



## **Kazakhstan Resilient Agroforestry and Rangeland Management Project**

### **Part I: Project Information**

#### **Name of Parent Program**

**Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program on Dryland Sustainable Landscapes**

#### **GEF ID**

**10299**

#### **Project Type**

FSP

#### **Type of Trust Fund**

GET

#### **CBIT/NGI**

☐ CBIT

☐ NGI

#### **Project Title**

Kazakhstan Resilient Agroforestry and Rangeland Management Project

#### **Countries**

Kazakhstan

#### **Agency(ies)**

World Bank, FAO

#### **Other Executing Partner(s)**

Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources, Forestry Wildlife Committee; Ministry of Agriculture, FAO

#### **Executing Partner Type**

Government

#### **GEF Focal Area**

Multi Focal Area

**Taxonomy**

Focal Areas, Forest, Drylands, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Sustainable Fire Management, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Sustainable Pasture Management, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Ecosystem Approach, Sustainable Livelihoods, Sustainable Forest, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Income Generating Activities, Sustainable Agriculture, Land Degradation Neutrality, Carbon stocks above or below ground, Land Productivity, Land Cover and Land cover change, Climate Change, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Livelihoods, Private sector, Climate resilience, Mainstreaming adaptation, Innovation, Adaptation Tech Transfer, Community-based adaptation, Climate Change Mitigation, Technology Transfer, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Stakeholders, Local Communities, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Participation, Information Dissemination, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, SMEs, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Beneficiaries, Communications, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Education, Strategic Communications, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Access to benefits and services, Participation and leadership, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Access and control over natural resources, Capacity Development, Integrated Programs, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Exchange, South-South, Field Visit, Conference, Knowledge Generation, Seminar, Workshop, Course, Training, Professional Development, Enabling Activities, Learning, Adaptive management, Targeted Research

**Rio Markers****Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 2

**Climate Change Adaptation**

Climate Change Adaptation 0

**Submission Date**

3/2/2021

**Expected Implementation Start**

6/15/2021

**Expected Completion Date**

4/16/2025

**Duration**

60In Months

**Agency Fee(\$)**

565,596.00

**A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS**

<b>Objectives/Programs</b>	<b>Focal Area Outcomes</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Co-Fin Amount(\$)</b>
IP SFM Drylands	Promoting effective coordination for sustainable forest management	GET	6,284,404.00	191,954,424.00
<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>			<b>6,284,404.00</b>	<b>191,954,424.00</b>

**B. Project description summary**

**Project Objective**

Objective: Restore land productivity in targeted degraded landscapes in the Republic of Kazakhstan This project is divided into 2 pillars with the following respective pillar objectives: Pillar 1-WB: aims to pilot agroforestry practices using a community-centered approach and to build government capacity for landscape management and restoration. Pillar 2-FAO: focuses on expanding the use of sustainable pasture management practices and technologies in targeted areas.

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
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Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Strengthening the enabling environment for the sustainable management of drylands (WB) This component corresponds with the World Bank Child Project Component 2: Capacity building of the Forestry and Wildlife Committee (FWC) for integrated landscape management	Investment	1.1. Increased institutional capacity of the FWC for community-centered integrated landscape management	<p>1.1. Revised policies and legislation for the forestry sector, which incorporate ecosystem services</p> <p>1.2. LDN workstreams to support the development of an LDN strategy and targets for Kazakhstan</p> <p>1.3. A 140,000-ha inventory of unrecorded dryland forests</p> <p>1.4. 300,000 ha of forest fund areas in the Dry Aral Seabed (DASB) mapped and surveyed for future afforestation</p> <p>1.5. Forest management plans covering 100,000 ha of newly accounted forest in southern and south-western Kazakhstan</p> <p>1.6. 50,000 ha of land plots in the DASB prepared for saxaul tree plantations</p> <p>1.7. A seed depository (gene bank)</p>	GET	1,378,000.00	88,500,000.00

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Dryland agroforestry and landscape restoration (WB) This - component corresponds with the World Bank Child Project Component 1: Piloting community ? centered approach on dryland agroforestry and landscape restoration	Investment	2.1. Afforested dryland areas  2.2. Availability of new livelihood sources  2.3 Improved conservation and reproduction of forests through community-centered sustainable landscape practices	2.1. 3,000 ha of saxaul and other drought-resistant tree plantations (shelterbelts) around Kyzylorda City  2.2. Three 5-ha fast-growing fruit tree plantations (agroforestry demonstration plots) in Kyzylorda Oblast  2.3 Six model farms piloting innovative agroforestry sub-projects in Zhambyl Oblast (20 ha each, affecting a total perimeter of 7,800 ha)  2.4 A 25-ha forest nursery and related equipment for farmers and local communities	GET	2,463,000.00	98,500,000.00

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3: Sustainable pasture management (FAO) This -component corresponds with the FAO Child Project Component 3: Sustainable Pasture Management	Investment	<p>3.1. Expanded use of sustainable pasture management practices and technologies</p> <p>3.2. Enhanced public and private investments in sustainable pasture infrastructure</p> <p>3.3. Participation of the GoK in the international carbon trading system</p>	<p>3.1.1. Training on sustainable pasture management practices</p> <p>3.1.2. Demonstration of pasture/SLM rehabilitation and technologies</p> <p>3.2.1. Demonstration of climate smart agricultural practices</p> <p>3.3.1. Economic assessment of investments in carbon sequestering projects in the agriculture sector</p> <p>3.3.2 Training on the international carbon trading system</p>	GET	1,890,266.00	1,835,424.00



Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 4: Project coordination and monitoring (WB) This component corresponds with the World Bank Child Project Component 3: Project coordination and monitoring	Technical Assistance	4.1. Efficient and effective project management and feedback  4.2 Participation in and contribution to program fora and events	4.1 Work plans and budgets, Progress reports and Audits  4.2 Adherence with Environmental and Social Safeguards measures  4.3 Participation in Drylands IP events and Communication materials	GET	283,037.00	500,000.00

<b>Sub Total (\$)</b>	<b>6,014,303.00</b>	<b>189,335,424.00</b>
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#### Project Management Cost (PMC)

GET	220,000.00	2,500,000.00
GET	50,101.00	119,000.00
<b>Sub Total(\$)</b>	<b>270,101.00</b>	<b>2,619,000.00</b>
<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>	<b>6,284,404.00</b>	<b>191,954,424.00</b>

#### Please provide justification

Firstly, this is a jointly submitted project, but with PIU's in different ministries leading the implementation of activities defined under the respective FAO and WB projects. The PMC costs for the respective PIUs are embedded within the components and only culled out for GEF template purposes. Secondly although the FAO related PMC cost and associated cofinancing was embedded in the FAO led component 3, it was not separately reflected at the concept stage. This is now culled out (50,101) and reflected in the PMC row as per GEF requirement.

**C. Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type**

<b>Sources of Co-financing</b>	<b>Name of Co-financier</b>	<b>Type of Co-financing</b>	<b>Investment Mobilized</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	190,000,000.00
GEF Agency	FAO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,854,424.00
Private Sector	AkTep	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	100,000.00
<b>Total Co-Financing(\$)</b>				<b>191,954,424.00</b>

**Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified**

The World Bank co-financing is composed of US\$190 million from the planned (Concept-stage) IBRD-financed Aral Sea Development and Revitalization Project (P170187). It will be implemented in parallel to the proposed GEF-financed project and reinforce restoration activities. FAO co-financing includes (i) the in-kind contribution provided by a private sector company AkTep LTD, and (ii) regular programme funds mobilized by the FAO Partnership and Liaison Office in Kazakhstan from FAO's General and Technical Cooperation programs as well as the FAO-Kazakhstan Partnership Programme (2022-2025)

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

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programming of Funds</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>
World Bank	GET	Kazakhstan	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	449,541	40,459
World Bank	GET	Kazakhstan	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	2,385,321	214,679
World Bank	GET	Kazakhstan	Multi Focal Area	IP SFM Drylands Set-Aside	1,509,174	135,826
FAO	GET	Kazakhstan	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	192,661	17,339
FAO	GET	Kazakhstan	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	1,100,917	99,083
FAO	GET	Kazakhstan	Multi Focal Area	IP SFM Drylands Set-Aside	646,790	58,210
<b>Total Grant Resources(\$)</b>					<b>6,284,404.00</b>	<b>565,596.00</b>

**E. Non Grant Instrument**

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

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Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required

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PPG Amount (\$)

183,486

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

16,514

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programmin g of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
World Bank	GET	Kazakhstan	Biodiversity	CC STAR Allocation	183,486	16,514
Total Project Costs(\$)					183,486.00	16,514.00

## Core Indicators

### Indicator 3 Area of land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	7135.00	0.00	0.00

#### Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	4,000.00		

#### Indicator 3.2 Area of Forest and Forest Land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	3,135.00		

#### Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and shrublands restored

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

#### Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (incl. estuaries, mangroves) restored

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)
0.00	926815.00	0.00	0.00

#### 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)
	110,815.00		

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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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)
	816,000.00		

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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**Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)**

Title	Submitted
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Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (direct)	0	2500887	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (direct)		2,500,887		

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting		2021		
Duration of accounting		20		

**Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector**

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

**Indicator 6.3 Energy Saved (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)**

Total Target Benefit	Energy (MJ) (At PIF)	Energy (MJ) (At CEO Endorsement)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at MTR)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at TE)
Target Energy Saved (MJ)				

**Indicator 6.4 Increase in Installed Renewable Energy Capacity per Technology (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)**

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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**Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment**

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female		46,000		
Male		48,000		
Total	0	94000	0	0



## Part II. Project Justification

### 1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

See Annex E later

### 2. Stakeholders

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Stakeholders Engagement Plans (SEPs) were developed for the respective pillars (see Annex I for WB, Annex K in ProDoc for FAO ) to ensure stakeholders' engagement through the project's lifecycle. The SEPs were developed in consideration of Kazakhstan policies and GEF guidelines. The specific elements include: (a) identification of stakeholders for engagement and methods of communication to ensure inclusive participation and consultation; (b) analysis of stakeholders' needs; (c) tools and techniques for stakeholder engagement under COVID-19 conditions; (d) resources and responsibilities for SEP implementation; (e) description of the pillars' grievance mechanism and reporting; and (f) SEP reporting and monitoring arrangements.

The following are summaries of Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 stakeholders, their mandates, and roles in the project.

#### Summary of Pillar 1 Stakeholders

Stakeholder	Mandate	Responsibilities
Ministry of Ecology, Geology, and Natural Resources	A state body engaged in managing natural resources with the objective to preserve the environment.	Provide oversight and control of disbursement of project funds to the implementing agency. Monitor compliance of financial reporting of project funds by the implementing agency.
Directorates of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (ODNR) of the akimats of Kyzylorda and Zhambyl oblasts	A division of Oblast Akimat engaged in managing oblasts' natural resource and exercising control over compliance with environmental legislation	Provide oversight and coordination of activities implemented within an oblast.
Oblast administration	Responsible for managing local budget and economic development of the respective oblast.	Provide support and coordination of stakeholder engagement and grievance redress within an oblast.
Rayon/city administration	Management of local budget and economic development of the respective rayon/city.	Provide support and coordination of stakeholder engagement and grievance redress within a rayon/city.

NGOs	Oversee transparency, fairness, and inclusion of project interventions.	Safeguard policy and referral pathway strengthen guidance counselors.
Project-affected parties: - Individual farms - Local communities	Individuals who are looking for (additional) income opportunities, including those who may have lost their job/income as a result of COVID-19.	Participate in project activities on paid basis
Disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals or groups	Individuals/groups who may have fewer opportunities to benefit from project activities.	Participate in stakeholder meetings to highlight special needs of vulnerable groups

#### Summary of Pillar 2 Stakeholders

Stakeholder	Mandate	Responsibilities
The Ministry of Agriculture	The central executive body that manages the agro-industrial complex, irrigated agriculture, and land reclamation, as well as inter-sectoral coordination of state bodies in the sphere of activities within its mandate. The Ministry of Agriculture is the main counterpart of FAO in the country.	Overall project coordination.  Provide technical and logistical support.  Identification of demonstration sites.  Will benefit from capacity building activities.  Part of coordination unit/working group at horizontal level.

<p>The Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources</p>	<p>The central executive body, carrying out leadership in the areas of formation and implementation of state policy, coordination of management processes in the fields of environmental protection, development of the "green economy", waste management (excluding municipal, medical and radioactive waste), protection, control and supervision of the rational use of natural resources, state geological study mineral resources, reproduction of the mineral resource base, use and protection of the water fund, water supply, sanitation, forestry, conservation, reproduction and use of the animal world and specially protected natural territories.</p>	<p>Participate in project coordination.</p> <p>Provide technical and logistical support.</p> <p>Identification of demonstration sites.</p> <p>Will benefit from capacity building activities.</p> <p>Part of coordination unit/working group at horizontal level.</p>
<p>The Land Resources Management Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture</p>	<p>The government body which performs strategic, regulatory, implementation and control and supervisory functions in the field of land management, including pastures. The committee is the main government counterpart of the project, which can represent the position of the Ministry of Agriculture. It will be supporting project implementation to completion.</p>	<p>Play a key role in the scientific and technical back-up of the project.</p>

<p>The Department of Climate Policy and Green Technologies of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources</p>	<p>Responsible for the formation and implementation of a unified state policy and the organization of the development of a program in the field of climate protection and the earth's ozone layer. In addition, the department is working on implementation of the ultimate goal and provisions of the UNFCCC and other international agreements and protocols in the field of climate change. The project sub-components on carbon trading system and climate-smart technologies should be done in close cooperation with the department.</p>	<p>Play a supporting role in the scientific and technical back-up of the project with regards to SLM approaches and a lead role in carbon policy brief development and carbon related initiatives</p>
<p>The Organizations of the Non-Profit Joint-Stock Company "National Agrarian Science and Educational Centre" (NASEC)</p>	<p>An umbrella organization for 3 agricultural universities, 3 research centers, 13 research institutes (with 31 branches), 18 agricultural experimental stations and experimental production farms and 3 service companies. In particular, the NASEC includes the Kazakh Scientific Research Institute of Forestry and Agroforestry, the Kazakh Scientific Research Institute of Animal Husbandry and Forage Production, the Kazakh Research Institute of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry named after Uspanov, specializing in sustainable agroforestry and rangeland management.</p>	<p>Take part in training, act as liaison agents between project and pastoral communities and scale up SLM technologies and approaches.</p>
<p>The Non-Profit Joint-Stock Company ?State Corporation ?Government for Citizens?</p>	<p>The provider of geobotanical and soil analysis maps in the country. The maps representing the soil health and geobotanical characteristics of pastures provided by this entity might be used to zoom in project areas at rayon level to determine the direct project beneficiaries and to monitor progress</p>	<p>Take part in training, participate in LDN mapping and monitoring and provide information and data for project needs.</p>

The Association of Ecological Organizations of Kazakhstan	This NGO focuses on unifying the environmental organizations throughout the country and jointly solving specific environmental problems. It is a potential operating partner of the project.	Take part in training, act as liaison agents between project and pastoral communities and scale up SLM technologies and approaches. This group will also benefit from learning about the LADA and Participatory Rangeland assessment methodologies for their land and pasture monitoring programs.
The Coalition for Green Economy and Development ?G-Global?	The mission of the Coalition is to consolidate the efforts of NGOs, business, science and government to promote the implementation of the principles of "green" growth, integrated development of territories based on an ecosystem approach, "green" innovation infrastructure, and the creation of legal and institutional foundations for the transition to a "green" economy. It is a potential operating partner of the project.	Take part in training, act as liaison agents between project and pastoral communities and scale up SLM technologies and approaches, especially from financial management viewpoints. This group will also benefit from carbon trading initiatives and training events.
The National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of The Republic of Kazakhstan "Atameken"	This NGO works on protecting the rights and interests of business and ensuring broad coverage and involvement of all entrepreneurs in the process of forming legislative and other regulatory rules for business, including agricultural enterprises and household farms	Take part in training, act as liaison agents between project and pastoral communities and scale up SLM technologies and approaches, especially from financial management viewpoints. This group will also benefit from value chain work and development, carbon trading initiatives and other capacity building activities.
The Foundation ?Center of Applied Research ?Talap?	This Foundation has strong capacity and competency in developing different analytics and assessments related to pasture management, and extensive experience in the organization of workshops and conferences.	Act to ensure approved applied research protocols are followed to improve M&E procedures, validate and promote conclusions, recommendations and lessons learnt for scaling of results.

The Association of Individual Entrepreneurs and Legal Entities ?Kazakhstan Growers Union?	This Association has extensive experience in carrying out different field activities related to livestock management and organization of workshops and conferences.	Validate field approaches and help to scale results.
The Association of Individual Entrepreneurs and Legal Entities ?Sheep Breeders Union?	This Association has extensive experience in carrying out different field activities related to small ruminants management and organization of workshops and conferences.	Validate and promote conclusions, recommendations and lessons learnt for scaling of results.
Aktobe Oblast and Kyzylorda Oblast Akimats (Regional Municipalities)	Perform regulatory, implementation and (or) control functions that ensure the solution of local issues within the relevant administrative-territorial unit.	Coordinate project activities within oblast limits and facilitation of resources and communications with relevant oblast agencies.
The Regional Chambers of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan "Atameken" in Aktobe and Pavlodar Oblasts	This NGO works on protecting the rights and interests of business and ensuring broad coverage and involvement of all entrepreneurs in the process of forming legislative and other regulatory rules for business, including agricultural enterprises and household farms.	Take part in training, act as liaison agents between project and pastoral communities and scale up SLM technologies and approaches.
The Rayon Akimats in Aktobe and Pavlodar Oblasts	These are part of the direct beneficiaries of the community-based pasture management system. The rayon akimats will play a crucial role in hosting demonstration sites and scaling up technologies on the larger scale.	The rayons will be selected and respective capacity needs will be identified during project implementation. This is due to the changing priorities surrounding COVID-19 and its effects. Criteria have been provided in this document for their selection.
The Rayon Level and Oblast Level Agricultural Units and Divisions (Located in Akimats)	Provide the district and regional level agricultural data and by participating in field activities.	As those responsible for development and implementation of the Pasture Management Plans, this stakeholder will be key to accessing land, resources and having the autonomy and authority to work with land-users and owners/leasers to halt LD processes, within LDN application. Their importance has also been identified as a possible risk in 5. Risks section.

The Rural District Level Akimats	Smallest administrative unit that will participate in project implementation.	The rural districts inside each rayon will be selected and respective capacity needs will be identified during project implementation and their situation and role within each PMP.
Regional NGO	NGOs that operate within the selected rayons and communities with clear links to project outcomes.	Take part in training, act as liaison agents between project and pastoral communities and scale-up SLM technologies and approaches.
Regional Financial Institutions	Financial institutions operating within selected areas with capacity and motivation to invest or develop SLM or carbon-based initiatives	Financially support project proposals or models
Meat and Milk Processing Industries and their Supporting Supply Chains	Of special interest are the existing and planned feedlots, slaughterhouses and the transport chains they supply. The AkTep LTD fattening unit ? with capacity of 14,000 head was identified through stakeholder consultations as a key player in achieving project outcomes	Value chain development by providing information on traceability and animal health requirements, optimal breed characteristics and body conditions, and other market considerations.
Large Family or Corporate Farms	The demonstration landscapes will showcase not only how physical farm improvements can lead to increased socio-economic and ecological benefits but how to identify weak links and logjams in production cycles and prioritize investments. This process and approach will be of interest for larger farms that look to professionalize their staff and improve on farm efficiency and productivity. The value chain work will also support their transition to more export-oriented products and globally certified production systems.	These entities will benefit from various project lines, from training, to climate-adapted agro-silvo-pastoral business models, to VCs and possibly the carbon trading initiatives if large enough.

Energy Sector	The work on carbon trading schemes will open the door for the larger players in the energy sector to participate, but also the smaller collectives, such as the rural district (??????? ?????) -> village (???) to get involved in solar or other alternative energy schemes or carbon sequestration programs through either ?avoided deforestation payments? or improved rangeland management that increases carbon cycling and sequestration over the original project baseline conducted through LDN implementation.	<p>Within this context, the potential opportunities and legal requirements for participation of the GoK and private project stakeholders in carbon trading schemes and markets will be supported and will interact with SLM and LDN activities and initiatives throughout the project implementation process.</p> <p>The project may also involve the local and regional banking sector, including micro-lending institutions, to provide financial support to smallholders and pastoralists in carrying out SLM/SFM interventions.</p>
Financial Sector	Numerous sources utilized for project design and development have identified access to financing or credit as one of the major barriers to development.	Work with project coordinators to validate business models and VC conclusions and if possible, fund results of the project.
Agrarian Cooperatives	Cooperatives are often vital players in rural economies and act as a focal point for introducing innovative technologies and approaches.	Act as collective access point for producers and replicate production practices or marketing strategies developed by project.
Beneficiaries		Participate actively in capacity building exercises. Implement SLM and work towards LDN.

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

#### ***Means and Timing of Engagement under Pillar 1***

PIU under FWC supervision will engage with stakeholders throughout the project life cycle, commencing such engagement as early as possible in the project development process and within a timeframe that enables meaningful consultations with stakeholders on the project design. The nature, scope and frequency of stakeholder engagement will be proportionate to the nature and type of works and subprojects, potential risks and impacts. Restrictions related to COVID-19 pandemic will be taken into account. Face to face meetings, reports are envisaged for the demonstration activities, stakeholder consultations during implementation, and project monitoring and troubleshooting. If decisions about public gatherings, venues and timing of meetings are not adopted yet, stakeholders can find information



about the project in local newspapers, on television and in social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram). Stakeholders can get acquainted with materials on the project and express their opinions in the Directorates of Natural Resources and Environmental Control of the akimats of Kyzylorda and Zhambyl oblasts which will be responsible for providing information, accepting and handling complaints and suggestions. The project will carry out targeted stakeholder engagement with vulnerable groups to understand concerns/needs in terms of accessing information and services and other challenges they face at home, at workplaces and in their communities. The details of strategies that will be adopted to effectively engage and communicate to vulnerable group will be considered during project implementation. In the course of public consultations, the procedure for vulnerable groups to express their opinions will be established, each opinion will be included in minutes for the purpose of subsequent analysis and introduction of amendments into corresponding documents.

Resources for stakeholder engagement under Pillar 1: Stakeholder consultations are integrated within the project components and are inherent to all relevant interventions that require consultative processes. These will also be further expanded and adjusted as the project implementation proceeds. The project has placed emphasis in particular on support for a social development specialist, communication material cost, hotline for grievances, website maintenance, and other related expenses for an estimated amount of approximately US\$70,000 to strengthen the implementation of stakeholder engagement activities.

Please refer to the WB SEP attached (Annex I to the CER) to the submission. Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) under Pillar 1 enables the project to identify different stakeholders and provides an approach towards engaging with them throughout the project's life. During the WB appraisal stage it was agreed that SEP along with Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), and Labor Management Procedures (LMP) will be disclosed on the FWC website for comments in Russian, English and Kazakh by November 15, 2020. For more details refer to Annex I.

### ***Means and timing of engagement with stakeholders under Pillar 2***

The project under Pillar 2 will imply a comprehensive stakeholder engagement system. The project will support the strengthening of intersectoral coordination mechanisms at national level to foster broad participation and investments in SLM from governments, development partners and the private sector, which includes support to development of decision-support tools and participatory processes. The government will designate a National Project Director (NPD). The NPD will be responsible for coordinating the activities with all the national bodies related to the different project components, as well as with the project partners. S/He will also be responsible for supervising and guiding the National Project Manager on the government policies and priorities. The NPD (or designated person from lead national institution) will chair the Project Steering Committee (PSC) which will be the main governing body of the project. The PSC will approve Annual Work Plans and Budgets on a yearly basis and will provide strategic guidance to the Project Management Team and to all executing partners. The members of the PSC will each assure the role of a Focal Point for the project in their respective agencies.

The beneficiary's outreach will be carried out in two ways, depending on the legal status and features of the individual/entity, and in accordance with mandatory gender and social inclusion standards of

FAO. The individuals in the target areas will be reached by the training and capacity building of 4 facilitators (1 per rayon). The facilitators will support the creation, organization and capacity building of the different beneficiaries, but will also ensure that awareness is raised on key issues and will facilitate participatory approaches to PMP development. The work carried out on commune pastures will be coordinated by local rayon akimats under the facilitators' guidance. The target rayons will be selected with the support of the Land Resources Management Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan. Capacity interventions will include sessions on gender norms, gender relations and women's empowerment.

The Land Resources Management Committee will play a crucial role in stakeholder's engagement by analyzing together with FAO those rayons/rural districts that meet the criteria and that have sufficient capacity and motivation to be direct beneficiaries of the project. The project facilitators will also reach out to the HH farms and agricultural cooperatives to ensure a coordinated land use process of the different segments/strata of local communities in the target areas. The work of the project facilitators will be coordinated by National Pastureland experts. These experts will play a leading role in revising the PMPs and prepare the information on the nature, extent and constraints, including socially constructed constraints inherent in their pasture areas that should be shared with local communities by project facilitators.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan under Pillar 2 also contains the methodology for project formulation and implementation with the necessary timing and resources. For more details refer to Annex K under FAO ProDoc.

**Select what role civil society will play in the project:**

**Consulted only;**

**Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes**

**Co-financier; Yes**

**Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body; Yes**

**Executor or co-executor;**

**Other (Please explain)**

### **3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

**Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.**

The World Bank and FAO are collaborating to conduct a further detailed gender gap analysis to mainstream gender actions and monitor progress towards closing identified gender gaps under both pillars. The following is a summary of the preparation stage gender analysis and plan for both pillar 1 and 2:

Since independence in 1991, State policy has aimed to provide legislative support to women. Kazakhstan was the first Central Asian country to establish a national entity to promote gender equality (the National Commission on Women, Family and Demographic Policy). Adopted in 2009, the Law on State Guarantees of Equal Rights and Opportunities for Men and Women governs gender policy. Kazakhstan's Strategy of Gender Equality for 2006-2016 set practical targets to measure progress in attaining gender equality in policy, the economy, education, family affairs, access to healthcare and the prevention of violence against women and children. It approved in 2016 the Concept of Family and Gender Policy up to 2030, which seeks to ensure equal rights for all and prevent gender-based discrimination and gender imbalances. Moreover, Kazakhstan has ratified several major international treaties, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, the Convention on the Nationality of Married Women, and the 2030 Agenda SDGs. Kazakhstan is currently ranked 72<sup>nd</sup> (out of 153 countries) in the 2020 Global Gender Gap Report, reflecting a 12-rank drop from 2018 and a 40-rank drop from 2013. The gender wage gap is most prominent in the agricultural sector where men earn 112% more than women, although men and women are almost equally represented in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. About half of all self-employed women work in the agriculture sector; therefore, women are more likely to be vulnerable to production and income losses from natural resource degradation and climate change. (see FAO ProDoc for more details)

Gender gaps in the forestry sector: Women contribute significantly to the forestry sector particularly serving as a major source of labor for creating nurseries and planting forest crops. However, the amount of employment opportunities available for women in the forestry sector is declining. Women in Kazakhstan are also underrepresented in agriculture cooperatives, user-groups, and committees due to lesser land ownership and high demands on their time. While they often serve as environmental stewards, women tend to be excluded from conservation and management of land, lack access to agricultural extension services and institutional credit and encounter barriers to participation in development, planning and policymaking processes. Unlike men, women often have less access to information, resources and legal rights to land, natural and productive resources. Unequal power relations and gender-based discrimination in legal and customary systems in many societies deny women even user rights to plant trees, control soil degradation and enhance soil fertility.

The Project will hire women for planting of saxaul trees and establishment of the forestry nursery (Component 2). Women will also be hired to maintain the saxaul plantations and nursery, which will ensure that local women have jobs and income beyond the lifecycle of the project. Women will receive equal compensation (as men) for engaging in project activities (Components 1-2). In addition, the project will facilitate women's participation in trainings on innovative agroforestry techniques through targeted messages, scheduling training during family-friendly hours, and providing adequate transportation to demonstration plots. Women will be targeted during recruitment of community members into natural resource management groups. This will help ascertain women's participation in the formulation and implementation of environmentally sound forest management plans during and beyond the project (Component 10). The following gender indicator is included in the results framework: 'Community participation in forestry activities, of which female participants?' It will measure the female participation in the project forestry activities .

Gender gaps in the agriculture and in the livestock sector: Despite women's important contributions to agriculture, they face a number of disadvantages as compared to men. Rural women typically work as unpaid family workers, performing tasks both within their households and on family farms or household plots. Their contribution is invisible in official statistics and is often undervalued by women themselves as they perceive it as a continuation of their 'natural' role. Women also work as hired employees on smallholder farms, undertake much of the day-to-day farm work, and they are generally not recognized as key decision-makers and often have limited access to information and knowledge

concerning farming practices. Many women face the consequences of gender stereotypes: early in life they cannot focus on developing skills to earn livelihoods and are raised based on the stereotype that a man must earn the family's living, and it is therefore not necessary for a woman to learn. Due to the lack of livelihood opportunities, women must work as day-laborers at weeding and harvesting. This leads to unstable income, lack of development opportunities, and weak health. In most places, men and women equally contribute in the production and harvesting of products, yet there are many more men engaged in the sale of agricultural products than women. This can be explained by the existence of gender stereotypes, where men are associated with the process of making money. Men are predominant in the use of machinery and fertilizers, which results in increased productivity and in higher revenues to men. Men, women, youth, elderly, and people with disabilities are not well informed about their rights and opportunities to access economic, social, and environmental instruments. While women have equal rights to the benefits of land reform, they often have less information on how the policy changes affect them and even more limited capital and legal channels. Project activities will aim to narrow gaps in women's control over natural resources, participation and decision making, and access to information and benefits from the sector.

FAO is offering a specific project based on providing women with equal rights and opportunities in development of agricultural potential in Kazakhstan.

The Project Gender Action Plan (GAP) is informed by relevant international and national frameworks and policies related to the environment and gender equality as set out below, and is designed to meet the mandatory requirements of the new GEF Policy on Gender Equality (2017). This GEF policy aims to ensure equal opportunities for women and men to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from GEF-financed activities in support of the GEF's efforts to achieve global environmental benefits. Principles include requirements that stakeholder engagement and analysis be conducted in an inclusive and gender responsive manner, so that the rights of women and men and the different knowledge, needs, roles and interests of women and men are recognized and addressed. In addition, GEF-financed activities must be conducted, designed and implemented in an inclusive manner so that women's participation and voice are, regardless of their background, age, race, ethnicity or religion, reflected in decision-making, and that consultations with women's organizations, including indigenous women and local women's groups, are supported. Furthermore, a gender-responsive approach must be applied throughout the identification, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project. The detailed FAO Gender Action Plan and draft gender-sensitive activities' Monitoring and Evaluation plan are provided in Annex H.

**Table 1. Project contribution to objectives of FAO Policy on Gender (2013)**

1. Women participate equally with men as decision-makers in rural institutions and in shaping laws, policies and programmes.	Community and district level: women will participate as active stakeholders and decision-makers in issues relating to the PMPs drafted or acted upon.
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2. Women and men have equal access to and control over decent employment and income, land and other productive resources.	Women's and men's better access to decision-making and pastoral resources is a key goal of the project.
3. Women and men have equal access to goods and services for agricultural development and to markets.	Project support to strategic/operational PMPs as well as inclusive business models that prioritize clean technologies, gender-sensitive services and infrastructure will promote better access to pasture lands and related economic incentives.
4. Women's work burden is reduced by 20 percent through improved technologies, services and infrastructure.	Project will contribute to FAO global goal by supporting pasture management policy, legislation and strategic/operational plans as well as inclusive business models that prioritize clean technologies, gender-sensitive services and infrastructure that reduce drudgery and save time for women.
5. The share of total agricultural aid committed to projects related to women and gender equality is increased to 30 percent	Project will track contribution of financing related to women and gender equality in Project and report on contribution to global target of 51%.

The GAP is also framed by the FAO Regional Gender Equality Strategy for Europe and Central Asia (2019), which includes a focus on minimizing gender-related risks and safeguarding rural women's rights in all actions to achieve sustainable and equitable food systems and rural development. It will also be compliant with FAO's Environmental and Social Management guidelines (2015).

The project also aims to contribute to the gender policies of the Government of Kazakhstan by responding to the creation of equal access to financial services, productive resources including land, trade and entrepreneurship, equal access and control over clean water, energy, transport infrastructure, and equitable engagement in their management, as well as equal rights to participate in and influence decision-making processes on climate and environmental issues.

Key policies and frameworks framing this Project GAP

SDGs of Agenda 2030 (UN, 2015). The main development framework against which countries are held accountable, SDG 5 relates to gender equality and women's empowerment. One of the most relevant

targets is Target 5.A calling on countries to undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws. In this regard, the project will promote women's equitable access to pastures as well as related economic incentives and services through policy/ regulatory reform, PMPs and inclusive business models for LDN and SLM.

The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW, 1979). This is the UN convention focused on gender equality and women's empowerment and sets out requirements for States in all areas of life. The CEDAW Committee has noted progress in many areas but with regard to rural women it has called for the government to ensure that rural women have adequate access to economic opportunities and equal opportunities to participate in decisions relating to the agricultural sector. It also sets out the concept of temporary special measures to tackle gender inequalities e.g. quotas. In this regard, the Project will consult women and men through a household survey that will include women and women-headed households in its sample, as well as ask questions about intrahousehold decision-making so as to better target project services. The project will see additional consultations at the sub-national level including about the Project's GAP. The project implementation phase will ensure a participatory approach to developing laws and policy related to pastures, including women and women heads of households. Although largely male-dominated, women do need access to quality pastures and related inputs conducive to LDN targets, as heads of household (including if males migrate or die) and the project will also explore entry points for women's economic empowerment in related environmental services or alternative livelihoods.

UNCCD, 1994. The UNCCD, the main Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) on LD, has a GAP (UNCCD, 2017). Its relevant objectives for this project are to: (i) enhance women's role as agents of change by addressing the gender inequalities they face (ii) build the capacities of women and girls to access the resources they need to improve their livelihoods, manage land sustainably and become resilient to drought (iii) develop a baseline on gender-related issues in LD and desertification, and monitor, report and regularly review progress in the implementation and achievement of objectives; and (iv) mobilize adequate resources to achieve these objectives. Key principles to guide action on the ground are that (i) interventions do not increase women's burden but decrease it; and (ii) women not only contribute to, but also benefit from, the interventions. The UNCCD GAP emphasizes equal participation in decisions taken during the design, planning, implementation and evaluation of initiatives to implement the UNCCD. In this regard, the project will address all the objectives stated above, and meet all the key principles through GAP.

The UNCCD's LDN principles apply to this project and they also highlight the importance of integrating a gender perspective, which are set out in the publication 'Scientific Conceptual Framework for Land Degradation Neutrality. A report of the Science-Policy Interface' (UNCCD, 2017). Broadly speaking, they touch on the importance of ensuring gender differences and inequalities between women and men are addressed for LDN. In this regard, the project, including through its GAP, will ensure that the gender dimensions of LDN principles inform all policy/regulatory development as well as sub-national planning.

Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT). FAO. 2012. These guidelines are particularly relevant given the project's focus on SPM and confirms that States should ensure that women and girls have equal tenure rights and access to land, independent of their civil and marital status. The VGGT call for States to 'monitor the outcome of allocation programmes, including the gender-differentiated impacts on food security and poverty eradication as well as their impacts on social, economic and environmental objectives, and introduce corrective measures as required' ? this is very relevant to the project's intended support to national and sub-national policy, regulations and incentives for pasture access and management. In this regard, the project will ensure that all policy, regulatory and programming related to land, including pastureland, is informed by the VGGT

GEF-7 Land Degradation Focal Area Strategy. This confirms 'gender roles have impacts on both farming and livelihood systems, but the contribution of women smallholder farmers often goes unrecognized.

Women farmers often have less access to land, decision making processes, labor, credit, information, technology, and extension?. The strategy commits to mainstreaming gender "by including (i) practical gender needs ? improving the conditions of women through access to resources, services and opportunities, and (ii) strategic gender interests ? empowering women to take decisions and be better represented in various decision making bodies.? Project response: the project will meet practical gender needs through operational PMPs targeting poor women heads of household as well as ensuring that all operational and strategic PMPs, as well as sustainable business models, take into account women?s and men?s different needs and priorities with regard to access to resources, services and opportunities. In terms of strategic gender interests, the project will target women for capacity development and awareness raising in SLM/LDN at national and sub-national levels, so that they are better positioned to contribute to decisions.

The project teams will monitor the narrowing of these gaps through gender-disaggregated and gender-sensitive indicators, included in their respective results frameworks.

**Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment?**

Yes

**Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes**

**Improving women's participation and decision making Yes**

**Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes**

**Does the project?s results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?**

Yes

#### **4. Private sector engagement**

**Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.**

Support for forest regeneration is usually a function of the State, even in developed market economies. Under Pillar 1, private sector involvement will be sought to improve and add value to productive activities, create stable revenues with dryland products, and introduce sustainable supply chains through green bonds and private resources (banks, impact investors and philanthropists) mobilized under the World Bank Central Asia RESILAND and ECCA30 Initiative. Kazakhstan has expressed interest in bringing transformative projects to the LDN Fund: the proposed project will look at private investments facilitated by the LDN Fund to help achieve the country?s voluntary LDN targets. The project may also involve the local and regional banking sector, including micro-lending institutions, to provide financial support to farmers in carrying out interventions.

Under Pillar 2, the private sector will be engaged primarily in training on sustainable pasture management (SPM), demonstration landscapes and investments, climate-smart agro-forestry and livestock models, value chain development processes, and carbon trading initiatives and trainings. There is also potential for collaboration between smallholder groups or collectives and export-oriented value chains and operators. The presence of the AkTep LTD fattening unit with capacity of 14,000 head is an opportunity to further develop the producer characteristics outlined by the GoK in its National Livestock Program 2018-2027 by linking the groups and helping producers to meet the traceability standards and carcass weights and conditions needed for export markets. The demonstration landscapes will showcase physical improvements in infrastructure and identify weak links and logjams in production cycles and prioritize investments to address these. The climate-smart

agro-forestry business models will strengthen this component by offering models that work within both communal and privately managed contexts and how integration of livestock within agro-forestry or dryland systems can increase productivity of both activities. Value chain development will act as an economic motor and stimulant to the landscape planning processes and business models in order to consolidate stakeholder group efforts to improve productivity and profitability while improving the land's productive base. Within this context, the opportunities and legal requirements for participation of the GoK and private project stakeholders in carbon trading schemes and markets will be supported and will interact with SLM and LDN activities and initiatives throughout project implementation. The project will also seek to involve the local and regional banking sector, including micro-lending institutions, to provide financial support to smallholders and pastoralists in carrying out SLM/SFM interventions.

From an operational viewpoint, the private sector will be engaged through the following outputs and activities described within Component 3. They are primarily:

- ? Training on SPM;
- ? Demonstration landscapes and investments;
- ? Climate-smart agro-forestry and livestock models;
- ? Value chain development processes;
- ? Carbon trading initiatives and trainings; and
- ? SPM professionals who develop from project outcomes.

Stakeholder consultations and focal points in the region have also highlighted areas of potential collaboration between smallholder groups or collectives and export-oriented VCs and operators. The presence of the AkTep LTD fattening unit with capacity of 14,000 head is an opportunity to further develop the producer characteristics outlined by the GoK in their National Livestock Programme 2018-2027 by linking the groups and helping producers to meet the traceability standards and carcass weights and conditions needed for export markets.

The demonstration landscapes will showcase not only physical improvements in infrastructure but how to identify weak links and log-jams in production cycles and prioritise investments to address these. The climate-smart agro-forestry business models will strengthen this component by offering models that work within both communal and privately managed contexts and how integration of livestock within agro-forestry or dryland systems can increase productivity of both activities. VC development is to act as an economic motor and stimulant to the landscape planning processes and business models in order to consolidate stakeholder group efforts to improve productivity and profitability while improving the land's productive base.

Within this context, the potential opportunities and legal requirements for participation of the GoK and private project stakeholders in carbon trading schemes and markets will be supported and will interact with SLM and LDN activities and initiatives throughout the project implementation process.

The project will also seek to involve the local and regional banking sector, including micro-lending institutions, to provide financial support to smallholders and pastoralists in carrying out SLM/SFM interventions

. Most of 94,000 expected project beneficiaries are representatives of the private sector. Improvements in their livelihoods will be the ultimate objective of the project given that smallholders and private farms form the base of livestock production in the country.



## 5. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

### Overall Project/Program Risk Classification \*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

#### Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and any measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation.

Please refer to the WB ESRS for details.

**COVID Context:** COVID-19 brings new risk, which is rated Substantial, for the proposed operation: the FWC may be hindered from implementing core activities due to country and local lockdowns; planned field trips may be delayed; diversion of government attention away from the environmental sector to urgent needs. The mitigation measures included to the project design are listed above and incorporated in various project documents including Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), POM, and others. These mitigation measures were in line with the GEF specific guidance paper "Project Design and Review Considerations in Response to the COVID-19 Crises and the Mitigation of Future Pandemics" as of August 27, 2020. In view of recent outbreak of COVID-19 the project activities were adjusted to respond to emerging risks and threats and include:

- Purchase of adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) and multi-purpose equipment for the forest enterprises staff and local communities including masks, gloves, disinfectant sprinklers are included to the list of equipment to be provided by the project;
- Labor intensive plantation activities will generate employment opportunities and help to mitigate negative social and economic impact of quarantine lockdown;
- Support in the short-term local communities who lost their income due to COVID related restrictions via grants/cash to grow the required berry bushes, orchard species;

- Purchase of seedlings for berry bushes, orchard species, and other seeds to assist local communities in food security;
- Additional and new jobs could also be created with the commencement of the new gene bank and expanding afforestation programs following mapping/inventory of unregistered forests.
- In terms of managing the immediate health risks, forestry is considered one of the least risky activities, with both work and supervision amenable to social distancing.

**FAO PRODOC:** Please refer to section 1.1.3. Barriers of the ProDoc, where the bulk of the text is about COVID-19 implications

#### Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
<b>ESRS-P171577-WB-KZ Landscape GEF-Appraisal- Submitted-Eng</b>	<b>CEO Endorsement ESS</b>	
<b>ESMF-P171577 - WB-KZ Landscape GEF - English rev</b>	<b>CEO Endorsement ESS</b>	

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

**Alignment of child project with the Drylands IP:**

The Kazakhstan Child Project follows one of the central characteristics of the program, i.e., a landscape approach, which is particularly necessary in drylands given the importance of landscape-wide social, productive, environmental, and biological dynamics that determine ecosystem sustainability and the condition of global environmental values. The project's objective and key outcomes are concurrent with the program's objective of avoiding, reducing, and reversing further degradation, desertification, and deforestation of land and ecosystems in drylands through the sustainable management of production landscapes. The key instruments for achieving this objective, i.e., component 1, 2 and 3, follow the instruments for achieving the program's "situation sought" of integrated landscape management and diversified agro-ecological food production systems. Component 1 will strengthen the enabling environment for sustainable management of drylands in Kazakhstan in response to the IP's identified barrier of sector-specific, top down approaches to dryland issues. Component 2 finance investments in dryland management with the WB pillar focusing on dryland agroforestry and landscape restoration. Component 3 led by the FAO will focus on dryland pasture addressing the IP-identified barrier of inadequate investments in technical and financial capacities for managing drylands sustainably. Both pillars will contribute knowledge to the IP's knowledge and coordination platform, restoration, thus managed by FAO, to address the barrier of fragmented approaches to combatting land degradation across dryland regions. The achievement of the project outcomes is expected to contribute toward the Program's GEBs (such as gender equality and transparency concerning natural resource management) and socioeconomic co-benefits as described in the program's Theory of Change of: (i) sustainable management of dryland landscapes and production systems; (ii) land-based and value chain GHG mitigation; (iii) sustainable access of dryland communities to agro-ecosystems and forest ecosystem goods and services; (iv) reduced vulnerability of communities to economic and environmental shocks; and (v) reduced level of migration and conflict related to environmental degradation.

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Pillar 1 (World Bank): See Project Results Framework below (also included in the Project Appraisal Document, Section VII).

Pillar 2: (FAO) - See FAO ProDoc Annex A1.  
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**Pilar 1 - Results Framework (WB)**

**COUNTRY: Kazakhstan**  
**Kazakhstan Resilient Landscapes Restoration Project**

**Project Development Objectives(s)**

To pilot agroforestry practices using a community-centered approach and to build government capacity for landscape management and restoration.

## Project Development Objective Indicators

RESULT\_FRAME\_TBL\_PDO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	Intermediate Targets			End Target
			1	2	3	
To pilot agroforestry practices using a community-centered approach						
Identification of the most effective agroforestry practices using a community-centered approach (based on a cost-benefit analysis of the pilots) (Yes/No)		No				Yes
Dryland Area Restored Using Community Centered Approach (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	300.00	1,305.00	2,310.00	3,135.00
To build government capacity for landscape management and restoration						
Land area under sustainable landscape management practices (CRI, Hectare(Ha))		0.00	300.00	3,905.00	7,510.00	10,815.00
Capacity built for landscape restoration through mapping of degraded landscapes in Dry Aral Seabed and inventory of unrecorded forests (Yes/No)		No				Yes

PDO Table SPACE

## Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

RESULT\_FRAME\_TBL\_IO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	Intermediate Targets			End Target
			1	2	3	
Piloting community ? centered approach on dryland agroforestry and landscape restoration						
Forestry Nursery to supply planting materials to farmers and local communities (Number)		0.00				1.00

RESULT\_FRAME\_TBL\_IO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	Intermediate Targets			End Target
			1	2	3	
Establishment of saxaul and other drought-resistant plantations around Kyzylorda (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	300.00	1,300.00	2,300.00	3,000.00
3 Demo plots to demonstrate innovative techniques of agroforestry in Kyzylorda oblast (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	5.00	10.00		15.00
6 Model Farms for agroforestry pilot sub-projects in Zhambyl Oblast (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	2,600.00	5,200.00		7,800.00
Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Metric ton)		0.00				660,000.00
Community participation in forestry activities (Number)		0.00	100.00	400.00	700.00	1,000.00
Of which female participants (Number)		0.00	40.00	160.00	280.00	400.00
<b>Capacity building of the Forestry and Wildlife Committee (FWC) for integrated landscape management</b>						
Mapping of the forest fund areas on the Dried Aral Sea bed (DAS) (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	30,000.00	180,000.00		300,000.00
Preparatory survey and design works for saxaul plantations on DAS (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	20,000.00	50,000.00		50,000.00
Inventory of the unrecorded forests (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	40,000.00	100,000.00		140,000.00
Depository of forest species' seeds (gene bank) in Kazakh Scientific Research Institute in Schuchinsk (Number)		0.00				1.00

RESULT\_FRAME\_TBL\_IO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	Intermediate Targets			End Target
			1	2	3	
Forest area brought under management plans (CRI, Hectare(Ha))		0.00	40,000.00			100,000.00

IO Table SPACE

UL Table SPACE

Monitoring & Evaluation Plan: PDO Indicators					
Indicator Name	Definition/Description	Frequency	Data source	Methodology for Data Collection	Responsibility for Data Collection
Identification of the most effective agroforestry practices using a community-centered approach (based on a cost-benefit analysis of the pilots)	This indicator shows identification of the most effective agroforestry practices.	Once a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	Results of piloted agro-forestry practices will be evaluated using cost-benefit analysis.	PIU M&E Unit
Dryland Area Restored Using Community-Centered Approach	This indicator measures, in hectares, the dryland area restored using community-centered approach (saxaul plantations around Kyzylorda)	Twice a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	This indicator covers 3,000 ha of saxaul plantations around Kyzylorda and 135 ha forest cover to be established on demo plots in Kyzylorda and Zhambyl oblasts.	PIU M&E Unit

Land area under sustainable landscape management practices	<p>The indicator measures, in hectares, the land area for which new and/or improved sustainable landscape management practices have been introduced. Land is the terrestrial biologically productive system comprising soil, vegetation, and the associated ecological and hydrological processes; Adoption refers to change of practice or change in the use of a technology promoted or introduced by the project; Sustainable landscape management (SLM) practices refers to a combination of at least two technologies and approaches to increase land quality and restore degraded lands for example, agronomic, vegetative, structural, and management measures that, applied as a combination, increase the connectivity between protected areas, forest land, rangeland, and agriculture land.</p>	Twice a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	<p>This indicator covers 3,000 ha of saxaul and other drought-resistant trees plantations around Kyzylorda city, 15 hectares (3 agroforestry demonstration plots) of fast-growing fruit tree plantations for combining forestry with fruit production and/or horticulture (15 ha) and 7,800 ha of pastureland (6 demonstration plots) in Zhambyl oblast by combining forestry with livestock production in degraded areas.</p>	PIU M&E Unit
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Capacity built for landscape restoration through mapping of degraded landscapes in Dry Aral Seabed and inventory of unrecorded forests	This indicator measures completion of capacity building activities	Once a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	This indicator will be based on achievement of intermediate targets of mapping of territory of Dry Aral Seabed and inventory of unrecorded forest	PIU M&E Unit
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ME PDO Table SPACE

Monitoring & Evaluation Plan: Intermediate Results Indicators					
Indicator Name	Definition/Description	Frequency	Datasource	Methodology for Data Collection	Responsibility for Data Collection
Forestry Nursery to supply planting materials to farmers and local communities	This indicator will review construction of a nursery in the project area	Once a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	PIU will check acceptance act from the contractor	PIU M&E Unit
Establishment of saxaul and other drought-resistant plantations around Kyzylorda	This indicator will measure progress toward establishment of saxaul and drought-resistant plantations around Kyzylorda	Twice a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	Monitoring of works implemented by local communities under supervision of Kyzylorda forest enterprise	PIU M&E Unit



3 Demo plots to demonstrate innovative techniques of agroforestry in Kyzylorda oblast	This indicator will measure progress toward establishment of agroforestry demonstration plots in Kyzylorda region	Twice a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	Monitoring of works implemented by farmers	PIU M&E Unit
6 Model Farms for agroforestry pilot sub-projects in Zhambyl Oblast	This indicator will monitor progress toward establishment of agroforestry model farms, each farm is expected to put 1,300 ha in sustainable land management practice	Twice a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	Monitoring of works implemented by farmers	PIU M&E Unit
Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions	The indicator will measure the reduction of GHG as result of project activities.	Once a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	This indicator is based on calculations using the EX-ACT Carbon Accounting Tool developed by FAO. The baseline values will be updated and refined during project implementation.	PIU M&E Unit
Community participation in forestry activities	This indicator will measure a number of people from communities participating in project forestry activities.	Twice a year.	PIU report on the project implementation progress	Monitoring of works implemented by local communities.	PIU M&E Unit
Of which female participants	This indicator measures female participation in the project forestry activities	Twice a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	Monitoring of works implemented by local communities	PIU M&E Unit

Mapping of the forest fund areas on the Dried Aral Sea bed (DAS)	This indicator will measure area of DAS covered by updated maps	Once a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	PIU will check contractors' outputs	PIU M&E Unit
Preparatory survey and design works for saxaul plantations on DAS	This indicator will measure area of DAS with plantation plans prepared	Once a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	PIU will check contractors' output	PIU M&E Unit
Inventory of the unrecorded forests	This indicator will measure area covered by forest inventory	Twice a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	PIU will monitor contractors' output	PIU M&E Unit, FWC
Depository of forest species' seeds (gene bank) in Kazakh Scientific Research Institute in Schuchinsk	This indicator will monitor establishment of a gene bank in KSRFI in Schuchinsk	Once a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	PIU will check acceptance acts to be provided by KSRFI	PIU M&E Unit
Forest area brought under management plans		Once a year	PIU report on the project implementation progress	PIU will check contractors' output	PIU M&E Unit

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## **ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).**

Please see response to GEFSEC comments on WB technical review. No pending comments from STAP and Council.

**ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG).**  
**(Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:**

PPG funds were approved by the GEF at the PFD stage, however it was not been utilized and will be returned in line with the procedures for returning (or consolidating) with the trustee. The latter was discussed with the GEF Secretariat. Both WB and FAO used their own preparation funds for baseline and project preparatory activities.

**ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)**

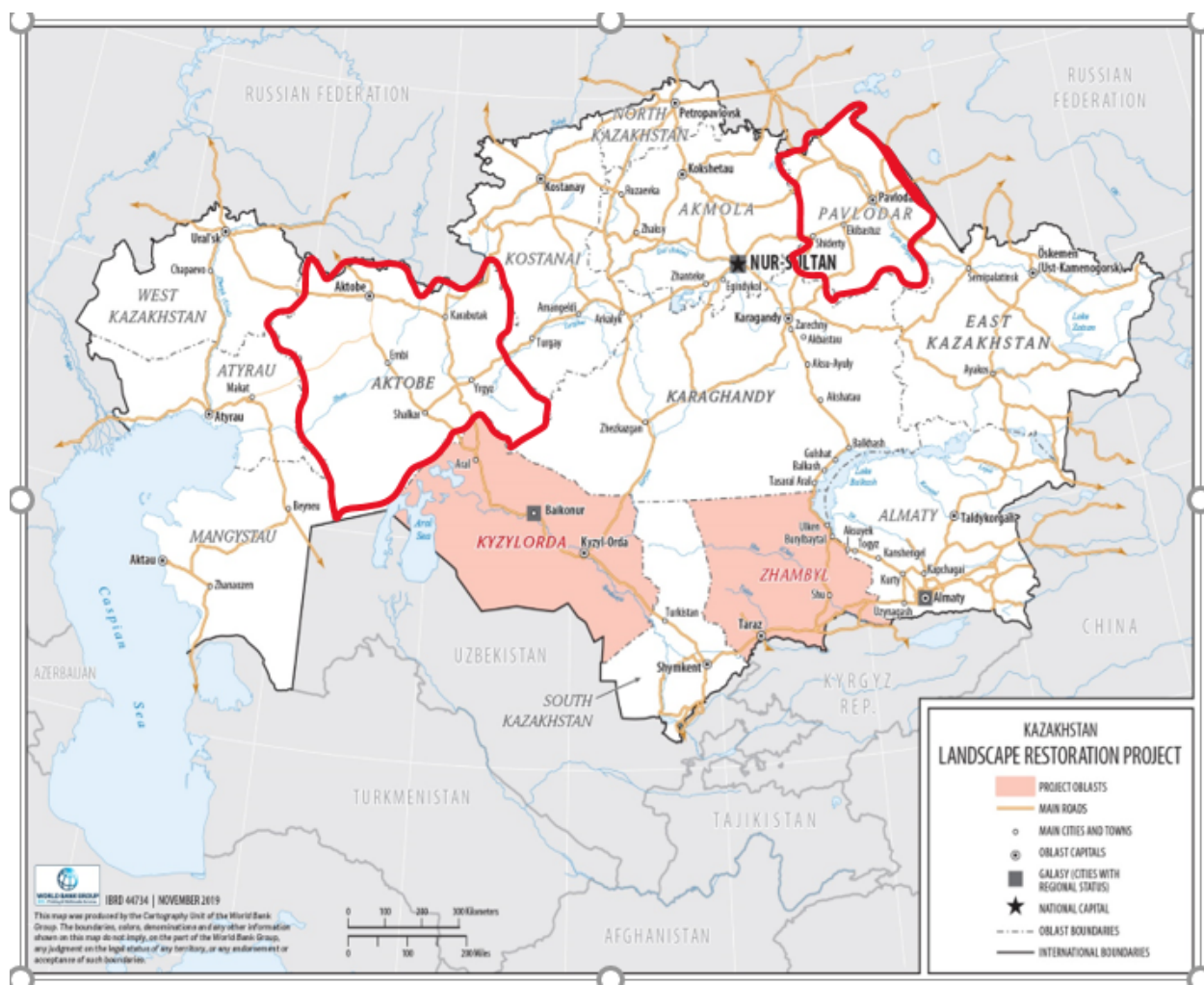
**Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)**

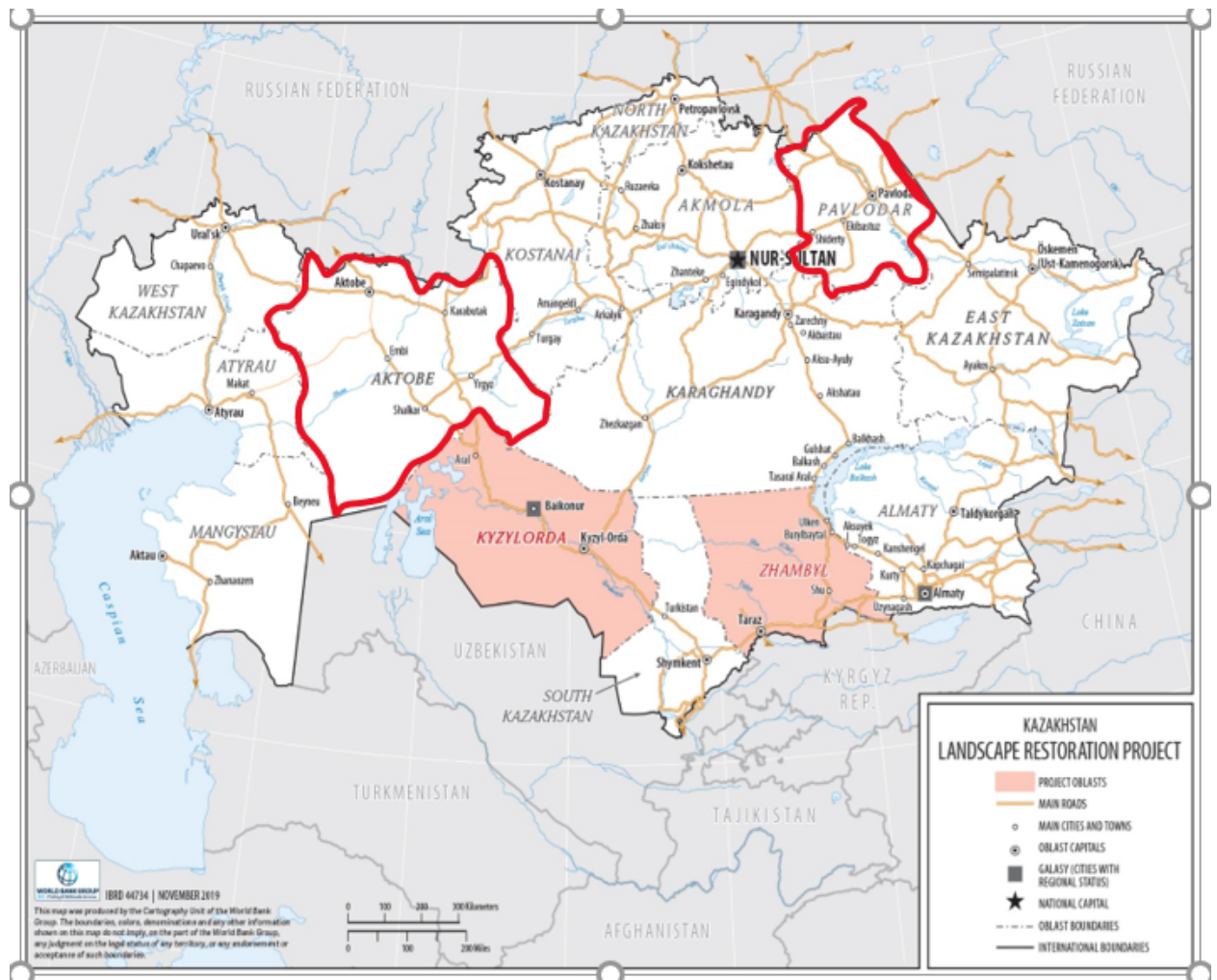
Non Applicable

**ANNEX E: Project Map(s) and Coordinates**

**Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.**

Oblast	Coordinates
Kyzylorda	44° 50' 19.176" N 65° 30' 52.632" E
Zhambyl	43° 17' 18.816" N 74° 36' 46.872" E
Aktobe	48.7797° N, 57.9974° E
Pavlodar	52.2878° N, 76.9733° E





## ANNEX F: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Please refer to the attached budget tables (WB and FAO)