissemination of gender-responsive early warning
- Output 2.3: Network of Early Warning System established at the regional level and aligned with national Early Warning Systems

## Component 2. Enhancing water and land resource management for improving water security and climate resilience of rural communities.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
10,400,000.00	23,000,000.00

Outcome:

### Outcome 3: Water access and flood protection for vulnerable communities in Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, Tajdoura and Obock enhanced.

Output:

- 3.1 Sustainable groundwater access points established using solar-powered pumps and associated infrastructure in 6 villages.
- 3.2. Surface and sub-surface storage and catchment points constructed or enhanced via microdams and underground storage tanks.
- 3.3. Flood damage and erosion protection for downstream areas installed using **hybrid Nature-based Solutions and hard** infrastructure such as infiltration galleries and gabions.

## Component 2. Enhancing water and land resource management for improving water security and climate resilience of rural communities.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,300,000.00	1,000,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3: Water access and flood protection for vulnerable communities in Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, Tajdoura and Obock enhanced.

Output:

3.2. Surface and sub-surface storage and catchment points constructed or enhanced via microdams and underground storage tanks.

## Component 2. Enhancing water and land resource management for improving water security and climate resilience of rural communities.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,765,356.00	5,000,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4: Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) approaches applied, rangelands and ecosystem services restored and improved.

Output:

4.1 Rangelands and oases restored through nature-based solutions (EbA) to improve soil and groundwater health.

## Component 2. Enhancing water and land resource management for improving water security and climate resilience of rural communities.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
150,000.00	1,000,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4: Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) approaches applied, rangelands and ecosystem services restored and improved.

Output:

4.2 Gender-responsive EbA approach training for communities provided in improved rangeland management practices

**Component 3. Developing sustainable livelihoods to improve food security and adaptive capacity of rural communities in Djibouti.**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,000,000.00	12,000,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 5: Sustainable livelihoods for enhanced adaptive capacity diversified and developed.

Output:

5.1 Nature-based livelihoods, which support surrounding ecosystems diversified for improved food security.

**Component 3. Developing sustainable livelihoods to improve food security and adaptive capacity of rural communities in Djibouti.**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
981,928.00	2,000,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 5: Sustainable livelihoods for enhanced adaptive capacity diversified and developed.

Output:

5.2 . Community cooperatives, women's groups and community savings plans developed to promote livelihood development and enhanced food security within target communities.

5.3 Performance-based grants provided to the women-led and/or women-owned civil society organizations and cooperatives to promote nature-based livelihoods

**Component 4: Knowledge management and Monitoring and Evaluation**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
367,619.00	5,000,000.00

Outcome:



**Outcome 6: Knowledge Management and Dissemination ensured for evidence-based decision-making and scaling up of best practices**

Output:

Output 6.1: Knowledge-management platform upgraded to integrate nature-based **solutions for** climate change adaptation (**EbA**) into existing climate change knowledge platform

Output 6.2: Effective dissemination and mutual sharing of best practices and lessons learned for regional and national stakeholders facilitated and documented;

**M&E**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
271,429.00	800,000.00

Outcome:

**Outcome 6: Knowledge Management and Dissemination ensured for evidence-based decision-making and scaling up of best practices**

Output:

Output 6.3 Effective Monitoring and Evaluation Plan implemented.

**M&E**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
36,190.00	200,000.00

Outcome:

**Outcome 6: Knowledge Management and Dissemination ensured for evidence-based decision-making and scaling up of best practices**

Output:

Output 6.3 Effective Monitoring and Evaluation Plan implemented.

**Component Balances**

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1. Enabling environment for climate change adaptation in Djibouti.	800,000.00	5,000,000.00
Component 1. Enabling environment for climate change adaptation in Djibouti.	2,000,000.00	5,000,000.00
Component 2. Enhancing water and land resource management for improving water security and climate resilience of rural communities.	10,400,000.00	23,000,000.00
Component 2. Enhancing water and land resource management for improving water security and climate resilience of rural communities.	1,300,000.00	1,000,000.00
Component 2. Enhancing water and land resource management for improving water security and climate resilience of rural communities.	2,765,356.00	5,000,000.00
Component 2. Enhancing water and land resource management for improving water security and climate resilience of rural communities.	150,000.00	1,000,000.00
Component 3. Developing sustainable livelihoods to improve food security and adaptive capacity of rural communities in Djibouti.	1,000,000.00	12,000,000.00
Component 3. Developing sustainable livelihoods to improve food security and adaptive capacity of rural communities in Djibouti.	981,928.00	2,000,000.00
Component 4: Knowledge management and Monitoring and Evaluation	367,619.00	5,000,000.00
M&E	271,429.00	800,000.00
M&E	36,190.00	200,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>20,072,522.00</b>	<b>60,000,000.00</b>
Project Management Cost	861,839.00	2,500,000.00
Project Management Cost	141,786.00	800,000.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>	<b>21,076,147.00</b>	<b>63,300,000.00</b>

Please provide justification

## PROJECT OUTLINE

### A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Briefly describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

### Geographical and physical context

1. The Republic of Djibouti (hereafter referred to as Djibouti) is a small African country, covering ~23,200 km<sup>2</sup>. It is in northeast Africa along the Gulf of Aden, which is south of the Red Sea (Figure 1). Djibouti shares borders with Eritrea, in the north; Ethiopia, in the west and south; Somalia, in the southeast; and it has a coastline of 314 km in the east. Administratively, Djibouti is divided into six regions: Arta, Ali-Sabieh, Dikhil, Tadjourah, Obock and Djibouti City. Each region is named after its capital town<sup>[1]</sup>.



Figure 1. Administrative map showing the location (inset2) and regions of Djibouti<sup>[2]</sup>.

2. Geologically, the country is primarily a rocky semi-desert landscape with shallow soils characterised by low fertility, apart from a few alluvial zones<sup>[3]</sup><sup>5</sup>. Djibouti's soils and landscape have been influenced by a series of volcanic events related to its location on the junction of three major fault lines. The primary rift<sup>[4]</sup><sup>6</sup> line — formed by the Gulf of Tadjourah and the Assal Lake — divides the country into two parts: i) the northern region, dominated by three mountain ranges; and ii) the southern and western regions, where medium-elevation mountain ranges alternate with clay depressions.

## Governance and Administrative Overview

3. Djibouti is a parliamentary republic, with a president as the head of state and a prime minister as the head of government<sup>[617]</sup>. The Parliament, known as the National Assembly, is responsible for passing laws and overseeing the implementation of policies and programmes aimed at improving the lives of citizens and promoting economic development in the country. Administratively, Djibouti is divided into six regions, each with its own local government and administrative structures<sup>[618]</sup>. Each region is further divided into districts, which are the main administrative units in the country. Districts are responsible for implementing government policies and programmes at the local level; they also provide essential services to citizens, such as healthcare and education, and play a crucial role in the socioeconomic development of local communities<sup>[719]</sup>.

## Socio-economic Context

### Population and demography

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4. In 2022, Djibouti recorded a population of ~1 million people, with 50% men and women, respectively. The country has an annual population growth rate of ~1%, which has been declining since the 1950s<sup>[8]10</sup>. The largest city in the country is the capital, Djibouti City, inhabited by ~600,000 people, which represents over 50% of the nation's total population. The rate of urbanisation over the past five years was estimated at 2% per annum; approximately 80% of the country's population lives in urban areas<sup>[9]11</sup>. In contrast to the urban and peri-urban contexts, Djibouti's rural hinterland is sparsely populated and comprises primarily nomadic herders.

### Economy

5. Djibouti has a gross domestic product (GDP) of ~US\$2 billion, with a consistent growth rate of 3.4% over 2020–2022. Oriented towards exports, the urban commercial sector contributes to ~75% of Djibouti's GDP. The industrial and manufacturing sectors account for ~20% of the GDP, while agriculture contributes only ~5%.
6. Djibouti is one of the lowest-income countries in the world, with an estimated 40% of the population living in poverty and 23% in extreme poverty (<USD1.9/per person/day)<sup>[10]12</sup>. When only considering rural regions, this indicator increases to 63% for poverty, with 45% of that experiencing extreme poverty, highlighting a pronounced contrast between urban areas and the rest of the country<sup>[11]13</sup>.

### Gender dynamics

7. Women, who represent half of Djibouti's population<sup>[12]14</sup>, experience gender inequality and discrimination. The Gender Inequality Index — a composite measure that indicates inequality between women and men in reproductive health,
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empowerment and the labour market — ranks Djibouti at 171 out of 189 countries<sup>[13][15]</sup> assessed in 2021<sup>[14][16]</sup>, highlighting considerable gender disparities. These disparities are particularly evident in: i) literacy imbalances, at 53% and 34% for men and women, respectively; ii) access to formal work — women make up only 15% of the workforce in the formal private sector, 24% of civil servants, 10% of members of government, 13% of members of the National Assembly and 11% of regional and municipal councils; and iii) access to healthcare services — maternal mortality rates are high ( 3 per 1,000 births)<sup>[15][17]</sup>.

## Djibouti's Natural and agricultural resources

### Hydrology and water resources

8. The country is considered water scarce because it has almost no permanent usable surface water sources; its landscape is dominated by dry riverbeds known as wadis<sup>[16][18]</sup>. The majority of potential surface water is lost as surface runoff during irregular and low rainfall events through wadis into the sea or western plains, and a substantial amount is lost annually through evapotranspiration from temporary pools or rivers following rainfall events. As a result of the limited surface water, the country relies on groundwater, which accounts for ~95% of its water supply, including that used for pastoralism and crop irrigation. Aquifer recharge is slow and occurs primarily during flooding events by absorption through the wadi riverbeds. Consequently, only 5% of rainfall in the country contributes to groundwater recharge through infiltration<sup>[17][19]</sup>.
  
9. The extraction of groundwater in Djibouti is frequently challenging — obstacles include the depth of the aquifers (usually beyond 100m) and the elevated temperatures of extracted water, which can reach up to 80°C. As a result of these high temperatures, aquifer water is generally pumped directly into stone or cement reservoirs to allow it to cool before use. In rural areas, there is limited piped infrastructure, partially as a result of the sparse distribution of households. In such areas, groundwater is accessed through deep boreholes or superficial wells and then pumped into reservoirs, from where many

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community members collect it by hand. In contrast, in urban areas most of the population has access to piped water or other improved sources of water such as public taps, standpipes and rainwater collection<sup>[18]<sup>20</sup></sup>.

10. As a result of the country's substantial dependence on and extraction of groundwater, as well as the slow rate of aquifer recharge, this source is becoming increasingly saline<sup>[19]<sup>21</sup></sup>. The rise in salinity is related to the concentration of naturally occurring salts within aquifers increasing as water is extracted<sup>[20]<sup>22</sup></sup>. Another contributing factor is increasing saltwater intrusion from the coast as hydrostatic pressure within the aquifers decreases<sup>[21]<sup>23</sup></sup>. Djiboutian scientists have, therefore, cautioned against increasing the rate of groundwater use in four of the six regions of Djibouti — namely Arta, Ali Sabieh, Tadjourah and Dikhil<sup>[22]<sup>24</sup></sup>. In response to the above-mentioned challenges of limited water resources, the GoD has invested in alternative sources for the country, including the installation of a desalination plant — inaugurated in 2021 — to supply Djibouti City<sup>[23]<sup>25</sup></sup>.

### Agricultural systems

11. Djibouti's agriculture comprises two forms: pastoral and crop agriculture. The predominant agriculture is traditional nomadic pastoralism. Nomadic pastoralism is often the sole source of subsistence in rural pastoralist communities, with ~150,000 individuals (about 20% of the country's population) practising nomadic breeding<sup>[24]<sup>26</sup></sup>. Approximately 1,700,000 ha of the landscape is classified as pastoral lands suitable for herding<sup>[25]<sup>27</sup></sup>, which accounts for 94% of the country's territory. As a result of its strategic geographical position and notable port presence, Djibouti is well placed to increase agricultural contribution to the country's economy by exporting livestock. The limited access to water in Djibouti, however, as well as the nomadic nature of pastoralism have posed challenges to implementing pastoral economic expansion<sup>[26]<sup>28</sup></sup>.
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12. Compared to pastoralism, crop agriculture is a relatively recent activity in Djibouti and the development of small-scale farming is insubstantial. Only 10,000 ha of Djibouti's land is suitable for agriculture [27]<sup>29</sup>, of which 12% is currently in use [28]<sup>30</sup>. The limited cultivation of land is primarily because of the shortage of reliable water access points in rural areas. As a result, crop agriculture in the country primarily comprises small agricultural plots cultivated in settlements with boreholes or situated along on wadi banks, where water for irrigation can be more easily accessed.

### Ecosystems and ecosystem services

13. The agricultural systems described above, along with other natural resource-based rural livelihoods, are dependent on surrounding ecosystems and the services they provide. These ecosystems include: i) scattered patches of mangrove forest on the coast; ii) coastal desert in the northeast; and iii) xeric shrubland, which covers the majority of the country's interior [29]<sup>31</sup>. Mangroves benefit coastal communities by providing services such as protection against the impacts of coastal flooding, creating nurseries for fish and other marine species that fisherfolk depend on; the trees are also a source of fuelwood [30]<sup>32</sup>. Xeric shrublands — characterised by woody shrubs, grasses and cacti — are the major source of fodder for livestock and therefore critical for the sustainability of pastoralist livelihoods [31]<sup>33</sup>. In addition, these shrublands offer natural resources such as fuelwood and materials for crafts, and support the production of honey [32]<sup>34</sup> — which is undertaken in Ali Sabieh, Dikhil and Tadjourah, areas that fall within proposed project's focus.

14. Djibouti has a desert climate, with a mean maximum annual temperature of 32.2°C [33][35] and low, irregular rainfalls. There are two distinct seasons: a hot season (May–October), with temperatures ranging between 30–40°C and frequent strong, hot, dry sand winds; and a cool season (October–April), with milder temperatures of between 22–30°C (Figure 1), relatively high humidity (~70% [34][36]) and sea winds [35][37]. The mean annual precipitation for Djibouti is 245 mm, with the highest rainfall occurring from July to September during the hot season; however, precipitation is minimal nearly all year-round (Figure 2). The limited rainfall, coupled with extensive evaporation year-round, result in the country being particularly vulnerable to hydrometeorological and climate threats [36][38].

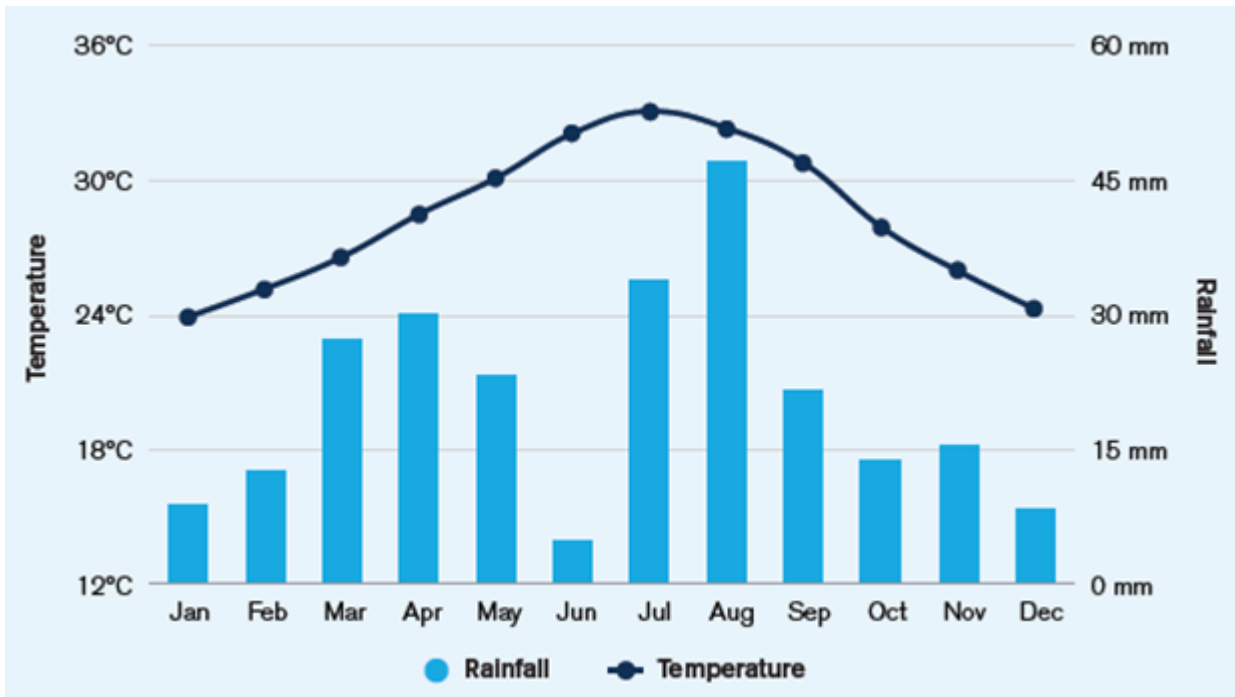


Figure 2. Average monthly temperature and rainfall of Djibouti for the period 1991–2019 [37][39].

15. The mean annual temperature in Djibouti between 1901–2019 was ~28°C (Figure 3a). During this period, the far north-eastern and a small portion of the south-eastern part of the country experienced the highest annual temperatures (~30°C). During the same period (1991–2019), precipitation patterns varied across the country (Figure 3b). The coastal zone — which experiences mainly monsoon rains — received an annual average of 107 mm of rain; this zone includes the project focus areas of Obock and Tadjourah. Summer rains water the country’s interior zone, which received an average of 127 mm of rain annually during the above-mentioned period; the interior zone includes focus areas Dikhil and Ali-Sabieh. The

intermediate zone, which includes the focus areas of Arta and Tadjourah, received the highest average annual rainfall of 158 mm.

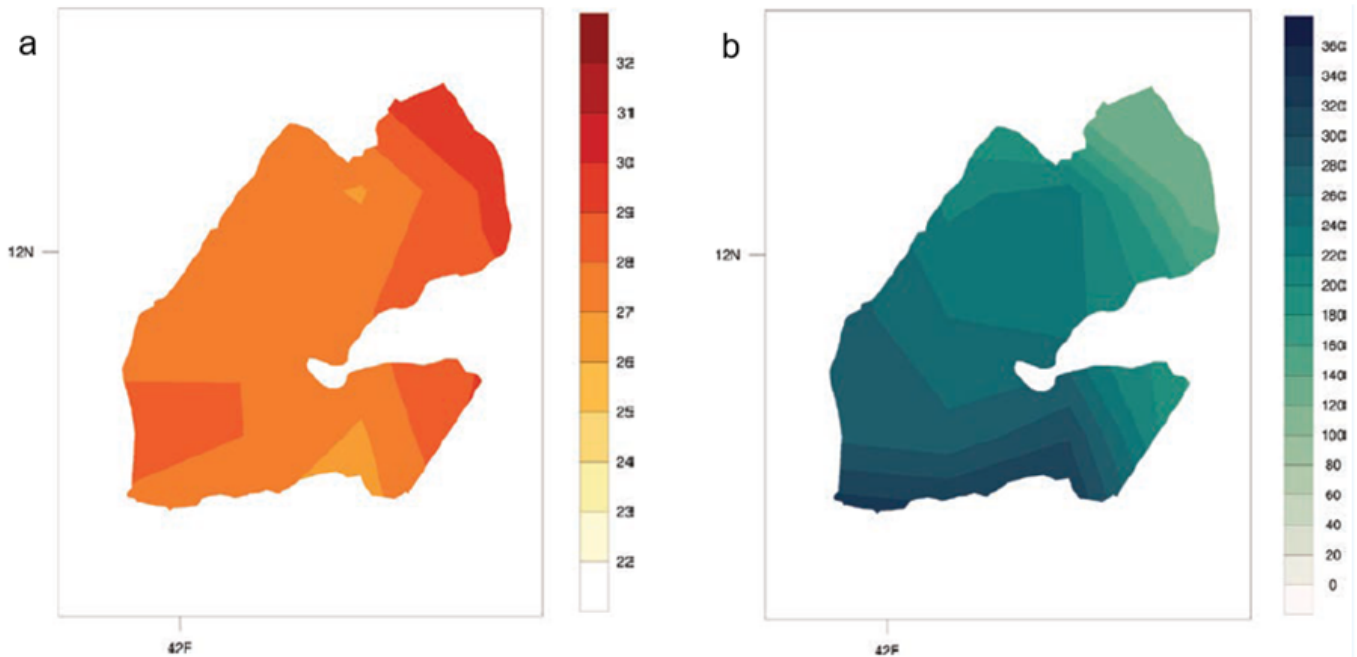


Figure 3. Map showing the spatial variation of (a) average annual temperature and (b) average annual precipitation for the period 1901–2019 across Djibouti [38]40.

### Observed and Projected climate change

16. The observed and projected main hazards and climate trends for Djibouti are summarised below. The Climate Risk Profile developed by the World Bank Group, shows:

- observed increase in frequency and length of drought periods;

- projected increase in drought intensity during the rainfall season;
- projected shortening of the rainfall season; and
- projected increase in flooding events over the shorter rainfall season.

Djibouti is a small country with little regional change in terms of climate conditions. The observed and projected hazards and climate trends listed above are also challenges faced by the regions in which the proposed project will operate, namely Ali-Sabeh, Dikhil, Obock and the Tadjourah districts. The observed and projected climate trends are explained in more detail below.

#### Historical changes

17. Since the 1960s until 2010, the East African region has experienced a temperature increase of 1.33°C with an average rate of 0.28°C per decade<sup>[39]<sup>41</sup></sup>. Between 1961–2010, maximum monthly temperature increases have been most rapid during Djibouti’s dry season — increasing 0.33°C per decade<sup>[40]<sup>42</sup></sup> — while there has been a significant increase in the average number of dry days between 1980–2018 (Figure 4). There has also been an increase in extreme high-temperature spikes, a pronounced increase in the number of warm nights and reduction of cool nights<sup>[41]<sup>43</sup></sup>. Between 1961-2016<sup>[42]<sup>44</sup></sup>, an 11 mm decrease in the annual average quantity of rainfall received has been observed at a national level (Figure 5)<sup>[43]<sup>45</sup></sup>. Over the same period, rainfall trends indicate varied region-specific changes, with a decrease of 37%<sup>[44]<sup>46</sup></sup> (40 mm) over the coastal zone, including Obock and Tadjourah; a 6% decrease in the interior zones of Ali-Sabeh and Dikhil; and an 11%<sup>[45]<sup>47</sup></sup> (12 mm) increase over the intermediate zones of Arta and Tadjourah<sup>[46]<sup>48</sup></sup>. These observed changes in rainfall

have led to an increase in the frequency and length of drought periods across Djibouti, especially in Obock and Tadjourah[47]<sup>49</sup>. For example, the country experienced its most substantial dry spells and intense drought periods during 1989, 1994, 2004–2005, and 2008–2011[48]<sup>50</sup>. Between 2020–2023, East Africa — including Djibouti — is experiencing the hottest temperatures and driest conditions since satellite record-keeping began in 1967[49]<sup>51</sup>. Djibouti — and in particular the Ali-Sabeh, Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah regions — has had four consecutive delayed or below-average rainfall seasons, and a fifth one is ongoing[50]<sup>52</sup>.

Figure 4. Evolution of the average number of dry days over a period of 37 years in Djibouti[51]<sup>53</sup>. (The portal did not allow for adding additional images. The project rationale was added as a separate document in the roadmap "Project rationale - Djibouti UNDP")

Figure 5. Average change in annual rainfall from 1961 to 2016 at the national level[52]<sup>54</sup>.

### Projected changes

18. U. Projected annual temperature changes under Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 4.5 and RCP 8.5 are 1.3°C and 2.1°C, respectively, for the period 2011–2100 (Table 1)[53]<sup>55</sup>. Further projections indicate a rapid increase in month-average temperatures by mid-century and an increase of as much as 5°C by the end of the century (Figure 6)[54]<sup>56</sup>.

Increasing temperatures accompanied by a greater number of hot days will result in higher water stress for vulnerable communities, livestock and crops and increased evapotranspiration, increasing drought intensity during the rainfall season across the Ali-Sabeh, Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah regions.

19. Projections further indicate shifts in intra-seasonal rains and a shortening of the rainfall season, with a decrease in cool season rainfall (September to February) across Djibouti and in the projected targeted regions<sup>[55]<sup>57</sup>,<sup>[56]<sup>58</sup></sup>. Under RCP 8.5 (Figure 7), the country is projected to experience an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme rainfall events, along with the possibility of extended periods of aridity<sup>[57]<sup>59</sup></sup>. Despite the potential increases in precipitation, droughts are expected to intensify as a result of longer dry spells, with a greater proportion of precipitation occurring in extreme rainfall events<sup>22</sup>. Based on observed historical trends, increasing drought conditions are expected during the hot season, along with increased flooding events as a result of increasing rainfall intensity over a shorter period during the wet season. Increased drought conditions and flooding events are also likely to impact the water balance<sup>[58]<sup>60</sup></sup> in Djibouti, with most predictions indicating a decline in water balance by the 2080s<sup>[59]<sup>61</sup></sup>. Ali-Sabeh, Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah will also experience the projected increases in drought and flooding events that apply across the country, increasing the impacts of rainfall changes in the targeted regions.</sup>

Table 1. Projected changes in annual average temperature according to the RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 scenarios for 2011-2100, using the reference period:1981-2010<sup>[60]<sup>62</sup></sup>.

	Projected temperature		Temperature variations		Percentage change in temperature variation compared to the reference period	
	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Djibouti	29.8°C	30.6°C	1.3°C	2.1°C	4.5%	7.3%

Figure 6. Historical and projected temperatures for Djibouti for the period 1986–2099 under four emission scenarios<sup>[61]<sup>63</sup></sup>.

Figure 7. HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED ANNUAL AVERAGE RAINFALL IN DJIBOUTI FOR THE PERIOD 1986–2099 UNDER FOUR EMISSION SCENARIOS<sup>[62]<sup>64</sup></sup>.

## Impacts of climate change

### Exposure to droughts and floods

20. Djibouti is extremely vulnerable to disaster risks, particularly because of its exposure to drought and flooding events (Figure 8); the country ranks 65 out of 180 countries on the 2019 INFORM Risk Index<sup>[63]<sup>65</sup></sup>. Droughts and floods negatively impact water and food security and can result in millions of dollars' worth of damage<sup>[64]<sup>66</sup></sup>. For example, a drought lasting from 2008–2011 led to US\$51 million in infrastructural damage<sup>[65]<sup>67</sup></sup>. Droughts also have substantial impacts on people — the country is experiencing its fifth consecutive below-average rainfall season (2020–2023), contributing to ~199,000 people being in humanitarian need <sup>[66]<sup>68</sup></sup> and resulting in ~192,000 people facing acute food insecurity<sup>[67]<sup>69</sup></sup>. In addition, most of the population is water insecure as a result of decreased groundwater availability<sup>[68]<sup>70</sup></sup>. Similarly, flood events impact the population substantially. For example, in 2019 Djibouti experienced heavy rainfall — 300 mm over three days,

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which is three times the annual average — triggering widespread flash floods<sup>[69]<sup>71</sup></sup>, which impacted ~250,000 people (26% of the population) and caused damage to critical infrastructure including roads, homes and schools<sup>[70]<sup>72</sup>,<sup>[71]<sup>73</sup></sup>. Rural areas, such as the communities of Tadjourah who are situated in a floodplain, are most negatively impacted by the droughts and floods as a result of their limited adaptive capacity<sup>[72]<sup>74</sup></sup>. This low capacity for adaptation is driven by numerous factors, including: i) limited funds to recover from extreme climate events; ii) recurring droughts; and iii) recurring flooding events.</sup>

Figure 8. Natural hazards experienced across Djibouti and the number of people impacted for the period 1980-2020<sup>[73]<sup>75</sup></sup>.

21. The projected increase of drought events across Djibouti is likely to lead to extreme heat stress. Figure 9 shows the risk of extreme heat stress across the Ali-Sabeh, Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah districts, highlighting the exposure of the target regions to drought and heat stress. In addition, the projected increase in flooding events will compound the already vulnerable inhabitants of Djibouti<sup>[74]<sup>76</sup></sup>. With 35% of Djibouti's economy chronically vulnerable to floods and drought<sup>[75]<sup>77</sup></sup>, projected increases in flooding events will increase their susceptibility to food and water insecurity, cause millions of dollars in damages to critical infrastructure and further impact the developing economy.

Figure 9. Risk of extreme heat across Djibouti<sup>[76]<sup>78</sup></sup>.

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## Impacts of climate change on water resources

22. Djiboutians depend on groundwater sources fed by rainwater infiltration, increasing their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change<sup>[77]<sup>79</sup></sup>. Approximately 95% of drinking water is supplied by groundwater, however, given the recent droughts, annual rainfall does not supply enough water for the recharge of water aquifers in Djibouti<sup>[78]<sup>80</sup></sup>. In 2015, 100 km long water supply lines were installed in Ali Sabieh, Dikhil and Arta including the capital to import water from Ethiopia. In the long run, the government estimates daily import of water will increase to 100,000m<sup>3</sup> to support rapidly growing socio-economic activities in the country<sup>[79]<sup>81</sup></sup>. Additionally, water quality is compromised as limited groundwater recharge, coupled with the intensification of pumping and seawater intrusion, have resulted in increasing salinity rates and the occurrence of brackish water for coastal communities in Obock and Tadjourah<sup>[80]<sup>82</sup></sup>. In rural areas across Ali-Sabeh, Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah, limited government and local financial means to maintain the existing infrastructure have resulted in decreased access to water resources for drinking and agricultural purposes. Increased periods of intense aridity and drought across the four target regions have led to more pronounced water scarcity with many herders and rural dwellers losing sources of pastoral and agricultural livelihoods<sup>[81]<sup>83</sup></sup>.
23. Water scarcity will increase as water availability and access decrease because of increased floods and droughts<sup>[82]<sup>84</sup></sup>. Increases in temperature are likely to reduce soil moisture, surface water and underground water stocks, even in conditions of increasing rainfall, such as the interior regions of Tadjourah<sup>[83]<sup>85</sup></sup>. This has the potential to further reduce the dependability of groundwater and surface-water sources during projected periods of drought or extended dry seasons<sup>[84]<sup>86</sup></sup>. Increased strain on groundwater pump mechanisms can lead to further falling water levels in areas of high demand, leading to decreased water access and availability. These combined impacts are likely to intensify the increasing water needs for drinking and agriculture purposes in the future, exacerbating preexisting water insecurity in Djibouti<sup>[85]<sup>87</sup></sup>.
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## Impacts of climate change on food security

24. Djibouti's National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) has identified that the most severe and damaging impacts from current and future climate change will result in greater food and water insecurity for the pastoral and farming communities. The country faces challenges of food insecurity and under- and malnutrition, with ~30% of children under five years suffering from chronic malnutrition<sup>[86]<sup>88</sup></sup>. Djibouti has a chronic food deficit and relies on imports to meet its food requirements. This makes the country highly sensitive to external shocks, such as spikes in food and fuel prices<sup>[87]<sup>89</sup></sup>.
  
25. The anticipated effects of climate change on agricultural livelihoods and food security in Djibouti are of concern nationally and regionally. Projected increases in temperature and prolonged dry periods across Ali-Sabeh, Dikhil, Obock and Tadjourah, may lead to livestock stress and reduced crop yields<sup>[88]<sup>90</sup></sup>. Drought conditions and increased water scarcity across the four target regions are expected to increase the risks of food insecurity and likely to exacerbate conflict over scarce resources, settlements and the movement of population and livestock<sup>[89]<sup>91</sup></sup>. Additionally, Djibouti's small agricultural sector will face increasing challenges, such as death of livestock and decreases in crop yields, likely to result in the loss of livelihoods<sup>[90]<sup>92</sup></sup>. The aforementioned challenges may be further compounded by climate stressors, environmental degradation and impacted water resources, which will present substantial obstacles to the country's ongoing efforts to address food insecurity.

## Impacts of climate change on rural livelihoods

26. Current prolonged drought and flooding events in Djibouti decrease the productivity of rural livelihoods — pastoral and agricultural — and the compounded impacts increase the vulnerability of communities. Numerous pastoral communities have partially or entirely lost their herds and crops as a consequence of drought, leading to increased malnutrition and food insecurity, and the relocation of pastoral communities to cities. For example, inhabitants facing food insecurity and livelihood threat in Tadjourah and Ali-Sabeh move into other regions, such as Dikhil, to trade or barter for food, such as bags of rice and pasta. Fodder deficits have been recorded as a major concern, with production decreasing from 390–216

tonnes between 2002 and 2007 because of the adverse impacts of flood and drought events<sup>[91]<sup>93</sup></sup>. Rural communities have and will continue to face challenges in acquiring water for their livestock and agricultural purposes, leading to decreased yields and eventually heightened food insecurity in rural communities. The impacts of droughts and floods have decreased the productivity of pastoral livelihoods and increased food insecurity in Djibouti, which is only projected to increase in intensity in the future.

27. Agricultural farmers are expected to experience similar consequences as extreme rainfall events will directly affect agriculture by damaging crops, flooding fields and stripping soils of their nutrients. Land degradation and soil erosion, which will be exacerbated by projected recurrent floods and droughts, are expected to adversely impact agricultural production and agropastoral livelihoods of the rural poor<sup>[92]<sup>94</sup></sup>. Furthermore, water shortages — now and in the future — will only increase the difficulty of growing crops, increasing rural communities' food insecurity.

#### Root causes of Vulnerability

28. Djibouti's climate is arid; the vegetation throughout the country is sparse and comprises primarily thorn scrub and palm trees<sup>[93]<sup>95</sup></sup>. Only ~10% of the total country area is arable land<sup>[94]<sup>96</sup></sup> — this scarcity of arable land results in most rural livelihoods focusing on nomadic pastoralism. Frequent overgrazing eliminates already sparse vegetation and prohibits the natural regeneration of plants<sup>[95]<sup>97</sup></sup>. As a result, the landscapes are exposed to substantial erosion and subsequent soil-health degradation. Traditional systems of transhumance<sup>[96]<sup>98</sup></sup> and community-level rangeland management once mitigated the impacts of grazing on the environment; however, intensifying climate impacts have led communities to prioritise survival needs over sustainable management practices<sup>[97]<sup>99</sup></sup>. In the absence of productive rangelands, communities turn to alternative sources of income — such as charcoal production — further exacerbating the degradation of natural vegetation and, in turn, driving further overgrazing.

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29. Human activities that cause land degradation intrinsically impact water availability. Loss of vegetation and the physical degradation of soils — caused by the trampling of livestock — leads to reduced groundwater recharge. As a result, a decline in surface-water infiltration and the subsequent lowering of the water table makes access to water from wells and boreholes — already tenuous in many areas — more difficult and unreliable. An absence of national or regional groundwater assessments further endangers sustainable water access for communities. Without enough information on water availability and spatial distribution, communities and local authorities cannot make informed decisions on sustainable management strategies.
30. Widespread poverty in rural communities further inhibits resilience to climate change impacts. Within these communities, people have limited access to insurance, alternative sources of income and the emergency funds necessary to recover rapidly from extreme climate events. Limited access to such resources creates a ‘poverty trap’ — disasters that disrupt people’s livelihoods further reduce their access to the tools that would help them recover, pushing them into more extreme poverty. The repetition of low-intensity but high-probability extreme climate events — such as frequent storms, floods or droughts — hinders their capacity to rebuild their livelihoods and invest in human capital, thereby perpetuating the cycle of poverty.

#### **Problem Statement and Preferred Solution**

31. In Djibouti, droughts and floods are projected to increase in intensity and frequency in the coming decades<sup>[98]100</sup>. As a result of these impacts, water resources and ecosystem integrity are vulnerable to degradation. Water scarcity and insufficient access to water resources result in lower adaptive capacity and increased sensitivity to changing climate conditions. Insufficient access to water also restricts livelihood options and opportunities for economic growth, thereby decreasing resilience to extreme climate events such as floods and droughts. These vulnerabilities are particularly significant within Djibouti’s rural populations, where only 47% of people have access to basic water services<sup>[99]101</sup>. Additionally, climate vulnerability hinders food security and economic growth in rural communities and limits the country’s potential to increase its human development index. The proposed project will focus on rural areas of high vulnerability in the Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, Tadjourah and Obock regions, where agropastoral rural communities experience food and livelihood insecurities because of insufficient water access (see Annex C for details on the project location).
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32. To improve climate resilience against the impacts of droughts and floods in Djibouti's rural areas, the proposed project will enhance the enabling environment for better climate adaptation strategies and integration of landscape management into policies and plans. The enabling environment will be facilitated by capacity building at the regional level, focusing on the establishment of early warning systems and information on sustainable landscape management. At the community level, early warning system information will be disseminated and improved water access will be prioritised, which will support community food and livelihood security, increase economic opportunities and promote sustainable land use.
33. To achieve the project objectives, the project will engage with various stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector actors and local communities. Technical assistance and capacity building will be provided to stakeholders to support improved water and land resource management. This will be underpinned by sustainable livelihood development to empower communities to derive benefits from improved management strategies. Overall, this project will enhance rural community climate resilience by improving water access and land-resource management to create sustainable livelihood futures.

#### Barriers to the Preferred Solution

**Barrier 1. GoD's limited institutional and technical capacity to plan and implement long-term climate change adaptation interventions, including ecosystem based adaptation (EbA), and integrated water resource management techniques.**

1. A major barrier to the adoption of climate change adaptation options is the limited institutional and technical capacity within the GoD to plan and implement long-term climate adaptation interventions at the national level, including the application of EbA and national integrated water resource strategies. Capacity limitations, combined with minimal cross-sectoral coordination between government departments, have resulted in nominal integrated and sustainable climate change adaptation strategies. There is a need to improve government officials and policy-makers technical skills for climate change adaptation to increase the country's adaptive capacity to the projected impacts of climate change<sup>[1]</sup>. In addition, limited coordination between sectors, coupled with competing mandates, is impeding policy and implementation of climate change adaptation in the country<sup>[2]</sup>.

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[1] World Bank Group. 2021. Climate Risk Country Profile: Djibouti.

[2] World Bank Group. 2021. Climate Risk Country Profile: Djibouti.

### **Barrier 2. Limited early warning systems for improved water management techniques and preparedness for extended dry seasons.**

35. While limited meteorological information on floods is collected in Djibouti, there is a significant gap in translating that information into EWS and response mechanisms to extreme climate events[102]<sup>102</sup>. Better coordination is required to strengthen the enabling environment at the national government level to establish EWS. The limited technical capacity of government to: i) receive the meteorological information; ii) convert it into appropriate EWS for rural communities for floods and prolonged droughts; and iii) communicate these warnings with rural communities so they may protect themselves, their homes, livelihoods and water resources undermines the effectiveness of existing EWS. Rural communities have insufficient training and tools to prepare for droughts and floods, which increases their vulnerability to the impacts of more intense droughts and flooding events. Additionally, constraints of the existing EWS hinder effective water management techniques and preparedness strategies, ultimately reducing rural Djiboutian communities' adaptive capacity to extreme climate events.

### **Barrier 3. Limited information and analysis of underground water resource management, land degradation and landscape resource management at the national and local level.**

36. Countrywide information on the underground water flows and fluctuations, watershed demarcations and the ground water recharge points and recharge rates versus extraction and salination rates is not available. The data and analysis is limited to the specific project sites and project objectives, which are not available in the public domain. The unavailability of the data is partly attributed to the lack of funds and the expertise to conduct a broad-spectrum assessment and partly because there is lack of knowledge management platforms to host, disseminate and update the data.
37. The dissemination of information related to landscape resources management, adaptation, and replication of landscape management and agropastoralism in order to address land degradation is inadequate[103]<sup>103</sup>. The GoD does not provide sufficient information to citizens about land degradation and sustainable agropastoral and land-management methods.

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Without a comprehensive national plan integrating landscape-management initiatives and sustainable livelihoods, there is limited capacity for integrated and sustainable management of landscape resources at scale in Djibouti<sup>[104]</sup><sup>104</sup>.

38. At the local level, semi-sedentary herders have limited knowledge of cultivation techniques to restore land, and they lack the necessary expertise and models to adapt their use of degraded land. This makes it difficult to develop agropastoral farming and sustainably manage scarce water resources<sup>[105]</sup><sup>105</sup>.

**Barrier 4. Limited regional and local data and information on groundwater and watershed management to inform evidence-based decision-making.**

39. Hydrogeological information and knowledge management is limited in Djiboutian rural communities. There is also limited experience in managing water resources based on watershed management approach and sound hydrological data on groundwater recharge and extraction rates<sup>[106]</sup><sup>106</sup><sup>[107]</sup><sup>107</sup>. As a result, there is limited ability to make informed decisions related to groundwater. In addition, the limited number of comprehensive, engineering-based assessments to identify appropriate sites and technologies is a notable data gap that impedes the decision-makers and planners to design sustainable water resource management interventions to improve access to water and increase the availability of groundwater through better recharge mechanisms in Djibouti<sup>[108]</sup><sup>108</sup>. These limitations constrain access to and availability of water resources by rural communities, thereby promoting water insecurity in the country.

**Barrier 5. Current water access infrastructure is insufficient for communities' needs in the face of climate change conditions.**

40. Current diesel-powered water pumps are insufficient for community needs as: i) diesel is expensive, susceptible to price fluctuations and not readily available; and ii) pumps are not guaranteed to function during or after drought and flooding events. The low resilience of the current water infrastructure leads to decreased water accessibility for rural communities exposed to drought and flooding events.
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## **Barrier 6. Limited capacity of communities to adopt climate-resilient livelihood practices.**

41. Pastoralist communities in rural areas do not have risk management options in place to cope with risks related to drought and flooding events stressing the need for diversified livelihood options to enhance their resilience. Risk management options could include alternative livelihoods or safeguards, such as social safety nets that provide financial assistance or access to drought-resistant crops. In Djibouti, rural communities have few viable alternatives to their traditional livelihoods because of limited government extension and livelihood development schemes<sup>[109]</sup><sup>109</sup>. In addition, these communities have minimal financial resources and no access to alternative funds to support themselves and their families during disaster events. The shortage of livelihood options for rural communities exacerbates their low adaptive capacity to climate-induced disasters and perpetuates the cycle of poverty and food insecurity.

### **Baseline Projects**

1. The project will build on the lessons learned from past and ongoing projects collected during terminal evaluations and other reports. Relevant projects include the Adailou Project (2014-2018), the Petit Bara Project (2015-2019) and the CCCD Project (2019-2022) which built institutional capacity and improved access to water and livelihoods of vulnerable people impacted by CC in Djibouti. In addition, an ongoing GEF project in one of the highly water-stressed regions – Chekheiti Watershed area, helps improve access to water to support agro-pastoral communities through a watershed management approach. Moreover, recently concluded USAID and African Development Bank projects on socio-economic recovery and flood response have been insightful in understanding the behaviour of vulnerable agro-pastoral communities and socio-economic implications in the event of climate risks.

2. Lessons learned from these projects were taken into considerations during the project formulation and will serve as baseline during the PPG phase. These include:



- i. Climate change adaptation interventions need to be designed based on in-depth consultations with local communities and authorities to better understand and identify historical trends and traditional practices adopted by communities in the event of floods and droughts.
- ii. The lack of hydrogeological assessments and dissemination of ground water flow patterns is one of the key drivers of increasing water stress in the regions.
- iii. During droughts, community members dig wells until they finally strike an aquifer, leading to uncontrolled extraction, with no proper storage mechanisms, causing wastage of water.
- iv. Communities build their wells inside wadis (drainage courses formed by water exclusively irrigated during rainy season), which are washed away or damaged by the debris during the rainy seasons. In the absence of information of the groundwater flow, water tables and aquifer recharge mechanisms, the locals and development projects continue to dig wells haphazardly, creating further stress on the water availability in these water deficient areas.
- v. The consultation with the local communities is important to guide the projects on the status of the past projects and also to be informed about the past successes, failures and attempts of improving water access in their respective communities.
- vi. The lack of coordination between different stakeholders including ministries, development partners and local actors results in overlap, duplication of effort and misuse of resources. It is important to adopt an integrated and multi-sectoral approach to address environmental and climate challenges. This involves coordination and collaboration between different sectoral partners such as the environment, agriculture, energy, and the ministry in charge of gender issues, to address the problems in a holistic manner and maximize synergies between the actions taken.
- vii. The Communities should be involved from the early stages of project planning and implementation to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of projects.
- viii. The lack of sustainable funding can limit the long-term impact of interventions and make it difficult to continue activities once the initial project funding has been exhausted, and the lack of an exit strategy if not properly put in place can jeopardize the sustainability and continuity of results achieved.

ix. Strong monitoring and evaluation mechanism can strengthen the capacity to measure real results and impacts throughout the project. The absence of robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms can make it difficult to identify problems, adjust strategies and learn from the organization.

42. The proposed project will ensure alignment with ongoing and planned initiatives relevant to water access and climate resilience in Djibouti, to enhance complementarity and reduce duplication of interventions. To this end, several projects have been identified and are detailed in Table 2 below. The specific coordination with these baseline initiatives will be elaborated during the PPG phase.
43. This project is part of a larger UNDP-coordinated Djibouti Climate Resilience and Livelihoods Programme, a multi-pronged approach aimed at playing a catalytic role in aligning systemic impacts that empower Djibouti in advancing an economic development model that enhances climate resilience of rural communities with strategic layering of different initiatives being developed under the overarching UNDP portfolio and complementing the relevant initiatives led by other development actors in the country.
44. Under the integrated programme, UNDP will build upon the past and ongoing projects on watershed management and improving access to water to build resilience of the climate vulnerable populations, mainly those in the rural areas. Complementing the proposed nature-based solutions aligned with EbA and sustainable landuse management approaches in this project, UNDP is formulating another project for the GCF funding aiming to support the Government of Djibouti (GoD) to use a catchment-based integrated water management approach to: (1) strengthen capacities of key stakeholders at national, regional, and local levels to better manage future crises and disasters resulting from the projected impacts of climate change; (2) improve access of agro-pastoralists to water supplies that are resilient to increasingly intense floods and dry periods to achieve climate resilient livelihoods; and (3) reduce the downstream impacts of floods through improved disasters management.
45. The project sites for these two complementing projects are selected based on the national adaption priorities and matched with each other to support IWRM in different watersheds through upstream and downstream linkages.
46. The integrated and coordinated developmental framework aims at enabling a strengthened baseline for climate resilience by enhancing last-mile delivery for access to finance and credit; access to clean, accessible and affordable energy; and, access to gender and youth-inclusive sustainable livelihoods. The major drivers for the intended impacts include institutional and policy alignment; coherent social inclusion that focuses on the urban-rural and gender gap, and, other vulnerable communities; and, collaboration with the private sector via leveraging development and public finance in garnering private capital for long-term sustainable investments. This is an opportunity for social investment that will feedback into the economic investment.
47. In addition, GCF funded Readiness Project on National Adaptation Plan (NAP) will support the capacity development interventions at the central and regional level to integrate climate change adaptation, resilience and sustainable financing into national and regional planning processes. The proposed interventions under Component 1, Outcome 1.1 will build upon the NAP project activities to support climate resilient development planning and prioritizing in Djibouti to ensure longer term climate change adaptation and resilience building objectives of the GEF and Djibouti are met.

48. Concerning the climate-energy-water nexus, the project will invest in building the policy foundation, creating multi-stakeholder climate-responsive planning and budgeting mechanisms, establishing community-based resource management governance mechanisms and developing demonstration projects which would address the access to finance, market and accountability challenges. All these parameters, which have been identified by the SDG Investor Map as the barriers to private sector engagement in the sustainable development financing, will be addressed by the project in the target areas providing an evidence of de-risking investments thus nurturing the meaningful private sector investment in the sector. The project will build upon the private sector leverage fostered by UNDP's past, existing and upcoming projects working with the private sector, including the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) funded by the GCF.

**TABLE 2. OVERVIEW OF BASELINE PROJECTS AND COMPLEMENTARITY WITH THE PROPOSED PIF.**

Baseline project information (value, implementation period, executing entity, fund)	Summary of project initiative	Alignment with proposed project
<p>Strengthening the productivity of plant cultivation and livestock</p> <p>USD7.5 million 2018-2022 European Union (EU)</p>	<p>The EU project aims to increase the capacity of agropastoralists through a deconcentrated technical assistance network developed from the central level, through the sub-directorates, then with the involvement of cooperatives and other organisations present in rural areas. The objectives of the project will be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increasing access to inputs and production services adapted to the needs of agropastoralists;</li> <li>• improving control of irrigation water; and</li> <li>• enhancing capacity for processing and marketing products.</li> </ul>	<p>The proposed project will build on local authority capacity using the existing technical assistance networks established by the EU project (Output 1.1.2). Capacity building activities under Component 1 will use the existing infrastructure to upscale agropastoralist capacity for resource and livelihood management and further development of water and land resource management techniques.</p>
<p>Sustainable management of water resources, rangelands and agropastoral perimeters in the Cheikhetti Wadi watershed of Djibouti</p> <p>USD16.2 million 2020-2025 UNDP, GEF</p>	<p>The GEF project's objective is to develop an integrated model for the restoration of agropastoral ecosystem services in the Cheikhetti Wadi watershed to reduce land and water degradation, improve self-sufficiency in basic living needs of vulnerable rural communities and create conditions to enable the project's replication. This project, approved for implementation in 2020, includes three components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strengthening existing governance structures for improved land and water management in the Cheikehetti Wadi watershed (this will include improving the active participation of agropastoralists and herders in multi-stakeholder management committees);</li> <li>• rehabilitating the land and replenishing the aquifer in the watershed; and</li> <li>• undertaking targeted piloting/ demonstration of best practice sustainable land management in the watershed</li> </ul>	<p>The proposed project has been designed to enhance water and land resource management through improved policies and training (Component 1) and increased access to land and water resources (Component 2). This design will align with the GEF interventions by scaling up land restoration and aquifer rehabilitation interventions to other parts of the country (Outcome 2.2). The interventions under Outcome 2.2 of the proposed project will also build on lessons learned and best practices shared by the Cheikhetti project. This information will further feed into the knowledge management activities under Output 1.1.3.</p>

<p>Programme for Soil and Water Management (PROGRES)</p> <p>USD18 million 2016-2024 IFAD</p>	<p>The development objective is to sustainably improve rural households' access to water and local resources, as well as their resilience to climate change. It aims to achieve this objective by scaling up best practices in mobilising surface water and managing environmental and climate change risks. This will be done by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• expanding and adding to the network of hydraulic structures and regeneration of plant cover;</li> <li>• promoting exchanges and social organisation around improving rural living conditions; and</li> <li>• developing innovative activities to raise pastureland productivity.</li> </ul>	<p>Complementarity between the IFAD and proposed project will be ensured by mapping of interventions to prevent duplication of effort. The proposed project will be enhancing water access where current infrastructure does not meet community needs in the face of climate change, and will include scaling up of the network established by the IFAD project. Best practices and lessons learned from the IFAD project on surface-water mobilisation in the Djiboutian context will be incorporated into the proposed project design and implementation strategy. The same practices will be applied with regards to activities focused on rangeland productivity (Outcome 2.2).</p>
<p>Integrated Water Resources Management Project (PGIRE)</p> <p>USD4.2 million 2019-2024 IFAD</p>	<p>The overall objective of the PGIRE is to improve the living conditions of poor rural households and the resilience to climate change in rural areas in the long term. The development objective is to improve the sustainable access of rural households to water and rangeland resources, their resilience to climate change, their food and nutritional security and improved income, in particular, for women and young people.</p>	<p>There is alignment between the IFAD and proposed project's objectives for improving rural communities' climate resilience through sustainable access to water. The proposed project will scale up interventions under the IFAD project to support meeting of these objectives.</p>
<p>European Union Resilience Project; through 11th European Development Fund for Djibouti</p> <p>USD105 million 2018-2022 FAO, EU</p>	<p>This project raises awareness on — and understanding of — sustainable agriculture in the context of climate change among rural communities in Djibouti. It also addresses national concerns of food and nutrition security. Since pastoral livestock farming is a livelihood source for over a quarter of the population, this project will serve as an important contribution to addressing chronic malnutrition in affected communities through demonstration and implementation of sustainable solutions. The project objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developing agropastoral plots;</li> <li>• building hydro-agricultural infrastructures; and</li> <li>• providing technical assistance throughout the development of decentralised services of the Ministry of Agriculture.</li> </ul>	<p>The proposed project interventions will scale up and build upon many of the interventions from the EU project. In particular, the institutional capacity building under Component 1 of the project will operate on regional and local levels, building on the decentralised technical assistance provided by the EU project. There is alignment between the two project objectives, as the proposed project outcomes will also contribute to national food security concerns by improving water access through water resource management and infrastructure, improved institutional capacity, and climate risk preparedness.</p>

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## B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### Project description

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF's policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the PIF guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

1. To enhance climate change resilience against droughts and floods for rural communities in Djibouti, the proposed project will promote food, water and livelihood security by improving water access through improved, integrated water resource management and infrastructure. In addition, the project will improve institutional capacity and climate risk preparedness. In the proposed alternative (with project) scenario, barriers to climate resilience will be removed by: i) enhancing the institutional capacity and policy development for climate change adaptation, including on EbA, and climate information in Djibouti; ii) improving water and land resource management; and iii) supporting sustainable community livelihoods.

2. The Theory of Change of the proposed project is expressed as follows:

IF vulnerable rural communities receive support for an integrated approach for establishing resilient access to water supply and agro-pastoral livelihoods, inclusive of production inputs, skill development, affordable finance, value chain development and marketing,

IF the government capacities to implement and scale-up the ecosystem based adaptation and integrated watershed management for improvement of natural resources and improve agro-pastoral practices

IF early warning systems are installed at the community and regional level enabling the communities and the local governments to facilitate better data collection, analysis and dissemination of gender-responsive early warnings

IF adequate climate resilient water infrastructures are constructed in the most water-deficient and water stressed areas



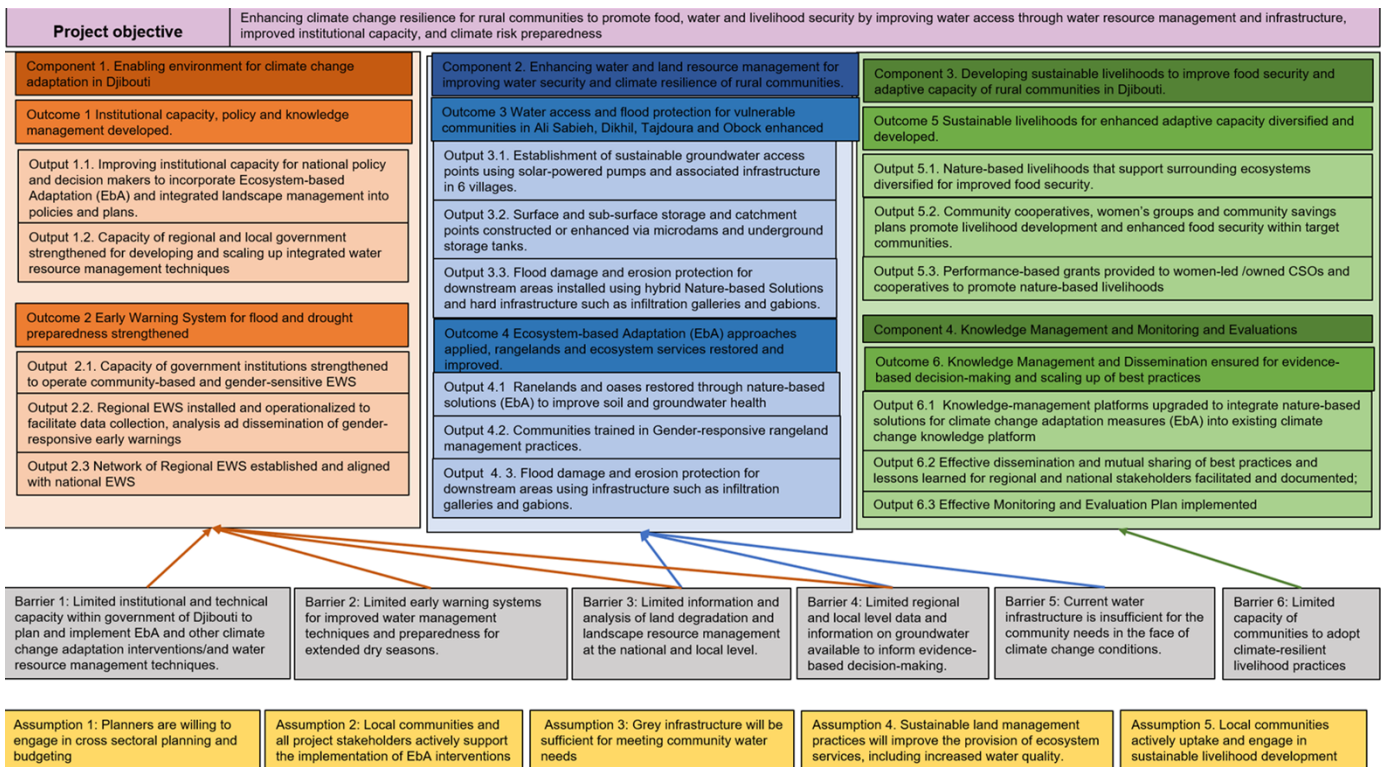
**THEN** the resilience of the agro-pastoral and climate-vulnerable communities (men and women) are enhanced to ensure long-term viability of agro-pastoral livelihoods,

**BECAUSE** vulnerable rural communities have access to reliable water sources, knowledge and skills to maintain their agricultural livelihoods, a strengthened extension support network and a strategy for public investments for climate resilient agriculture, climate-responsive local development plans and budget and an environment conducive for private sector actors to work with the target rural communities.

**3. The theory of change is based on the following assumptions:**

- i) Assumption 1: Planners are willing to engage in cross sectoral planning and budgeting
- ii) Assumption 2: Local communities and all project stakeholders actively participate in and support the implementation of EbA interventions
- iii) Assumption 3: Grey infrastructure will be sufficient for meeting community water needs
- iv) Assumption 4. Sustainable land management practices will improve the provision of ecosystem services, including increased water quality.
- v) Assumption 5. Local communities actively uptake and engage in sustainable livelihood development

The diagram of the Theory of Change is presented in Figure 10. Proposed outcomes, outputs and activities are described below.



**Figure 10: THEORY OF CHANGE DIAGRAM**

**Component 1: Enabling environment for climate change adaptation in Djibouti**

1. The proposed project will enhance the policy, regulatory and institutional environment for climate change adaptation in

### Component 1: Enabling environment for climate change adaptation in Djibouti

1. The proposed project will enhance the policy, regulatory and institutional environment for climate change adaptation in Djibouti. Under Component 1, interventions will address institutional and technical barriers within the GoD to plan and implement EbA and **integrated** water resource management techniques (Barriers 1 and 2). Capacity building for data-informed decision-making will be underpinned by the generation of national and regional assessments of water resource availability and frameworks for integrated landscape management (Barriers 3 and 4). More specifically, the project will: i) institutionalise mechanisms for multi-stakeholder collaboration and coordination; ii) produce national and regional water resource management strategies; and iii) develop capacity for early warning systems.

#### Output descriptions

2. Under Outcome 1, the project will enhance the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD) and other relevant ministries to develop and implement national policies incorporating EbA and landscape-management plans. For example, activities under this output will include developing policy notes on: i) EbA; ii) **integrated** water resource management; and iii) land resource management (Output 1.1.) In addition, capacity building will include institutionalising mechanisms for multi-stakeholder coordination. Technical capacity building will also be provided for national policy- and decision-makers, enabling the upscaling of EbA and landscape-management practices, ensuring the sustainability of project interventions beyond the project's lifespan. Capacity development for local authorities, known locally as *préfets* (Output 1.2). will also focus on ways to disseminate information on water and land resource management techniques using existing Technical Assistance Networks established by the previous EU initiative (see Baseline Projects section). This output will include activities to build local capacity for management of community-based utilities— such as water infrastructure. At a local level, the strategies for water and land resource management will be developed further to suit each region's specific context and communities' needs. For example, communities located in downstream or lower-elevation areas may focus management strategies on flood and erosion reduction, while communities in higher elevations will require access to deeper boreholes.
3. To support the improved management plans, Outcome 2 will create an enabling environment for early warning systems (EWS) development. Interventions will include training and capacity building for communities to use and interpret climate data and warnings, as well as support for government in the management or upgrading of current EWS infrastructure. Reinforcing existing national hydro-met and EWS system, installing the EWS at the regional level and establishing a network of national and regional EWS systems will support the drought forecast and forward looking climate adaptational interventions planned under the upcoming GCF funded project – "Strengthening the Climatic Resilience of Djibouti's Agro-pastoral Sector through Integrated Water Resources Management". The EWS made operational by the proposed project will build the capacity of the local communities to operate community-based EWS and initiate preparedness interventions to reduce their climate vulnerabilities triggered by flashfloods and drought. Assessments of existing EWS infrastructure in Djibouti will be carried out during the PPG phase to identify the needs and information gaps specific to interventions under this output. The project will strengthen EWSs for flood preparedness to enable better anticipation of risks related to recurrent floods and droughts. The project will create an enabling environment for the establishment of community and gender-based early warning systems (EWS) through the training of appropriate government institutions (**Output 2.1**). The established EWS will be operational at the regional level with technically strong human resources to facilitate the collection, analysis and dissemination of gender-sensitive early warning data (**Output 2.2**). A network of early warning systems will be established at the regional level and aligned with the national early warning system will be established under this project (Output 2.3) will be instrumental in coordinating the EWS interventions and to enable the national disaster risk management authorities to coordinate and monitor the existing and upcoming preparedness and recovery efforts. Moreover, the network will help the government to develop better-informed national and regional climate responsive development priorities.

## Component 2: Enhancing water and land resource management for improving water security and climate resilience of rural communities

4. Under Component 2, the proposed project will implement on-the-ground measures for improving water access and increasing flood protection by enhanced water and land resource management. Djibouti is one of the countries of a Phase II of the GCF-funded regional project - Inclusive Green Financing Initiative (IGREENFIN I): Greening Agricultural Banks & the Financial Sector to Foster Climate Resilient, Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture in the Great Green Wall (GGW) countries, also referred to as Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI). The interventions proposed under this component to improve the water security and climate resilience through a combination of grey infrastructure and nature-based solutions complement the GGWI aim to “restore 100 million hectares of degraded land, sequester 250 million tonnes of carbon and create 10 million green jobs in rural areas across the Sahel by 2030”. Under this pan-African sustainable development initiative, in Djibouti, the project will address land degradation and desertification (linked with Output 2.2 of the proposed project), boost food (linked with Outcomes 3 and 4 of the proposed project), environmental and economic security (Linked with Outcome 2 of the proposed project) and support the adaptation of communities to climate change (linked with Outcomes 2.1 and 2.2 of the proposed project). The 209 km long and 15 km wide GGWI Corridor in Djibouti (Refer to Annex C for the GGW Corridor in Djibouti) transverses through the three regions – Dikhil, Arta and Ali Sabieh in the Southern part of Djibouti. The project sites and the proposed interventions of the proposed project and UNDP’s GCF project under formulation complement the GGWI interventions in Djibouti. This allows the GEF investment in the proposed project to create multiplier effect and be sustainable with impactful results. To avoid any duplication of effort, the current water infrastructure will be mapped during the PPG phase, prior to determining site-specific activities. Further to this, the project will undertake groundwater assessments at PPG stage to determine sustainable access points, thereby addressing barriers to evidence-based decision-making around water resource management (Barrier 4). The on-the-ground interventions that contribute to Outcome 3 will be designed to upgrade current infrastructure so it is climate resilient and meets community needs (Barrier 5). Improvements to water access will be underpinned by the rehabilitation of degraded rangelands to restore groundwater and soil health, which will provide benefits to community livelihoods and promote healthy ecosystems (Outcome 4).

### Output descriptions

5. To enhance community access to water and flood protection, the proposed project will implement small-scale grey infrastructure solutions (Outcome 3). For each project site, an assessment will be carried out during the PPG phase to determine the existing water access needs. Groundwater access points (pumps) will be installed in 6 villages of the targeted regions (Output 3.1). Due to the nature of Djibouti’s geology, drinkable groundwater resources are often found at depths of over 200 m<sup>[1]</sup><sup>110</sup>. To determine the appropriate depth of any borehole prior to construction, groundwater resource assessment, including the underground water availability, water recharge trend and capacities, and underground water flow patterns will be completed during the PPG phase. Groundwater assessments will also determine monitoring and oversight measures and responsibilities necessary for preventing the over-abstraction of groundwater resources. Fuel-powered borehole pumps will be replaced with solar-powered pumps. In addition, the infrastructure will accommodate geothermal conditions in Djibouti and include the necessary cooling reservoirs in sites where groundwater is extremely hot. Groundwater access will be complemented with surface and sub-surface water catchment infrastructure (Output 3.2). As with the boreholes in Output 3.2, a community needs assessment will be undertaken to determine site-specific interventions. Catchment points for surface water will include infrastructure proven effective within the target areas, including microdams or underground storage tanks. Site specific interventions will be determined based on evaluations done during the PPG phase. The hydrological and groundwater assessments conducted will be made available via the knowledge management platform to national policy-makers and project developers to improve the limited understanding of groundwater systems and upscale sustainable **integrated** water resource management techniques in Djibouti. Output 3.3 will further manage the impacts of surface water on downstream areas by protecting against flood damage and erosion. Methods for preventing floods may include infiltration galleries<sup>[2]</sup><sup>111</sup> and gabions. Site-specific interventions will be determined based on the topography and community-specific impacts identified during the PPG phase. To build on the limited water resource management information in the country, the proposed project will support gender-responsive, evidence-based development by producing assessments on: i) sustainable groundwater access points; ii) surface and sub-surface storage and catchment points; and iii) rangeland and oasis ecosystems restoration.

6. To support the sustainability of water access improvements, the project will also restore degraded rangelands using EbA approaches for improved ecosystem services. Soil and groundwater health will be improved by restoring rangeland and oasis ecosystems — specifically date palm oases (Output 4.1). To benefit both pastoralists and agriculturalist communities, restoration activities will include the planting of indigenous fodder species. The availability of extra fodder will safeguard community livelihoods and food security by reducing livestock loss while reducing the pressure of grazing livestock on natural vegetation. During the PPG phase, baseline assessments will be done on target ecosystems, as well as restoration protocols to determine the interventions at each site. Where necessary, agricultural fences — locally referred to as agricultural perimeters — will be used to physically protect restoration areas from passing livestock. Community members will undergo gender-responsive capacity building for developing community-led rangeland management strategies, building upon traditional knowledge and practices. To support the country's efforts in policy and planning for addressing land degradation, the project will support work that will facilitate the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting (LDN TSP) process, working closely with the UNCCD Secretariat during the PPG stage. To ensure the sustainability of rangeland restoration and management practices, the project will also build national capacity to develop a policy note of Land Degradation Neutrality. The project will further enable the institutional capacity of communities using an integrated and inclusive participatory approach by improving community capacity for rangeland-management plans (Output 4.2). The inclusive and gender-responsive participatory approach will enable the social sustainability of the interventions and the development and dissemination of gender-responsive best practice guidelines will facilitate the replication and upscaling of land resource management practices in Djibouti.

### **Component 3: Developing sustainable livelihoods to improve food security and adaptive capacity of rural communities in Djibouti**

7. Component 3 will focus on enhancing the adaptive capacity of communities by supporting the diversification and development of sustainable livelihoods. This adaptive capacity will build on the climate resilience supported by improved water access and landscape management (Components 1 and 2). By supporting sustainable, nature-based practices, the project will improve food security and enable communities to adopt climate-resilient livelihoods (Barrier 6) and complements the objectives of the GGWI project to create green jobs.
8. Sustainable livelihood practices will also further contribute to addressing the baseline drivers of ecosystem degradation by encouraging community ownership over natural resources and shifting away from degradation of ecosystems. Support for livelihood practices will be site-specific, based on the surrounding community needs and ecosystems. Livelihood support, underpinned by knowledge-sharing infrastructure for upscaling interventions, will enable communities to derive long-term, impactful benefits from the improved water access and landscape interventions.

#### Output descriptions

9. To improve food security within communities, the proposed project will offer technical assistance for climate-resilient livelihoods that support surrounding ecosystems (Output 5.1). During the PPG phase, value chain and market analyses — in addition to extensive community engagement — will be undertaken to identify livelihoods that are best suited for community needs. Potential options for livelihoods include apiculture and handicrafts derived from palm trees for agribusiness development.
10. Output 5.2 will support the adoption and long-term sustainability of gender-responsive livelihoods through the establishment of community-based cooperatives, women's groups and community savings schemes. These initiatives will be designed to promote the active participation and leadership of women and other marginalized members of the community and ensure their meaningful involvement in decision-making processes and economic activities. Successful models from other countries in the region, such as Kenya, will serve as a reference for designing these gender-sensitive initiatives. During the PPG phase, the potential for private sector partnerships — specifically focusing on access to regional markets — will be further evaluated to facilitate livelihood development. Introducing diversified livelihood

strategies to local communities that support surrounding ecosystems will further promote the economic sustainability of project interventions.

11. The Output 5.3 will promote women-centric and nature-based green jobs and entrepreneurship through provisions of performance-based grants for women-led and women-owned CSOs and cooperatives. The income generated from these livelihoods will incentivise community members to continue the ecosystems' preservation. Further to this, community engagement during the PPG phase will build upon existing community structures that can be supported by the proposed project. In addition, a comprehensive stakeholder-engagement strategy will be developed during the PPG phase, which will ensure extensive consultation with targeted community members to raise awareness on proposed sustainable livelihoods, as well as enable the identification of potential social conflicts as a result of sustainable livelihood processes.

## **Component 4: Knowledge management and Monitoring and Evaluation**

12. Component 4 will integrate gender-sensitive approaches in knowledge and communication products, to ensure that best practices and lessons learned from the project are shared in a way that takes into account the specific needs, experiences and contributions of different genders. By integrating a gender perspective, the project will promote inclusion and address existing gender inequalities and biases and promote gender equality and women's empowerment.
13. Gender-sensitive knowledge and communication products will be disseminated through the existing knowledge management platform, which will be further strengthened to increase its impact on gender issues. This platform will serve to share information and resources with regional and national stakeholders, ensuring that gender-sensitive approaches reach decision-makers, policy-makers and technical experts. In addition, the platform will facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experiences between communities, thereby fostering a collaborative and learning environment.
14. Under output 6.1, knowledge-generating interventions related to climate change adaptation, water and land resource management, and sustainable livelihood practices will be shared on the knowledge management platform. These interventions will be accompanied by a gender analysis to highlight differential impacts on women, men and other gender identities.
15. Output 6.2 will focus specifically on the dissemination of best practices and lessons learned among communities. This will involve the development of gender-sensitive guidelines that address the specific challenges faced in adopting and scaling up sustainable livelihoods practices. The knowledge management platform supported under outcome 6.1 will play a crucial role in sharing these guidelines and facilitating their replication and scaling up.
16. To ensure the effectiveness and impact of gender-responsive interventions, output 6.3 will focus on the development and implementation of a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan. This plan will include the collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data to assess the outcomes and impact of interventions. The results will inform decision-making processes, allowing for adjustments and improvements to maximise sustainable results and investments made by the project.

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[1] This is informed by regional and community stakeholder consultations.

[2] An infiltration gallery is a permeable subsurface structure that lies below the water table and expedites transfer of water to the soil.

## Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Although the GoD has taken steps to address gender inequality and promote social inclusion through several policy frameworks, many of these policies are yet to be enacted and few have substantially improved gender equality. The GoD has recognised major obstacles in enforcing laws aimed at protecting women's rights<sup>[1]</sup>. These include extreme poverty, limited awareness of the country's legal framework, and limited financial resources — all of which are compounded by traditional norms and stereotypes on women's role in society<sup>[2]</sup>. To assist in combatting these challenges, a gender assessment will be conducted in the early stages of project development to identify gender-based barriers to, and socioeconomic factors and catalysts for, building resilience in different social groups. The assessment's findings will inform project design. During the PPG phase, a comprehensive gender action plan — informed by the in-depth gender assessment — will be developed to include clearly defined activities and targets and ensure sufficient resources are allocated.

### Stakeholders

1. A wide range of stakeholder engagements with representatives from the public sector, civil society and local communities guided the Project Identification Form (PIF) development. Engagements were conducted both in-person and virtually. An in-country mission was held in February 2023 by international and national project development consultants and representatives from UNDP Djibouti to inform the development of this PIF. The mission objective was to understand the water access needs of rural communities in the target regions and identify other vulnerabilities to climate change impacts. This mission engaged with stakeholders from national and regional authorities, as well as representatives from the target communities. The consultation process was designed to ensure that a diverse range of perspectives on rural communities' needs and water access within the target regions were used to inform the development of the PIF. Following the mission, virtual consultations were held with representatives from other agencies implementing adaptation projects in Djibouti, including the World Bank, FAO and the African Development Bank.

The formulation team conducted consultation with key stakeholders, to be engaged throughout the project lifecycle. The below table presents these stakeholders and their roles during project formulation and implementation:

Stakeholder	Role in the project
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MESD)	The MESD is the implementing partner and GEF Operational Focal ministry. The MESD will have central role in technical guidance as well as for the national level facilitation and coordination with the sectoral ministries and entities.
Ministry of Agriculture	The Ministry of Agriculture is the key sectoral ministry. It is the authority on the hydrogeology, agriculture and agro-infrastructure as well as the scientific research on the floods, drought and other climate risks. The MESD had provided the potential sites of intervention in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture based on the existing data and information on the climate risks and vulnerabilities.
Local authorities	Engaging local authorities was crucial from the pre-conception phase to support multi-dimensional ownership of the institutional mechanisms being planned in the project, in particular with regards to community based early warning systems and community-based resource (mainly water) governance mechanisms. As the MESD does not have any regional presence, field-based projects were centrally implemented and managed. Local presence is however key for effective and efficient project interventions as demonstrated by the USAID-funded flagship project, where UNDP installed locally recruited regional coordinators based in the Regional Council offices and working closely with Regional Council Presidents. Building upon this recently established regional mechanisms, the proposed project appraised the Regional and local authorities during the conceptual phase

	and will elaborate on the similar local coordination mechanisms during the formulation phase
Local communities	During PIF formulation, visit to all the potential sites were conducted to understand the terrain and to hear and learn from local communities about historical and most recent trends of climate risks and their coping mechanisms. The consultations were also helpful to make an inventory of the past and ongoing adaptation work in the region to understand potential synergies and complementarities.
Line ministries (public works, higher education and research, women and family, finance, youth and culture, and budget)	These institutions are important to build upon the whole-of-government approach to climate resilience and climate-responsive and gender-aware local planning for better integration of climate priorities into the national and regional development plans and budget.
Development partners	Roundtable discussion for mutual sharing of experiences and lessons learned from their past and ongoing projects were conducted. The formulation team also conducted bilateral discussions with partners with upcoming projects for potential co-financing. These bilateral meetings mark the beginning of co-creation for some of the projects such as those being planned by the African Development Bank and Intergovernmental Agency for Development, whereas for partners like IFAD, World Bank, FAO and WFP, consultations helped to co-appraise both the parties on the upcoming projects and establish mechanisms for synchronization of the project interventions for bigger and longer impact on the climate resilience among the vulnerable communities.

**Table 3. Stakeholders role in project**

2. A summary of stakeholders engaged throughout the development of the PIF is included in 4 below.

Type of stakeholder engaged	Stakeholder(s)	Date consulted
National government ministries	Ministry of Environment	Feb 5, 2023
	Ministry of Energy	Feb 5, 2023
	Ministry of Finance	Feb 5, 2023
	Ministry of Agriculture	Feb 5, 2023
Regional authorities	Prefét of the Regional Council – Dikhil region	Feb 6 2023
	Prefét of the Regional Council – Tajdoura region	Feb 8, 2023
	President of the Region Council – Tajdoura region	Feb 8, 2023
	Prefét of the Regional Council – Ali Sabieh region	Feb 26, 2023
	President of the Regional Council – Ali Sabieh region	Feb 26, 2023
Development agencies	Prefét of the Regional Council – Obock region	Feb 26, 2023
	FAO	Feb 2, 2023
	World Bank	Feb 1, 2023
	African Development Bank	Feb 28, 2023
Community consultations	Oudoukia (Dikhil)	Feb 6, 2023
	Gagadé (Dikhil)	Feb 7, 2023
	Sagalou (Tajdoura)	Feb 7, 2023
	Ripta (Tajdoura)	Feb 8, 2023
	Dasbayo (Ali Sabieh)	Feb 26, 2023
	Souwali (Obock)	Feb 27, 2023

**Table 4: Summary of the Stakeholders consulted**


During the PPG phase, a range of additional stakeholder engagements will be required. A stakeholder assessment and engagement plan will be developed. Given the cross-sectoral and complex nature of climate change adaptation in Djibouti, the stakeholder engagement plan will be necessary to identify and map key stakeholders, determine their influence and role in the project and develop a communication strategy. Additionally, an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) will be developed in line with GEF and UNDP requirements to uphold social and environmental safeguards and consider the needs of Indigenous peoples throughout the project's lifespan. This strategy will also prioritise the involvement of women and youth stakeholders to ensure their meaningful participation in the project.

## Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Does the GEF Agency expect to play an execution role on this project?

Yes

If so, please describe that role here. Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing

1. The PPG will be directly implemented by UNDP.
2. The Sustainable management of water and rangeland resources for enhanced climate resilience of rural communities Djibouti will follow the assisted National Implementation Modality (NIM), where the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MESD) in Djibouti will be the Implementing Partner.

**Execution Support:** UNDP will provide country support to the IP during implementation, per the signed Letter of Agreement from the GEF OFP (to be provided at PPG stage). During the project formulation phase, utilising PPG, UNDP will engage the government to carefully assess and jointly determine the scope and extent of the CO support to the implementation of the project (i.e. CO support to NIM).

## Core Indicators

### Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
4000	0	0	0

### Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Cropland	1,000.00			
Rangeland and pasture	3,000.00			

### Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

### Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)



### Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

### Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
150000	0	0	0

### Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

### Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

### Type/Name of Third Party Certification

### Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
150,000.00			

### Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value or other forest loss avoided

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

### Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)

### Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

### Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
<b>Female</b>	50,000			
<b>Male</b>	50,000			
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Explain the methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

Area of land restored:

The proposed project will be targeting 6 sites throughout the four target regions — Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, Tajdoura and Obock. It is estimated that approximately 1,000 ha per site will undergo restoration activities, resulting in a total of 4,000 ha of restored land.

Area of land under improved practices:

The project interventions will have an impact on land use practices in rural areas throughout the four target regions. On a national scale, rural areas comprise ~75% of the total degraded land area. To reflect this, Core Indicator 4 targets 75% of the target regions' total degraded land area.

Direct Beneficiaries:

Project interventions will have an impact on the food and water security for communities throughout each of the target regions. As a result, the total population of the four target regions have been considered as direct project beneficiaries. It is expected that 50% of the beneficiaries will be women.

## META INFORMATION – LDCF

LDCF <b>true</b>	SCCF-B (Window B) on technology transfer <b>false</b>	SCCF-A (Window-A) on climate Change adaptation <b>false</b>
Is this project LDCF SCCF challenge program? <b>false</b>		
This Project involves at least one small island developing State(SIDS). <b>false</b>		
This Project involves at least one fragile and conflict affected state. <b>false</b>		
This Project will provide direct adaptation benefits to the private sector. <b>false</b>		
This Project is explicitly related to the formulation and/or implementation of national adaptation plans (NAPs). <b>true</b>		
This project will collaborate with activities begin supported by other adaptation funds. If yes, please select below		
Green Climate Fund <b>true</b>	Adaptation Fund <b>false</b>	Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) <b>false</b>
This Project has an urban focus. <b>false</b>		
This project will directly engage local communities in project design and implementation <b>true</b>		
This project will support South-South knowledge exchange <b>false</b>		
This Project covers the following sector(s)[the total should be 100%]: *		
Agriculture	20.00%	
Nature-based management	35.00%	

Climate information services	10.00%
Coastal zone management	0.00%
Water resources management	30.00%
Disaster risk management	5.00%
Other infrastructure	0.00%
Tourism	0.00%
Health	0.00%
Other (Please specify comments)	0.00%
Total	100.00%

This Project targets the following Climate change Exacerbated/introduced challenges:\*

Sea level rise <b>false</b>	Change in mean temperature <b>false</b>	Increased climatic variability <b>false</b>	Natural hazards <b>true</b>
Land degradation <b>true</b>	Coastal and/or Coral reef degradation <b>false</b>	Groundwater quality/quantity <b>true</b>	

## CORE INDICATORS – LDCF

	Total	Male	Female	% for Women
CORE INDICATOR 1 Total number of direct beneficiaries	100,000	50,000.00	50,000.00	50.00%
CORE INDICATOR 2 (a) Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha) (b) Coastal and marine area managed for climate resilience (ha)	154,000.00 0.00			
CORE INDICATOR 3 Number of policies/plans/ frameworks/institutions for to strengthen climate adaptation	10.00			
CORE INDICATOR 4 Number of people trained or with awareness raised	100,000	50,000.00	50,000.00	50.00%
CORE INDICATOR 5 Number of private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience action	5.00			

## Risks to Project Preparation and Implementation

Summarize risks that might affect the project preparation and implementation phases and what are the mitigation strategies the project preparation process will undertake to address these (e.g. what alternatives may be considered during project preparation—such as in terms of consultations, role and choice of counterparts, delivery mechanisms, locations in country, flexible design elements, etc.). Identify any of the risks listed below that would call in question the viability of the project during its implementation. Please describe any possible mitigation measures needed. (The risks associated with project design and Theory of Change should be described in the “Project description” section above). The risk rating should reflect the overall risk to project outcomes considering the country setting and ambition of the project. The rating scale is: High, Substantial, Moderate, Low.

Risk Categories	Rating	Comments
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Climate	Moderate	<p>Increasing variability: Unforeseen natural hazards, such as floods and droughts, could potentially render the adaptation measures ineffective, particularly if they occur during construction or implementation.</p> <p>Mitigation strategy: Project investments will be climate-proofed — in terms of their locations, designs and capture capacities — to be able to withstand forecasted climate stresses. Designs will be based on the worst-case RCP 8.5 climate scenario to obtain projected rainfall and temperature inputs. Detailed hydrological assessments based on peak flows undertaken during the PPG phase will also be used to size and cost proposed interventions, such as storage and diversion infrastructure, to ensure they are adequately climate-resilient. Active restoration interventions will be timed to occur during the wet season to maximise water availability for plants, while grey infrastructure will be built during the dry season to prevent potential damages from flooding events during construction.</p>
Environment and Social	Moderate	<p>Environmental risks: Works associated with water mobilisation and retention infrastructures have the potential to lead to unanticipated environmental impacts. Mitigation strategy: A detailed UNDP Environmental &amp; Social Screening Procedure will be undertaken during the PPG stage to preliminarily identify potential environmental risks, and modify the project approach to mitigate or prevent these impacts. Additionally, a comprehensive environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) will be undertaken at the beginning of project implementation before any</p>

		<p>on-the-ground interventions are started. Social risks: Women may not be able to benefit equally from the results of project activities, such as improved water and natural resource access, and from partaking in community consultations and decision-making processes during project implementation. Mitigation strategy: During the PPG phase a gender assessment and gender action plan (GAAP), will detail gender-related challenges within the target sites and propose additions to the project design to ensure interventions are gender-responsive and inclusive. During project development, gender-relevant activities will be monitored by a Gender Specialist, who will ensure that gender equity is maintained throughout the project period.</p>
Political and Governance	Moderate	<p>Diverging interests: Low level of cooperation between executing institutions may result in delays or the ineffective implementation of project interventions. Mitigation strategy: The MESD's willingness to coordinate activities with different implementing agencies, such as the Ministry of Agriculture, has been evidenced by previous LDCF-financed and Adaptation Fund projects. Additionally, the UNDP Country Office will closely monitor the project's execution to limit any deviations and redundancies in activities and responsibilities between implementing agencies. Further cross-sectoral discussions will be had with the MESD and potential implementing agencies during the PPG phase to ensure cooperation and clearly outline roles and responsibilities regarding project implementation. Political instability:</p>

		<p>Djibouti is located in a volatile region of the Horn of Africa that experiences frequent political instability and a high influx of refugees, particularly from neighboring countries such as Somalia, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Yemen. However, Djibouti has maintained a degree of political stability compared to its neighbors due to the presence of significant military forces from global powers such as France, China, Japan and the USA, which have established bases in the country for their operations in the Middle East. Nevertheless, any sudden political instability could affect government priorities in climate change adaptation.</p> <p>Mitigation strategy: The project aims to collaborate extensively with decentralised authorities in provinces and rural areas. This will engender solid political will to support the project in target regions, a main factor that will enhance its success.</p>
Macro-economic	Low	<p>Covid-19: The Covid-19 pandemic has the potential to disrupt the supply chain of equipment and components for renewable energy projects in Djibouti. Many of these components are manufactured in other countries, and disruptions to transportation and shipping could lead to delays in implementation and increased costs.</p> <p>Mitigation strategy: A Covid-19 Strategy will be developed during the PPG stage that outlines contingencies and safety protocols to mitigate against Covid-19 during project implementation. Provisions will be made in the project workplan to ensure the project remains on schedule.</p>
Strategies and Policies		N/A

<p>Technical design of project or program</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Limited technical capacity: Limited technical on-the-ground expertise for implementing project interventions could result in the ineffective implementation of interventions or project delays. Mitigation strategy: The capacity of relevant implementation partners will be built to implement and monitor project activities effectively through on-the-ground training. This will be accompanied by regular technical oversight missions undertaken by UNDP staff and/or technical advisors.</p>
<p>Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>High turnover: High staff turnover in the government departments and implementing agencies may result in the loss of institutional knowledge on the details of the project and project delays. Mitigation strategy: Technical capacity will be retained within the core government staff capacitated through the project, who will be responsible for transferring technical knowledge to new staff within government departments and implementing agencies, allowing for consolidating technical expertise related to EbA and IWRM at the institutional level. This will be complemented by developing handbooks in French and local languages to guide new staff unfamiliar with the proposed project. Additionally, deputies and alternative representatives to these core staff will be appointed to ensure sufficient continuity.</p>
<p>Fiduciary: Financial Management and Procurement</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Financial sustainability: Adaptation interventions may not be financially sustained after project termination. This has been observable on many similar adaptation projects within Djibouti. Mitigation strategy:</p>

		<p>Training and capacity building for communities introduced within Outcomes 2.1, 2.2 and 3.1 will ensure the sustained maintenance of project equipment and infrastructure. Outcome 1.1 will additionally improve the capacity of public institutions to consider EbA and IWRM approaches into their policies, plans and budgets. Livelihoods introduced through Outcome 3.1 will be designed to support the sustainable maintenance of restored and managed ecosystems, with the additional income accrued from these livelihoods incentivizing community members to continue their upkeep. The establishment of community cooperatives and community saving plans will support the above by capacitating communities to save profits that can then be used to maintain project interventions in the long-term.</p>
Stakeholder Engagement	Moderate	<p>Insufficient community ownership: The project's community participatory approach could be ineffective because of limited community ownership or insufficient understanding on the part of implementers and recipients of IWRM or EbA approaches.</p> <p>Mitigation strategy: Most community investments targeted by the project (for example nursery development, revegetation and alternative livelihoods) are relatively simple in their technical design, implementable in a reasonable timeframe (up to 2 years) or involve technologies that are commonly used in the country. Community cooperatives established through the project — under the guidance of the MESD and experienced Implementing Partners — will be capacitated in the</p>



		<p>maintenance of introduced equipment, infrastructure and practices. This will enable the cooperatives and communities to provide maintenance during the first year after the construction of infrastructure or implementation of other on-the-ground activities, thereby facilitating the participation and involvement of communities timeously and ensuring that demonstrable results are achieved quickly. This will assist in avoiding community frustration of the loss of credibility for project implementers. During the PPG phase, communities will be engaged regularly and consulted on their specific needs and concerns, which will assist in encouraging their buy-in for project interventions during implementation.</p>
Other		
Financial Risks for NGI projects		
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	

### C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Describe how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies and country and regional priorities, including how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements.

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

The proposed LDCF project is clearly aligned with the GEF-8 programming strategies aimed at supporting measures to reduce vulnerability to droughts and floods that are exacerbated by climate change. As guided by the GEF-8 programming intentions, the proposed project will utilise integrated water-resource management (IWRM) interventions that mainstream climate resilience by improving water capture and storage and enabling reliable water access. The project will: i) construct or enhance surface and sub-surface storage and catchment points (Output 2.1.2); and ii) create or enhance sustainable water access points using solar-powered pumps and associated water infrastructure for rural communities across Djibouti (Output 2.1.1). The proposed project will further contribute to GEF-8 programming intentions regarding capacity building for water resource scenario planning by improving institutional capacity for: i) national stakeholders for incorporating ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) into policies and plans (Output 1.1.1); and ii) local stakeholders by developing and further upscaling water and land resource management techniques (Output 1.1.2). In addition, improved national and local capacity for strengthening policy measures by institutional capacity building and knowledge sharing will enable efficient water use and effective decision-making across Djibouti.

The proposed project is also aligned with the GEF-8 programming directions of the Land degradation Focal Area Objectives 2 and 3, as described below:

- Land degradation Focal Area, Objective 2: reverse land degradation through the restoration of production landscapes. In particular, the proposed project will implement restoration activities that focus on strengthening the resilience of degraded landscapes (Outcome 2.2.1). These activities will be complemented by comprehensive land-use planning and sustainable rangeland management to reduce the risk of degradation and the loss of ecosystem services in Djibouti (Outcome 2.2.2).
- Land degradation Focal Area, Objective 3: Address desertification, land degradation, and drought challenges, particularly in drylands. The proposed LDCF project will support Djibouti's government in building resilience to the effects of droughts and prevent the aggravating impacts of land degradation through integrated and participatory land-use planning focusing on drought under Outcomes 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 2.2.

Djibouti's commitment to water and land resource management is detailed in its long-term plan, the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA, 2006). The NAPA was developed in 2006 and based on a broad consultative process at all levels, from government authorities to local communities, including priority stakeholders and the most vulnerable segments of the population. The NAPA lays out the main environmental challenges facing the country, all of which will be further aggravated by climate change, namely: i) water stress and scarcity; ii) desertification; iii) food insecurity; iv) degradation of land, marine, coastal and urban environments; and v) natural disasters and extreme climate events. To combat the challenges in these sectors, the NAPA identified four adaptation priorities for the country to address. These involve: i) decreasing climate change vulnerabilities in coastal areas through integrated, adaptive and participatory community management; ii) improving rangeland management and sustainable natural resource management to reduce climate change risks; iii) promoting measures and interventions to improve surface water management, irrigation and restoration of protected areas — such as mangroves — and prevent soil salinisation; and iv) promoting appropriate measures to protect the urban water supply. The proposed project will contribute to the country's adaptation priority of improving management of rangelands by enhancing community capacity through training and rangeland management plans and coupling that with supporting rangeland and oasis ecosystem restoration (Outcome 2.2). The proposed LDCF project will further contribute to Djibouti's adaptation priorities by improving surface water management through enhanced water resource management, such as constructing or strengthening surface or sub-surface storage and catchment points in rural communities (Outcome 2.1). The project was also designed to integrate community participation by ensuring community stakeholders are consulted during project design, development and implementation. For example, local authorities will be prominent in developing water and land resource management techniques and rangeland management plans (Components 1 and 2).

The proposed LDCF project has been designed to align with Djibouti's national adaptation priorities as identified in the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC, 2015) which was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2015. The INDC defines the country's commitment to addressing climate change and sets mitigation targets to reduce 1. greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 40% by 2030. It also recognises the need to allocate large financial flows to climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions in collaboration with the international community. The adaptation priority objectives are also linked to the country's social priorities, namely the: i) reduction of vulnerability to drought; ii) protection against sea level rise; iii) improvement of access to water; iv) protection of biodiversity; and v) reinforcement of the resilience of rural populations. First, the proposed project will strengthen water access by creating or enhancing water access points and storage and catchment points in Djibouti (Outcome 2.1). Second, the resilience of rural populations will be strengthened by diversifying and developing sustainable livelihoods (Outcome 3.1).

The emphasis on water resource management as a climate change adaptation intervention is further highlighted in Djibouti's Third National Communication <sup>[11112]</sup> (TNC) which was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2021. The TNC reiterates the country's vulnerability to climate change and its commitment to adaptation and mitigation interventions. Priority adaptation measures are identified in several sectors, including, inter alia: i) marine ecosystem conservation; ii) human and institutional capacity building; iii) forest ecosystem adaptation; and iv) water-resource management. The current national objectives in the water sector — relevant for water mobilisation interventions — include: i) ensuring water availability and access; ii) managing and protecting hydrological systems; iii) promoting new water sources; iv) promoting participatory management of water resources; and iv) raising public awareness about water consumption. The TNC identifies surface water mobilisation as an important goal for Djibouti, which is already a focus of several planned and implemented studies on reservoirs, excavations, buried tanks and dams. In addition, the TNC highlights the benefits of the integrated water resource management (IWRM) approach, which enhances coordinated management of water and associated resources to maximise economic and social well-being sustainably and equitably. While it is noted that IWRM does not offer a single solution and should be developed in the local context, lessons learned and best practices can be leveraged. Ensuring water availability and access and supporting participatory management of water resources have been identified as national priorities in the country. The proposed project will address this by enhancing water resource management and installing grey infrastructure for improved water access in rural Djiboutian communities (Outcome 2.1).

Djibouti's National Strategy for Participatory Management of Hydraulic Structures(2017) aims to improve water management and increase access to water resources by involving local communities in managing hydraulic structures, such as dams and irrigation systems. The strategy emphasises the importance of engaging local communities in decision-making processes, providing them with training and resources to manage water resources effectively, and promoting sustainable practices. It also emphasises the need for collaboration between government agencies, local communities and other stakeholders to ensure effective management of hydraulic structures and equitable distribution of water resources. The strategy is structured around the following components: i) improvement of the governance of hydraulic structures by shifting to a participatory approach to management; ii) establishment of profitable water services to generate income to cover maintenance costs of pumped potable water supply systems; and iii) efficiency and geographical proximity in the maintenance and repair of hydraulic structures by creating partnerships with local workers or the private sector. The proposed project will build on the strategy's components by building the capacity of local authorities (Component 1) and enhancing water resource management through grey infrastructure and EbA interventions (Component 2).

#### D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

##### **Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:**

We confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the project have been addressed as per GEF Policy and are clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

Yes

##### **Stakeholder Engagement**

We confirm that key stakeholders were consulted during PIF development as required per GEF policy, their relevant roles to project outcomes and plan to develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan before CEO endorsement has been clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

Yes

##### **Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:**

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: Yes

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector: Yes

##### **Provide a brief summary and list of names and dates of consultations**

1. A wide range of stakeholder engagements with representatives from the public sector, civil society and local communities guided the Project Identification Form (PIF) development. Engagements were conducted both in-person and virtually. An in-country mission was held in February 2023 by international and national project development consultants and representatives from UNDP Djibouti to inform the development of this PIF. The mission objective was to understand the water access needs of rural communities in the target regions and identify other vulnerabilities to climate change impacts. This mission engaged with stakeholders from national and regional authorities, as well as representatives from the target communities. The consultation process was designed to ensure that a diverse range of perspectives on rural communities' needs and water access within the target regions were used to inform the development of the PIF. Following the mission, virtual consultations were held with representatives from other agencies implementing adaptation projects in Djibouti, including the World Bank, FAO and the African Development Bank.

2. The formulation team conducted consultation with key stakeholders, to be engaged throughout the project lifecycle. The below table presents these stakeholders and their roles during project formulation and implementation:

Stakeholder	Role in the project
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MESD)	The MESD is the <b>implementing partner and GEF Operational Focal ministry</b> . The MESD will have central role in technical guidance as well as for the national level facilitation and coordination with the sectoral ministries and entities.
Ministry of Agriculture	The Ministry of Agriculture is the key sectoral ministry. It is the authority on the hydrogeology, agriculture and agro-infrastructure as well as the scientific research on the floods, drought and other climate risks. The MESD had provided the potential sites of intervention in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture based on the existing data and information on the climate risks and vulnerabilities.
Local authorities	Engaging local authorities was crucial from the pre-conception phase to support multi-dimensional ownership of the institutional mechanisms being planned in the project, in particular with regards to community based early warning systems and community-based resource (mainly water) governance mechanisms. As the MESD does not have any regional presence, field-based projects were centrally implemented and managed. Local presence is however key for effective and efficient project interventions as demonstrated by the USAID-funded flagship project, where UNDP installed locally recruited regional coordinators based in the Regional Council offices and working closely with Regional Council Presidents. Building upon this recently established regional mechanisms, the proposed project appraised the Regional and local authorities during the conceptual phase and will elaborate on the similar local coordination mechanisms during the formulation phase
Local communities	During PIF formulation, visit to all the potential sites were conducted to understand the terrain and to hear and learn from local communities about historical and most recent trends of climate risks and their coping mechanisms. The consultations were also helpful to make an inventory of the past and ongoing adaptation work in the region to understand potential synergies and complementarities.
Line ministries (public works, higher education and research, women and family, finance, youth and culture, and budget)	These institutions are important to build upon the whole-of-government approach to climate resilience and climate-responsive and gender-aware local planning for better integration of climate priorities into the national and regional development plans and budget.
Development partners	Roundtable discussion for mutual sharing of experiences and lessons learned from their past and ongoing projects were conducted. The formulation team also conducted bilateral discussions with partners with upcoming projects for potential co-financing. These bilateral meetings mark the beginning of co-creation for some of the projects such as those being planned by the African Development Bank and Intergovernmental Agency for Development, whereas for partners like IFAD, World Bank, FAO and WFP, consultations helped to co-appraise both the parties on the upcoming projects and establish mechanisms for synchronization of the project interventions for bigger and longer impact on the climate resilience among the vulnerable communities.

Table 3. Stakeholders role in project

3. A summary of stakeholders engaged throughout the development of the PIF is included in 4 below.

Type of stakeholder engaged	Stakeholder(s)	Date consulted
National government ministries	Ministry of Environment	Feb 5, 2023
	Ministry of Energy	Feb 5, 2023
	Ministry of Finance	Feb 5, 2023
	Ministry of Agriculture	Feb 5, 2023
Regional authorities	Prefét of the Regional Council – Dikhil region	Feb 6 2023
	Prefét of the Regional Council – Tajdoura region	Feb 8, 2023
	President of the Region Council – Tajdoura region	Feb 8, 2023
	Prefét of the Regional Council – Ali Sabieh region	Feb 26, 2023
	President of the Regional Council – Ali Sabieh region	Feb 26, 2023
	Prefét of the Regional Council – Obock region	Feb 26, 2023

Development agencies	FAO	Feb 2, 2023
	World Bank	Feb 1, 2023
	African Development Bank	Feb 28, 2023
Community consultations	Oudoukia (Dikhil)	Feb 6, 2023
	Gagadé (Dikhil)	Feb 7, 2023
	Sagalou (Tajdoura)	Feb 7, 2023
	Ripta (Tajdoura)	Feb 8, 2023
	Dasbayo (Ali Sabieh)	Feb 26, 2023
	Souwali (Obock)	Feb 27, 2023

**Table 4: Summary of the Stakeholders consulted**

4. During the PPG phase, a range of additional stakeholder engagements will be required. A stakeholder assessment and engagement plan will be developed. Given the cross-sectoral and complex nature of climate change adaptation in Djibouti, the stakeholder engagement plan will be necessary to identify and map key stakeholders, determine their influence and role in the project and develop a communication strategy. Additionally, an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) will be developed in line with GEF and UNDP requirements to uphold social and environmental safeguards and consider the needs of Indigenous peoples throughout the project’s lifespan. This strategy will also prioritise the involvement of women and youth stakeholders to ensure their meaningful participation in the project.

(Please upload to the portal documents tab any stakeholder engagement plan or assessments that have been done during the PIF development phase.)

### Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

And if so, has its role been described and justified in the section B project description?

Yes

### Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

We confirm that we have provided indicative information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program and any measures to address such risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex D).

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
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High or Substantial

### E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

#### Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described in the Project Description (Section B)

Yes

## ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
UNDP	LDCF	Djibouti	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	18,098,624.00	1,628,876.00	19,727,500.00
UNDP	GET	Djibouti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-3	Grant	2,977,523.00	267,977.00	3,245,500.00
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>						<b>21,076,147.00</b>	<b>1,896,853.00</b>	<b>22,973,000.00</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

300000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

27000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
UNDP	LDCF	Djibouti	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	250,000.00	22,500.00	272,500.00
UNDP	GET	Djibouti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-3	Grant	50,000.00	4,500.00	54,500.00
<b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b>						<b>300,000.00</b>	<b>27,000.00</b>	<b>327,000.00</b>

Please provide justification

### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
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		Regional/ Global			
UNDP	GET	Djibouti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	3,300,000.00
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>3,300,000.00</b>

### Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CCA-1-1	LDCF	18,098,624.00	53300000
LD-3	GET	2,977,523.00	10000000
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>21,076,147.00</b>	<b>63,300,000.00</b>

### Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	MEDD	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3000000
Donor Agency	World Bank	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	15000000
Donor Agency	FAO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5000000
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5300000
Donor Agency	GCF	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	20000000
Donor Agency	African Development Bank	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	15000000
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				<b>63,300,000.00</b>

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The design of the proposed project was done through a highly consultative manner. To begin with, UNDP organized a Lessons Learned session to share the Integrated Programming approach with the development partners in November 2022. Following the Lessons Learned Workshop, bilateral meetings were organized to mobilize the investment from the potential partners, including the government entity. World Bank will implement two major projects that address the climate change adaptation, social protection measures and inclusive livelihood component and have agreed to collaborate and complement through parallel financing. African Development Bank in collaboration with Inter-governmental Agency for Development (IGAD) for Horn of Africa will invest in resilient infrastructure, climate change adaptation, access to water and green jobs in its upcoming programming cycle and also through upcoming GCF funded regional project. Similarly, IFAD has expressed its interest in collaborating and complementing through Great Green Wall Initiative in Djibouti and through its bilateral projects on sustainable livelihood, land restoration and improved access to water. Last but not the least, UNDP through its upcoming project to be funded by the GCF on strengthening climate resilience through watershed management and strengthening governance mechanisms, upcoming GCF NAP projects will provide strong co-financing aligned with the proposed project interventions. Similarly the government has pledged to

provide in-kind con-financing to support implementation of the proposed project. Though the co-financing letters will be prepared during the PPG phase, the development partners are eager to contribute towards the imminent paradigm shift the integrated programme promises to bring. This is so because the past efforts of siloed approach have failed to deliver expected results.

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Pradeep Kurukulasuriya	4/12/2023	Clotilde Goeman		clotilde.goeman@undp.org

### Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Dini Abdallah Omar	Secretary General	Environment and Sustainable Development	5/22/2023

## ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place

The portal did not allow for the upload of images. Maps are available in annex C, in the roadmap section.

Table 4: List of proposed Project sites with complementing projects

	GCF	GEF	GGW
Région	Sites	Sites	
TADJOURAH	Ottoyé	Ripta	
	Sourat		
	Dorra	Sagalou	
OBOCK	Fantahero	Souwali	
DIKHIL	Mouloud	Gagadé	<b>Dikhil-Okarre-Erreh</b> Administratively depends on the capital of the region
			<b>Plains of Hanlé – Galafi</b> Administratively linked to Yoboki sub-prefecture



	<b>As-eyla</b>		<b>Dakka Plateau</b> Administratively between the sub-prefecture of Yoboki and that of As-eyla
	<b>Abaytou</b>	<b>Oudoukia</b>	
<b>ALI SABIEH</b>	<b>Shabelli</b>	<b>Dasbio</b>	<b>Bara and foothills</b> Administratively falls under 3 regions namely Dikhil, Ali-Sabieh and
	<b>Ouberley</b>		
<b>ARTA</b>	<b>Omar Jagga</b>		<b>Arta.</b> <b>Hol Hol</b> Administratively, this unit falls solely within the Region of Arta

#### ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

(PIF level) Attach agency safeguard screen form including rating of risk types and overall risk rating.

Title

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#### ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
No Contribution 0	Principal Objective 2	No Contribution 0	Significant Objective 1

#### ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Influencing Models			
Stakeholders		SMEs	
		Individuals/entrepreneurs	
		Community Based Organisation	
		Non-Governmental Organisation	
		Information	

		Dissemination	
		Partnership	
	Communications	Consultation	
		Participation	
		Awareness-raising	
Capacity, Knowledge and Research		Knowledge Management	
		Capacity Development	
		Adaptive management	
		Knowledge management	
		Theory of change	
		Knowledge and Learning	
Gender Equality		Beneficiaries	
		Women groups	
		Access to benefits and services	
		Participation and leadership	
		Capacity development	
Focal Areas/Theme	Integrated Programs	Food security in Sub-Saharan Africa	Resilience (climate and shocks)
		Food systems, land use and restoration	Land and soil health
			Integrated land and water management
			Small and medium enterprises
			Landscape restoration
			Comprehensive land use planning
	Land degradation	Sustainable land management	Restoration and rehabilitation of degraded lands
		Land degradation neutrality	Sustainable livelihoods
			Income generating activities
			Improved soil and water techniques
			Sustainable pasture management
			Land productivity
Focal Area/Theme		Climate Change Adaptation	Least developed countries
			Climate resilience
			Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			Community-based adaptation
			Livelihoods
Rio Marker	Climate change Adaptation 2		