

# Strengthening the capacity of institutions in Nigeria to implement the transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

10809

**Countries**

Nigeria

**Project Name**

Strengthening the capacity of institutions in Nigeria to implement the transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement

**Agencies**

FAO

**Date received by PM**

6/23/2022

**Review completed by PM**

9/25/2023

**Program Manager**

Esteban Bermudez Forn

**Focal Area**

Climate Change

**Project Type**

MSP

**PIF**   
**CEO Endorsement**

**Part I ? Project Information**

**Focal area elements**

**1. Does the project remain aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as presented in PIF (as indicated in table A)?**

**Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request**

9/19/2023:

- 4. Cleared
- 5. Cleared

9/6/2023:

- 1. Cleared.
- 2. Cleared.
- 3. We take note the new letter of endorsement mentions the Department of Forestry of the Federal Ministry of Environment of Nigeria and the Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF) as executing partners of the project. Cleared.
- 4. PMC is still not proportional between GEF financing ( $\$122,225/\$1,222,270 = 10.00\%$ ) and co-financing ( $\$114,750/\$1,175,428 = 9.76\%$ ). Please correct.
- 5. The M&E budget is still slightly higher ( $\$64,250/\$1,222,270 = 5.26\%$ ) than the recommended threshold of 5% for projects of similar size. Please consider reducing the M&E budget.

6. Cleared.

7/21/2023: Please address the following comments, errors still persist in Part I - Project Information section of the Portal form:

1. Change the Rio Marker for Climate Change Mitigation to the Significant Objective
- 2.

## CEO Approval (CEO) entry – Medium Sized Project – GEF - 7

### Part I: Project Information

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>GEF ID</b><br>10809   | <b>Project Type</b><br>MSP  |   |
| <b>Type of Trust Fund</b><br>GET   | <b>CBIT/NGI</b><br>CBIT Yes    NGI No   | <b>Project Title</b> ⓘ<br>Strengthening the capacity of institutions in Nigeria to implement the transparency requirements of the GEF-7 Agreement |
| <b>Countries</b><br>Nigeria  | <b>Agency(ies)</b><br>FAO   |   |
| <b>Other Executing Partner(s)</b> ⓘ<br>Department of Forestry under the Federal Ministry of Environment  | <b>Executing Partner Type</b><br>Government                                       |   |
| <b>GEF Focal Area</b> ⓘ<br>Climate Change  | <b>Sector</b> ⓘ<br>Mixed & Others   |   |
| <b>Taxonomy</b> ⓘ<br>Focal Areas, Climate Change, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Paris Agreement, Enabling Activities, Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Stakeholders, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Type of | <b>Rio Markers</b><br><b>Climate Change Mitigation</b><br>Significant Objective 1 | <b>Climate Change</b><br>Significant Objective 1  |
|  | <b>Biodiversity</b>   | <b>Land Degradation</b>   |

2. The duration of the project is stated to be 24 months, but the Expected Implementation Start (1/1/2024) and Expected Implementation End (12/31/2026) add up to 35 months. Please ensure the duration and the dates are consistent.

|                                      |  |   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Submission Date</b><br>6/23/2022  | <b>Expected Implementation Start</b><br>1/1/2024 | <b>Expected Completion Date</b><br>12/31/2026 |
| <b>Duration</b> ⓘ<br>24<br>In Months |  | <b>Agency Fee(\$)</b><br>121,005.00           |

3. The Other Executing Partners in Part I: Project Information only indicates the "Department of Forestry under the Federal Ministry of Environment". However, section "6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination" mentions that an additional execution partner, The Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF), will also be part of the project. The project budget also allocates \$461,000 to be executed by NCF. The OFP's letter of endorsement from February 4, 2020, only designates the Department of Forestry under the Federal Ministry of Environment as executing partner (not NCF).  
You can (1) submit a new letter of endorsement indicating the Department of Forestry and NCF as executing partners or (2) eliminate any mention of NCF as co-executer and leave only the Department of Forestry as executing partner. Please ensure that "The Other Executing Partners" in Part I: Project Information is consistent with these changes.
4. PMC is not proportional between GEF financing and co-financing. Please consider increasing the PMC budget to be sourced from co-financing.
5. Also, M&E budget of 8% of sub-total project cost is higher than the recommended threshold of 5% for projects of similar size. Please consider reducing the M&E budget.

|                                      |                               |  |                     |                       |              |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Monitoring and Evaluation            | Technical Assis               | M&E Outcome: A monitoring a                          | M&E Outp            | GET                   | 9            |
|                                      |                               |  |                     |                       |              |
|                                      |                               | <u>Outcome Indicator 1a</u> : Number                 | M&E Outp            |                       |              |
|                                      |                               | <i>Target 1 (a)</i> : 18 periodic technical and fina |                     |                       |              |
|                                      |                               | <i>Target 1b</i> : One Terminal Evaluation Repo      |                     |                       |              |
|                                      |                               |  |                     | <b>Sub Total (\$)</b> | <b>1,222</b> |
| <b>Project Management Cost (PMC)</b> |                               |  |                     |                       |              |
|                                      | GET                           | 122,225.00   | 69,488.00           |                       |              |
|                                      | <b>Sub Total(\$)</b>          | <b>122,225.00</b>                                    | <b>69,488.00</b>    |                       |              |
|                                      | <b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b> | <b>1,344,495.00</b>                                  | <b>1,159,488.00</b> |                       |              |
|                                      |                               |  |                     |                       |              |
|                                      |                               | <b>10.0%</b>   | <b>6.4%</b>         |                       |              |

6. Some project activities are under FAO's responsibilities. Please describe FAO's execution functions more clearly in section 6. Institutional arrangement and add FAO to Other Executing Partner in the Project Information section.

7/8/2022: Please address the following:

1. The project remains generally aligned to the PIF and an explanation has been provided for changes made. However, please change Rio Markers as follows: Climate Change Mitigation - 2.
2. The duration of the project states 24 months but expected completion date is longer than that. Elsewhere in the document states that the project duration has been revised to 42 months. Please align and ensure the correct duration is stated and is consistent across the document.

#### Agency Response

RE 18 September 2023:

4. Comment addressed in the pro doc. (see page 15)

GEF financing ( $\$122,225/\$1,222,270 = 10.00\%$ ) and co-financing ( $\$117,143/\$1,173,035 = 10.00\%$ ).

5. Comment addressed in the budget.

M&E budget is now 5% ( $\$60,950/\$1,222,270 = 4.99\%$ )

RE 21 July 2023:

1. Thank you for your feedback. Rio Marker has been updated accordingly.
2. The duration of months has been updated accordingly by the GEF IT team.
3. A new letter is uploaded indicating the current institutional arrangements.
4. This has been addressed - see the budget Annex and co-financing letter.
5. This has been addressed - see the budget Annex and Excel budget table.
  
6. This has now been clarified in para 102.

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

Change made APPENDIX G: Project Taxonomy (page 111)

The whole document has duration of the project as 36 months with 12/2026 as the completion date.

**Project description summary**

**2. Is the project structure/design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request 7/8/2022: Yes, the project structure/design is appropriate. Cleared.

Agency Response

**3. If this is a non-grant instrument, has a reflow calendar been presented in Annex D?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

## Co-financing

**4. Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

9/6/2023:

1. Cleared.
2. Cleared.

7/21/2023: Please address the following comments:

1. Briefly describe the co-finance contributions from the Federal Government of Nigeria (Federal Ministry of Environment) and the Nigerian Conservation Foundation in the text section "Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified". Right now, it only describes the co-finance contribution from FAO.
2. Include the letters of co-finance in table in section C as shown in the screenshot below:

| Sources of Co-financing       | Name of Co-financier  | Type of Co-financing | Investment Mobilized   | Amount(\$)          | Evidence  |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Recipient Country Government  | Federal Government of Nigeria (Federal Ministry of Environment) | In-kind              | Recurrent expenditures | 624,488.00          |   |
| Civil Society Organization    | The Nigerian Conservation Foundation                            | In-kind              | Recurrent expenditures | 275,000.00          |  |
| GEF Agency                    | FAO   | In-kind              | Investment mobilized   | 150,000.00          |   |
| Civil Society Organization    | The Nigerian Conservation Foundation                            | Grant                | Recurrent expenditures | 110,000.00          |   |
| <b>Total Co-Financing(\$)</b> |   |                      |                        | <b>1,159,488.00</b> |   |

7/8/2022: Yes, co-financing provided is adequate and documentation has been provided.

Agency Response

RE 21 July 2023:

1. This has been adjusted under section C - ?confirmed sources of co-financing?.

2. Letters have been uploaded in Table C.

**GEF Resource Availability**

**5. Is the financing presented in Table D adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: Yes, the financing presented is adequate and demonstrated a cost-effective approach.

Agency Response

**Project Preparation Grant**

**6. Is the status and utilization of the PPG reported in Annex C in the document?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/21/2023: All PPG have been committed or spent to date. Cleared.

7/8/2022: Yes, this has been provided.

Agency Response

**Core indicators**

**7. Are there changes/adjustments made in the core indicator targets indicated in Table E? Do they remain realistic?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/21/2023: Cleared.

7/8/2022: We note that the targets have increased from the PIF stage and that an explanation/methodologies on the core indicators targets have been provided in the section under Global Environmental and/or Adaptation Benefits - please include the explanation in this section, here.



## Agency Response

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

This has been addressed under Paragraph 82 and Table 8.

### **Part II ? Project Justification**

**1. Is there a sufficient elaboration on how the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: This has been provided. Cleared.

## Agency Response

**2. Is there an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

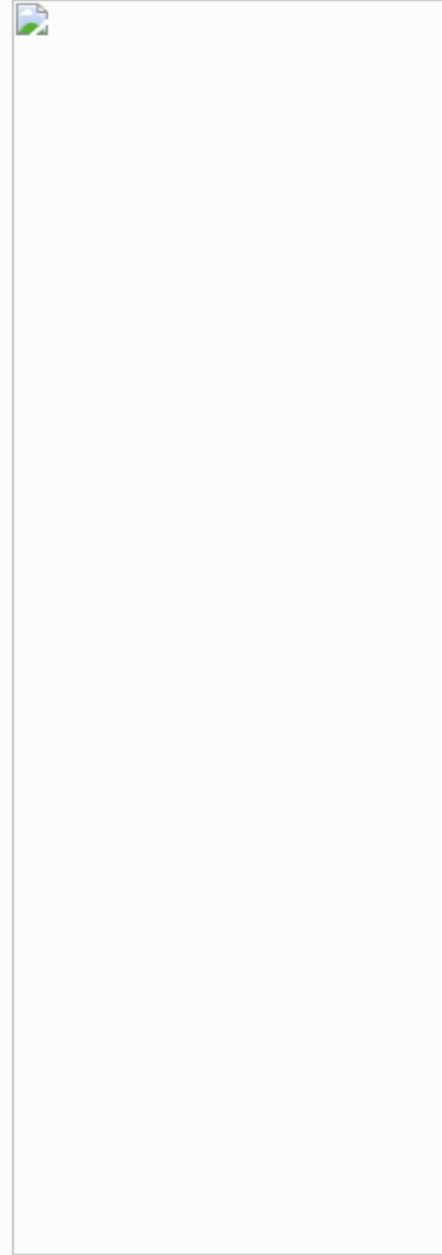
9/19/2023:

3. Cleared

9/6/2023:

1. Cleared.
2. Cleared
3. [ADDITIONAL COMMENT] Figure 2 didn't upload properly in the Portal form (see screenshot below), please upload it again.

Figure 2: Theory of Change for the FAO CBIT Nigeria project (uploaded as a separate d



7/21/2023: Please address the following comments:

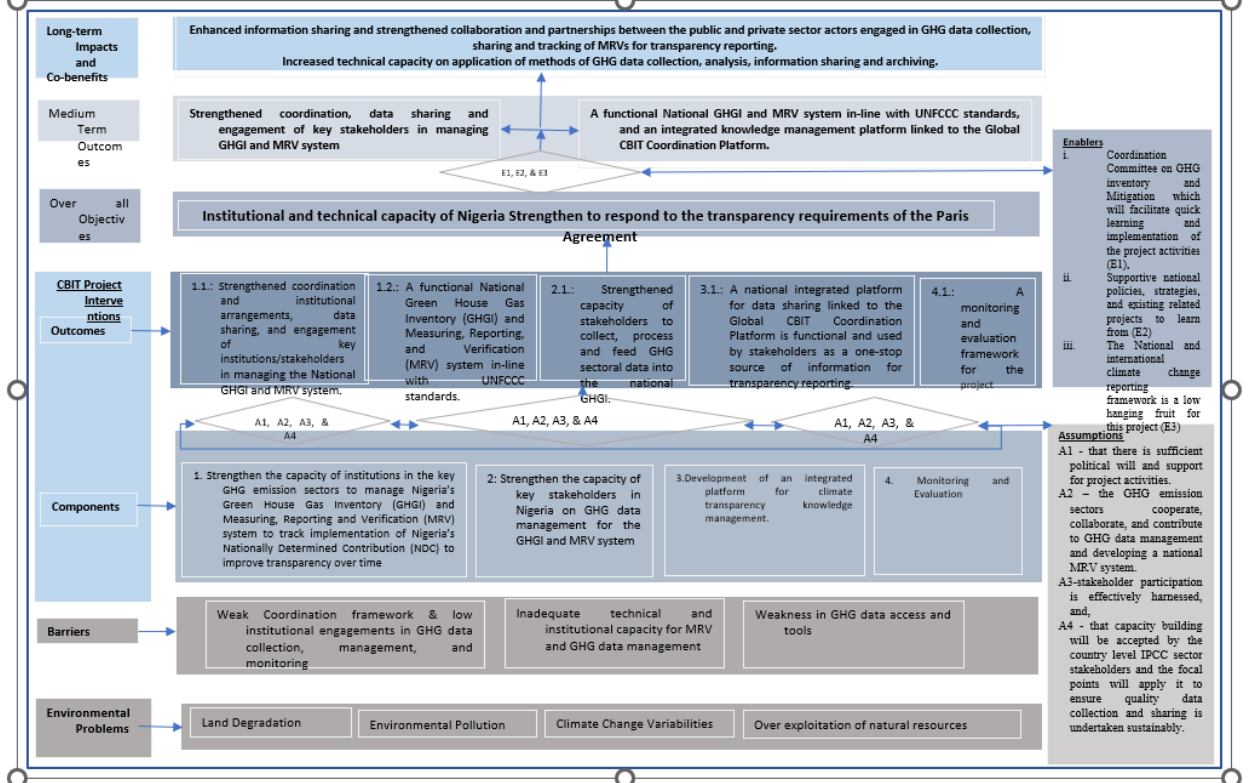
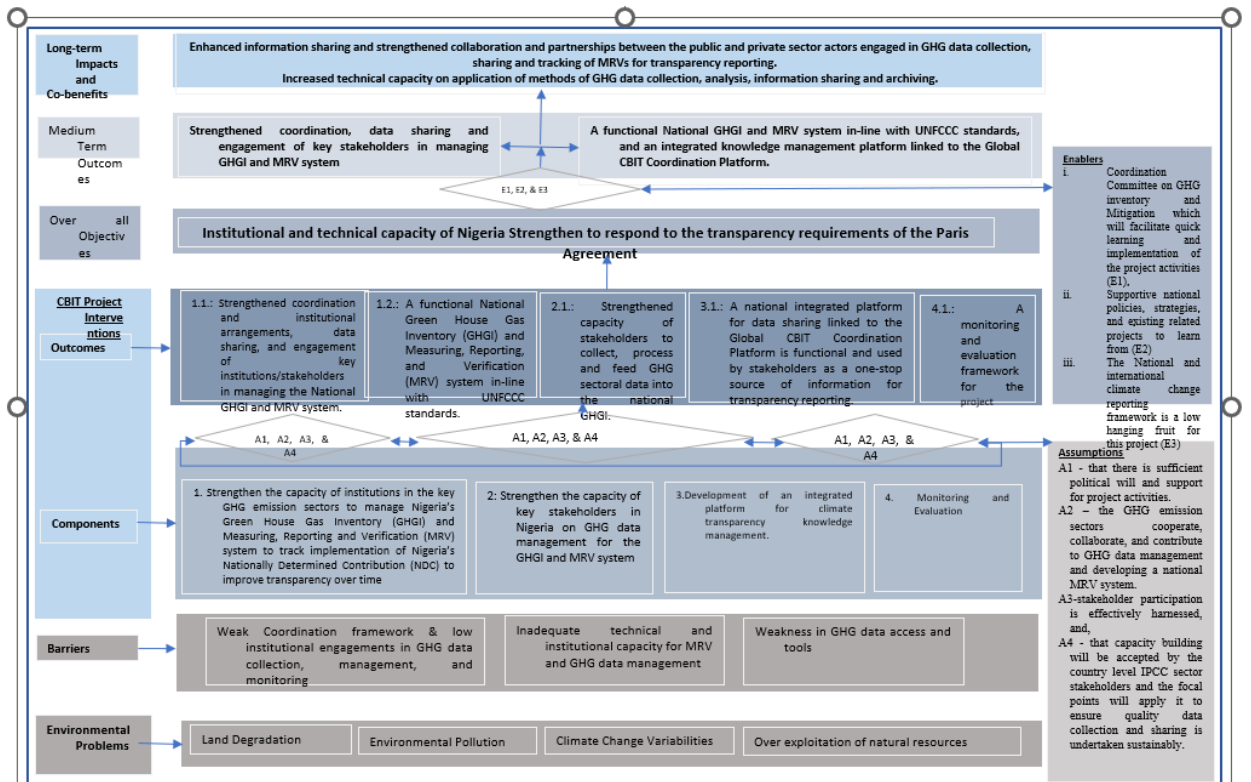
1. Thank you for the clarification. Please ensure you also briefly mention this in the baseline scenario section, since Table 14 in section 6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination.
2. [General comment] Please check the numbering of the tables in the portal form, some numbers are repeated or in other cases they don't follow a chronological order.

7/8/2022: Please include any additional transparency and NDC related initiatives such as with ICAT, NDC partnership, and other bilateral or multilateral donors in table 6.

#### Agency Response

RE 18 September 2023:

The image have been re-inserted accordingly. It is not possible to delete the subsequent empty space from portal.



RE 21 July 2023:

1. Addressed in paragraphs 24 and 25.

2. Cross-checked all tables and are well numbered. In addition, one edit to table reference - Changed table 15 to table 16 and table 16 to table 17.

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

Addressed in tables 14 and 15: Baseline initiatives at the national level in Nigeria.

**3. Is the proposed alternative scenario as described in PIF/PFD sound and adequate? Is there sufficient clarity on the expected outcomes and components of the project and a description on the project is aiming to achieve them?**

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

9/6/2023:

1. Cleared.
2. Cleared.
3. Cleared.
4. Cleared.
5. Cleared in the previous round of comments.
6. Cleared.
7. Cleared.
8. Cleared.
9. Cleared.

7/21/2023: The following comments follow the same order as the previous round of comments from 7/8/2022:

1. The explanation you are referring to is not included in the portal form, please explain what is the relation between a focal point and a sector hub (Output 1.1.2), and how they will engage. Also clarify if sector hubs are the same as "hub for data collection and processing".
2. Please ensure any changes to the Agency project document are also reflected in the portal CEO Approval form.
3. Can you be more specific and indicate which change was made to Table 10?
4. Can you be more specific in your comment and indicate where exactly in the portal CEO Approval form you specified if the MRV system will address the mitigation, adaptation, or both sectors?
5. Cleared.

6. The same text still appears in section 6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF). Please address the previous comment or clarify which adjustments were made for clarity.

#### 6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

80. While this project will greatly support Nigeria's effort in tracking its agenda towards sustainable development, it will also contribute to various national and international frameworks on transparency and the reduction of emissions. It will enhance the technical capacity for monitoring, reporting, and verification of Green House Gas emissions in Nigeria and help the country to track its progress towards its national and international commitments. This project will also inform decision-making and guide the formulation and implementation of multi-sectoral climate-proof legislative frameworks hence transitioning Nigeria to a resilient and low carbon economy.

7. Include a brief explanation in the portal form explaining the difference or complementarity between Output 1.1.4 and Output 3.1.4.
8. Please address comment 8 from 7/8/2022
9. Please address comment 9 from 7/8/2022

7/8/2022: Please address the following comments:

1. Outcome 1.1: It is not fully clear what the relation between a focal point and a sector hub is (Output 1.1.2), and how they will engage. Are sector hubs the same as "hub for data collection and processing". Please clarify.
2. Output 1.1.2 states that the "ICC already exists, and some members will be co-opted to the Steering Committee to make...". Please clarify what Steering Committee is being referred to - what is its role and purpose.
3. The project focuses on building capacity of various key stakeholders, such as focal points, staff of ministries etc. Component 2 mentions the challenge of retaining capacity due to high institutional turnover. What mechanisms, apart from ToT, is being considered to address the issue of high turnover and overreliance on consultants. We encourage use of other models such as anchoring and building capacities of universities and other institutions nationally. Please comment and make adjustments to the budget accordingly as needed (The "innovative" section in the portal document it states that the "project will not rely on external consultants/technicians" - however the budget does not reflect this).
4. Please provide clarification on what the MRV system will cover - is this to track mitigation, adaptation and support or just some of the elements?
5. Output 3.1.1 states that the platform will help demystify the challenges of data sharing. Please elaborate. Additionally, it also states that the platform will establish linkages with other

existing online platforms. Please comment on what these are, and what sort of linkages will be made.

6. The portal document states "This project will also inform decision-making and guide the formulation and implementation of multi-sectoral climate-proof legislative frameworks hence transitioning Nigeria to a resilient and low carbon economy." It is not clear from the alternative scenario how this will be accomplished. Please comment on how the platform will be used by decision makers to inform climate policy making to enhance NDCs and other climate initiatives.

7. Output 3.1.3 ? please further clarify this output and how this is different from output 1.1.4.

8. Under Output 3.1.4 and Output 3.1.5 comment on how these will contribute to regional knowledge exchange and learning. For example, what established networks/partners may be leveraged?

9. The description in the portal document (innovative section) states that "state of the art science in monitoring and new technologies (e.g. machine learning, remote sensing).. will be introduced". Details on this is missing in this section - please elaborate.

## Agency Response

RE 21 July 2023:

1. The role of sector hubs is beyond data collection and processing. The focal point mostly refers to the responsible staff and the hub is the institutional set. Clarification is addressed in para 50.

2. Revised project document is uploaded.

3. This is now Table 8 and addressed in the updated ProDoc.

4. Please refer to para 39.

6. The text has been adjusted - the text has been removed as it is not appropriate.

7. This has been adjusted in para 50.

8. Para 86 is updated: FAO will facilitate regional knowledge exchange and upscaling.

These outputs serve as catalysts for regional knowledge exchange and learning. FAO is an international UN institution with national, regional and global presence. It is the implementing agency, as well as some execution roles, and will facilitate regional knowledge exchange and upscaling.

9. Addressed and replaced with a new para 86. Independent monitoring will be encouraged for support ? but will not be a substitute for Nigeria's mitigation planning and implementation. Independent monitoring provides an opportunity to integrate datasets to fill data gaps and encourage continuous improvements. Independent monitoring will also build

trust with partners, to stimulate and compensate for mitigation actions at local, national, and landscape scales.

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

1. Addressed in Paragraph 49, 50 and 51.
  2. Paras 49-51 on Output 1.1.2 have been adjusted to provide clarity.
  3. Addressed as part of mitigation of risks in Table 10.
  4. Addressed in submitted document
  5. Output description adjusted for clarity.
  6. Adjusted for clarity.
  7. Output 1.1.4 deals with strengthening the structures for GHG data processing
- ? Sets up a working arrangement (defined through the Memoranda of Understanding) that will guide how implementation will take place
- 3.1.3 deals with the actual sharing the data / information by the institutions.

**4. Is there further elaboration on how the project is aligned with focal area/impact program strategies?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: Yes, this has been provided. Cleared.

Agency Response

**5. Is the incremental reasoning, contribution from the baseline, and co-financing clearly elaborated?**



Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: Yes, this has been provided. Cleared.

Agency Response

**6. Is there further and better elaboration on the project's expected contribution to global environmental benefits or adaptation benefits?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: This has been provided. Cleared.

Agency Response

**7. Is there further and better elaboration to show that the project is innovative and sustainable including the potential for scaling up?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

9/6/2023: Cleared.

7/21/2023: Refer to comment 9 of the alternative scenario section.

7/8/2022: In general, this has been provided. However, see comments related to this section in the alternative scenario section.

Agency Response

RE 7/21/23 FAO:

Adjusted- to reflect some current initiatives in the baseline scenario. Also inserted para 86.

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

Address in section on alternative scenario.

**Project Map and Coordinates**

**Is there an accurate and confirmed geo-referenced information where the project intervention will take place?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: This is a national project. A national map has been provided.

Agency Response  
**Child Project**

**If this is a child project, is there an adequate reflection of how it contributes to the overall program impact?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
 N/A

Agency Response  
**Stakeholders**

**Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
 9/6/2023: Cleared.

7/21/2023: Private sector appears blank in Section III: Stakeholder Analysis. Please explain why it was left blank or correct.

|  |   |  |   |   |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| vel  |   |  | ions, including GHGI & M<br>RV adaptation and mitigation activities |   |
| <b>Private Sector</b>  |   |  |   |   |
|  |   |  |   |   |
| <b>NGOs</b>  |   |  |   |   |
| Human Rights Advancement, Development and Advocacy Centre (HURIDAC): A regional NGO in | Regional cooperation<br>Providing leadership and guidance in Project activities | Institutional support to D of working closely with the NCF in supporting implementation of some pr | Service delivery  | <b>Low</b><br>• Information sharing and consultation areas of i |

7/8/2022: A report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase and a stakeholder engagement plan has been provided. However, please provide specific examples of NGO, private sector entities and academia that the project will engage with.

## Agency Response

RE 7/21/23 FAO:

The revised stakeholder analysis has been included.

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

The project will utilise NCF; an NGO as execution support partner.

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

**Has the gender analysis been completed? Did the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities? If so, does the project/program include gender-responsive activities, gender-sensitive indicators and expected results?**

### Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

10/02/2023:

1. Regarding Output 3.1.1, please reflect on how the project will capture gender-specific data, knowledge, indicator, etc. Please ensure your responses are contained in the Portal form.
2. A summary of the result of the gender analysis or social assessment undertaken in the development of the project is not provided. Please provide a summary of the gender analysis or social assessment in the portal form, under Section 3 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

9/19/2023:

3. Cleared

9/6/2023:


1. We take note of your reply. Cleared.
2. Cleared.
3. Please provide a summary of the result of the gender analysis or social assessment undertaken in the development of the project (in Section 3 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment of the Portal form).

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

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assessment.


1. To ensure that the project complies with the GEF's Gender Policy, a **Gender Action Plan (GAP)** was prepared during the PPG process. Sex disaggregated data and gender information will be collected and analyzed to inform gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation. The following minimum gender indicators will be monitored and reported on:


- (i) Number of men and women that participated in project activities (e.g., meetings, workshops, consultations).
- (ii) Number of men and women that received benefits (e.g., employment, income-generating activities, training, equipment, leadership roles) from the project; as relevant.
- (iii) Number of strategies, plans (e.g., management plans and land use plans), and policies derived from the project that are gender-inclusive.


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

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

Yes

7/8/2022: Please address the following comments:

1. Please increase the percentage of women beneficiaries to at least 35 percent ? for example, in Target 1.2 and 2.1, and the relevant targets in other outcomes.
2. In Output 3.1.1: Please reflect how the project will capture gender-specific data, knowledge, indicator, etc.
3. Please provide a summary of the result of the gender analysis or social assessment undertaken in the development of the project (in Section 3 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment).

Agency Response

RE 04 October 2023:

1. Included on page 46 - in the Gender Action Plan

| <b>Output 3.1.1: An integrated knowledge management platform established</b>                               |  |                   |             |   |
|--|--|-------------------|-------------|---|
| Activity 1: Establish an integrated on-line platform and establish linkages with other online platforms    | Indicator: Number of online gender-disaggregated surveys conducted to facilitating a comprehensive understanding of the participation of women in the project activities | By Project Year 2 | NCF/FAO/PMU | Included in the project budget as part of costed activities under Component 3 |
| Activity 2: Establish a platform that links GHGI activities and MRV at the national and sub-national level |  |                   |             |   |

2. This is reflected in the Gender Analysis Plan, now updated in the portal

RE 18 September 2023:

A text has been added to Para 91 of the Pro Doc as follows: The Action plan acknowledges that gender equality and women's empowerment in Nigeria have made significant strides in recent years, but challenges persist. These challenges include gender-based violence, deep-seated cultural norms, and inadequate access to resources. Although COVID-19 restrictions impeded detailed information collection on the number/status of women and men employed in institutions that are responsible for managing GHG inventories and data management, insights from stakeholder consultations indicated that aiming for a 25% participation rate of women in project activities is in line with current government employment patterns and aligns with the principles outlined in the National Gender Policy of 2006. Further information will be collected at the project startup. There have been opportunities for women's participation in

climate change management more broadly and the project provides another opportunity to provide further focused support and training to existing women in the IPCC GHG emission sector hubs.

RE 7/21/23 FAO:

1. It may not be possible to increase at this stage as the capacity building focuses on existing staff (and the existing gender ratio). However, the project team and FAO will discuss with the key stakeholder institutions for potential increase during implementation.

2. This is reflected in the PRF.

3. This is reflected in the GAP.

**Private Sector Engagement**

**If there is a private sector engagement, is there an elaboration of its role as a financier and/or as a stakeholder?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

9/6/2023: Cleared.

/21/2023: The current text in section 4. Private sector engagement doesn't address the previous comment. Please provide further details on private sector entities that the project will specifically engage.

7/8/2022: Please provide further details on private sector entities that the project will specifically engage with - this is mentioned above as well.

Agency Response

RE 7/21/23 FAO:

A revised table has been included.

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

Adjusted in the submitted document

## **Risks to Achieving Project Objectives**

**Has the project elaborated on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved? Were there proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/21/2023: Cleared.

7/8/2022: This has been provided including COVID risk analysis.

Agency Response

**Coordination**

**Is the institutional arrangement for project implementation fully described? Is there an elaboration on possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

9/6/2023:

1. Cleared.
2. Cleared.

7/21/2023: Please address the following comments:

1. As mentioned in the third comment for Part I ? Project Information, the OFP's letter of endorsement from February 4, 2020, only designates the Department of Forestry under the Federal Ministry of Environment as executing partner and not NCF. Please submit a new letter of endorsement or adjust this section so it's consistent with the current letter of endorsement.
2. Understanding that FAO is the implementing agency of this project and will also execute part of the budget, please explain what role of FAO on project execution will be and how it will implement measures to separate its roles as implementer and executor of the project.

7/8/2022: Please address the following comments:

1. We note that portal document states that the Implementing Agency for the project is CI, the Executing Agency is the Department of Forestry under the Federal Ministry of Environment, and there are four executing partners. However, the letter of notification submitted seems to imply that CI will be providing execution activities (b and #4) and this is reflected in the prodoc as well (#172 - provide technical and financial oversight to Executing Agency... and Executing support partners). Please explain and clarify.

2. Please provide an explanation, along a diagram, that highlights the institutional arrangement and coordination among the IA, EA and the executing partners.

### Agency Response

RE 7/21/23 FAO:

1. Revised LoE is uploaded.

2. Adjusted - Please see para 100-102 and Annex K.

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

Adjusted and addressed in Paragraphs 100-108 on institutional arrangements.

### **Consistency with National Priorities**

**Has the project described the alignment of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: This has been provided. Cleared.

### Agency Response

#### **Knowledge Management**

**Is the proposed Knowledge Management Approach? for the project adequately elaborated with a timeline and a set of deliverables?**



Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: This has been provided including timeline and deliverables.

Agency Response

**Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS)**

**Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately documented at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: This has been marked as low. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/21/2023: Cleared for Monitoring and Evaluation. However, as mentioned in another general comment, the numbering of tables still needs to be reviewed and corrected.

7/8/2022: This has been provided. However, the portal document mentions Table 18 and 19 which is missing. Please include (or label) in this document. Please check the labeling of tables in the rest of the document as well - some are missing or the numbers do not align.

Agency Response

RE 7/21/23 FAO:

Changed table 15 to table 16 and table 16 to table 17 as referenced in para 142 (c)

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

The labeling of tables and corresponding references in the document have been checked and adjusted in the submitted document

**Benefits**

**Are the socioeconomic benefits at the national and local levels sufficiently described resulting from the project? Is there an elaboration on how these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of GEBs or adaptation benefits?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2022: This has been described. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Annexes**

**Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

9/25/2023: Cleared

9/19/2023:

4. The letter from the OFP Ref. No FMENV/PRS/005/903 from June 27, 2023 requests FAO to provide execution services for:

- Recruitment of 2 international consultants and their associated travel
- Recruitment of Project Management Unit (national consultants) and their associated travel
- Activities for Component 1
- Limited procurement for the Project Management Unit

Based on the latest budget, we notice there are budget lines for the delivery of workshops under Component 3.1 that FAO expects to execute (see budget lines highlighted in yellow in the screenshot below). Still, they are not mentioned in the OFP's letter mentioned above. Please clarify why these budget lines are expected to be executed by FAO or redistribute this share of the budget to the appropriate executing partner in line with the OFP's letter or submit a new letter from the OFP that aligns with the execution arrangements expressed in the latest project budget.

|  | A        | B            | C         | D      | E           | F   | G           | H   | I           | J      | K      | L     | M     | N    | O   | P   | Q         | R      | S      | T      | U | V | W      | X      | Y      |        |        |
|--|----------|--------------|-----------|--------|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|------|-----|-----|-----------|--------|--------|--------|---|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| FAO Cost Categories  | Unit     | No. of units | Unit cost | Total  | Component 1 |     | Component 2 |     | Component 3 |        | M&E    | PMC   | Total | FMoE | NCF | FAO | Total GEF | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 |   |   |        |        |        |        |        |
|  |          |              |           |        | 1,1         | 1,2 | Total       | 2,1 | Total       | 3,1    | Total  |       |       |      |     |     |           |        |        |        |   |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| <b>5013 Consultants</b>  |          |              |           |        |             |     |             |     |             |        |        |       |       |      |     |     |           |        |        |        |   |   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Workshop Title: Project Results Monitoring Plan (Objective, Outcomes and Outputs) - Activity conducted by the Project Management Team (M&E Cost)                               | Lump Sum | 1            | 10,500    | 10,500 |             |     |             |     |             | 5,250  | 5,250  | 5,250 |       |      |     |     | 10,500    |        |        |        |   |   | 10,500 | 10,500 | 10,500 |        |        |
| Workshop Title: GEF Core Indicator Worksheet (GEF Indicator tracker) - to be implemented by the PMU Team   | Lump Sum | 1            | 7,300     | 7,300  |             |     |             |     |             | 7,300  | 7,300  |       |       |      |     |     | 7,300     |        |        |        |   |   | 7,300  | 7,300  | 7,300  |        |        |
| Workshop Title: Quarterly Progress Reporting and Work Plan (To be implemented by - PMU)  | Lump Sum | 1            | 83,997    | 83,997 |             |     |             |     |             | 83,997 | 83,997 |       |       |      |     |     | 83,997    | 83,997 |        |        |   |   | 83,997 | 83,997 | 27,999 | 27,999 | 27,999 |
| Workshop Title: Annual Project Implementation Report (PIR) - M&E (To be implemented by the PMU)  | Lump Sum | 1            | 9,000     | 9,000  |             |     |             |     |             | 4,500  | 4,500  | 4,500 |       |      |     |     | 9,000     | 9,000  |        |        |   |   | 9,000  | 9,000  | 3,000  | 3,000  | 3,000  |
| Workshop Title: Project Completion Report to document project results, lessons learnt, gaps and opportunities and way-forward for the Nigeria (M&E) - To be implemented by PMU | Lump Sum | 1            | 5,000     | 5,000  |             |     |             |     |             | 2,500  | 2,500  | 2,500 |       |      |     |     | 5,000     | 5,000  |        |        |   |   | 5,000  | 5,000  |        |        | 5,000  |

9/6/2023:

The comment related to Annex D is cleared.

Regarding Annex E:

1. Cleared.
2. Cleared.
3. Cleared.
4. We take note of your explanation and the documentation you have provided. The email you are referring to from February 15, 2023, didn't receive a written reply, but the conversation regarding this project continued over several in-person and online meetings between the GEF and FAO. As mentioned in our previous comment, the GEF Secretariat is grateful to FAO for stepping up and taking over this project. Notwithstanding, executing the largest share of the project budget (\$489,615 or 36%) is discouraged by GEF policies and guidelines. It also goes against the primary goal of CBIT, which is to strengthen technical capacities and institutional arrangements in recipient countries in light of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. For this reason, we reiterate our request to reduce the share of the budget to be executed by FAO and redistribute it with the national executing partners.
5. Cleared.

7/21/2023:

Regarding Annex D:

•In Annex D, on Project Map and Coordinates, please consider inserting the geographic location of the site directly under the dedicated data entry field. This includes the Location Name, Latitude and Longitude.

Regarding Annex E:

1. Upload the version of the budget to the portal, which includes who will be responsible for executing the budget.
2. Ensure the budget is consistent with any potential changes related to the comment made related to the Nigerian Conservation Foundation. The OFP's letter of endorsement from February 4, 2020, only designates the Department of Forestry under the Federal Ministry of Environment as executing partner (not NCF).
3. Based on the budget that has been uploaded to the documents section, the total amount to be executed by FAO is not \$489,615. It is higher (\$502,330 or 37.4% of the total project cost). The formula omits (1) Computer and accessories for PMU (Output 2.1.3), and (2) Furniture for PMU (Output 2.1.3), as highlighted in the screenshot below.

| 1  |   |          |              |           |           |           |   |
|----|---|----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| 2  | FAO Cost Categories   | Unit     | No. of units | Unit cost | Total     | Total     | F |
| 3  |   |          |              |           |           |           |   |
| 15 | <b>5013 Consultants</b>   |          |              |           |           |           |   |
| 76 | Hosting on-line platform linked to the Global CBIT platform = 6 IPCC sectoral hubs (Output 2.1.3) | Lump sum | 1            | 10,000    | 10,000    | 10,000    |   |
| 77 | Computer and accessories for PMU (Output 2.1.3)   | Lump sum | 3            | 2,500     | 7,500     | 7,500     |   |
| 78 | Furniture for PMU (Output 2.1.3)  | Lump sum | 1            | 5,215     | 5,215     | 5,215     |   |
| 79 | <b>6100 Sub-total non-expendable procurement</b>  |          |              |           | 112,715   | 112,715   |   |
| 80 | <b>5028 GOE budget</b>  |          |              |           |           |           |   |
| 81 | Office running costs (Asset maintenance, telephone and internet costs, supplies..)                | Lump sum | 1            | 30,183    | 30,183    | 30,183    |   |
| 82 | <b>6300 Sub-total GOE budget</b>  |          |              |           | 30,183    | 30,183    |   |
| 83 | <b>TOTAL</b>  |          |              |           | 1,344,495 | 1,344,495 | 3 |

4. We note the Nigerian OFP's request, asking FAO to partially execute the project. However, (1) the budget proposes certain budget lines that are not mentioned in the OFP letter (i.e., Knowledge Management and Communication Specialist, or Assurance cost on contractual agreement) and (2) considering section V of Annex 7 of the Guidelines on the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy, execution by an implementing agency should only happen under exceptional circumstances and should be well justified. Right now, it is unreasonable to think FAO has to execute more than 37% of the project for it to be viable. We understand the complexities experienced in formulating this project, and we are thankful to FAO for taking over its implementation to avoid cancellation. Please review the budget that the FAO will execute, reduce it and limit it to what is critical or has been requested by the OFP.
5. The Lead Climate Specialist has been charged across the project components and the PMC. Per the Guidelines, the costs associated with the project's execution must be covered by the GEF and the co-financing portions allocated to PMC. When the situation merits (i.e., not enough co-financing funds), the project's staff could be charged to the project's components with "clear Terms of Reference describing unique outputs linked to the respective component" (paragraph 4 ? page 42 of the Guidelines). Please correct this or provide appropriate terms of reference for this position.

| 1  |  |                  |              |           |         | Component 1 |        |        | Component 2 |        | Component 3 |        |
|----|--|------------------|--------------|-----------|---------|-------------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| 2  | FAO Cost Categories  | Unit             | No. of units | Unit cost | Total   | 1.1         | 1.2    | Total  | 2.1         | Total  | 3.1         | Total  |
| 3  |  |                  |              |           |         |             |        |        |             |        |             |        |
| 15 | <b>5013 Consultants</b>  |                  |              |           |         |             |        |        |             |        |             |        |
| 22 | <b>Sub-total international Consultants</b>   |                  |              |           | 87,500  | 20,000      | -      | 20,000 | 30,000      | 30,000 | 37,500      | 37,500 |
| 23 | Lead Climate Specialist  | Per month        | 36           | 1,600     | 57,600  | 10,020      | 9,703  | 19,723 | 14,400      | 14,400 | 7,650       | 7,650  |
| 24 | GHG Specialist   | Per month        | 36           | 1,400     | 50,400  | 10,080      | 10,080 | 20,160 | 15,120      | 15,120 | 15,120      | 15,120 |
| 25 | Knowledge Management and Communication Specialist  | Per month        | 36           | 1,400     | 50,400  | 10,080      | 10,080 | 20,160 | 15,120      | 15,120 | 15,120      | 15,120 |
| 26 | Finance Officer  | Per month        | 36           | 1,000     | 36,000  |             |        | -      |             | -      |             |        |
| 27 | <b>Sub-total national Consultants</b>  |                  |              |           | 194,400 | 30,180      | 29,863 | 60,043 | 44,640      | 44,640 | 37,890      | 37,890 |
| 28 | <b>5013 Sub-total consultants</b>  |                  |              |           | 281,900 | 50,180      | 29,863 | 80,043 | 74,640      | 74,640 | 75,390      | 75,390 |
| 29 | <b>6650 Contracts</b>  |                  |              |           |         |             |        |        |             |        |             |        |
| 30 | Develop a framework for MRV data transmission and communication amongst sectors - Output 1.2.1 | Days of activity | 40           | 500       | 20,000  |             | 20,000 | 20,000 |             | -      |             |        |

7/8/2022: Please note comment above on budget and make adjustments as needed.

### Agency Response

RE 20 September 2023:

4. The workshops budget line have been moved to FMoE, revised budget has been uploaded accordingly.

RE 18 September 2023:

The budget line for knowledge management and communication and finance officer have been moved from FAO to Federal Ministry of Environment. Similarly a number of contracts have been moved into NFC's share. This brings FAO's budget share from 36% to 30%. However please consider that costs for Evaluation and assurance activities cannot be handed over to partners by FAO policy. That brings FAO share even lower than 30%. The current arrangement is the best possible one to deliver and sustain overtime project's results according to the Agency, executing partners and the Government. FAO will provide these execution support services and the associated capacity building at no extra cost for the project. The Government of Nigeria will remain in full control of project programmatic control and the Project Steering Committee will approve work plan and budget and all projects' reports.

RE 21 July 2023:

Annex D: For CBIT projects, since GEF-6, we include a national map and coordinates as it covers all territory.

Annex E:

1. Please refer to the Excel budget table columns R, S and T.
2. Revised LoE and budget table are uploaded.
3. Please refer to the Excel budget table cell T83 for the total of FAO budget which is USD 489,615.
4. (1) KM and COM Specialists are part of the OFP letter 'Recruitment of Project Management Unit (national consultants)'; (2) 36% of the budget allocated to FAO is lower than the originally communicated amount of USD 568,276 (or 42%) on 15 Feb. 2023 to the GEF. We did not receive any objection, therefore, we continued with finalizing the ProDoc package to meet the deadline. We consider this project as an exceptional case. As the project was transferred from CI, and in the spirit of saving the project from being cancelled, based on several consultations with GEF and the government, OFP supports partial execution.
5. As per the draft TOR included in the project document (Annex M), most of the Lead

Climate Specialist's function is associated with technical interventions towards all

components.

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

Adjusted in the submitted document

**Project Results Framework**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

9/25/2023: Cleared

9/19/2023:

We couldn't find the change you made in the Project Results Framework at the objective level (see screenshot below). Please clarify or correct the change that was made.

**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).

| Results chain   | Indicators   | Baseline  | Mid-term target | Final target  | Means of verification   | Assumptions  | Responsible for data collection |
|---|--|---|-----------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Objective:</b> To strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of Nigeria to respond to the transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement  |  |   |                 |   |   |  |                                 |
| <b>Component 1:</b> Strengthen the capacity of institutions in the key GHG emission sectors to manage Nigeria's Green House Gas Inventory (GHGI) and Measuring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system to track the implementation of Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in order to improve transparency over time |  |   |                 |   |   |  |                                 |
| <b>Outcome 1.1:</b> Strengthened coordination and institutional arrangements, data sharing, and engagement of key institutions/stakeholders in managing the National GHGI and MRV system.   | <b>Outcome Indicator 1.1(a):</b> Number of skilled focal points (disaggregated by sex) functioning as a hub for data collection and processing.<br><br><b>Outcome Indicator 1.1b:</b> Number of institutions | <b>1.1a:</b> There is inadequate in-country technical capacity to collect, analyze, process, and report climate change data and actions. In addition, no skilled focal points are functioning as hubs for data collection |                 | <b>Target 1.1a:</b> 12 focal points (Male = 9; Female = 3) functioning as a hub for data collection and processing ( <i>focal points selected from at least 6 national institutions (1 institution from each GHG emission sector – Energy, AFOLU, Water, Transp</i> | Project Results Monitoring Plan, Review of PIRs and annual work plans and budgets, Minutes of PSC meetings, | 1. There is sufficient political will and support for project activities.<br>2. The GHG emission sectors cooperate, coll | FMoE / GHG National Focal Point |

9/6/2023: We take note of the information provided in Table 8. As requested in the previous comment, please consider including the target for core indicator 11 in the Project Results Framework.

7/21/2023: Please consider including the target for core indicator 11 in the Project Results Framework

7/8/2022: The CBIT indicators - Quality of MRV systems and Qualitative Assessment of Institutional Capacity for Transparency - is missing. Please include.

Agency Response  
RE 20 September 2023:

Refer to paragraph 82.

In terms of GEF Core Indicators, this project will contribute to core indicator 11 (number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment). As indicated in section F, the total number of target beneficiaries is 244 consisting of 183 men and 61 women and the breakdown per outcome is provided in Table 8 and at outcome level in the project results framework.

RE 18 September 2023:

The target for core indicators is now included in the Project Results Framework at the objective level.

RE 21 July 2023:

Targets indicated the PRF of submitted document as well as in Table 8; para 82.

RE 7/8/22 FAO:

Adjusted in the submitted document  
**GEF Secretariat comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response  
**Council comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**STAP comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**Convention Secretariat comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**Other Agencies comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**CSOs comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**Status of PPG utilization**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/21/2023: All PPG have been committed or spent to date. Cleared.

7/8/2022: This has been provided.

Agency Response

**Project maps and coordinates**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/21/2023: Cleared.

7/8/2022: A national map of Nigeria has been provided.



Agency Response

**Does the termsheet in Annex F provide finalized financial terms and conditions? Does the termsheet and financial structure address concerns raised at PIF stage and that were pending to be resolved ahead of CEO endorsement? (For NGI Only)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

N/A

Agency Response

**Do the Reflow Table Annex G and the Trustee Excel Sheet for reflows provide accurate reflow expectations of the project submitted? Assumptions for Reflows can be submitted to explain expected reflows. (For NGI Only)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**Did the agency Annex H provided with information to assess the Agency Capacity to generate and manage reflows? (For NGI Only)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**GEFSEC DECISION**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Is CEO endorsement recommended? (applies only to projects and child projects)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

10/02/2023: Please address the comment above related to "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment".

9/25/2023: The PM recommends the clearance for CEO Approval.

9/19/2023: Please address the comments above **highlighted in light blue**.

9/6/2023: Please address the comments above.

\*\* Please highlight **in yellow** the changes made on the portal version of the CEO approval document for ease of reference. \*\*

EBF 7/21/2023: Please address the comments above.

\*\* Please highlight **in green** the changes made on the portal version of the CEO approval document for ease of reference. \*\*

**Review Dates**

|   | <b>Secretariat Comment at<br/>CEO Endorsement</b> | <b>Response to<br/>Secretariat comments</b> |
|---|---|---|
| <b>First Review</b>                         | <b>7/8/2022</b>                                   |   |
| <b>Additional Review<br/>(as necessary)</b> | <b>7/21/2023</b>                                  |   |
| <b>Additional Review<br/>(as necessary)</b> | <b>9/6/2023</b>                                   |   |
| <b>Additional Review<br/>(as necessary)</b> | <b>9/19/2023</b>                                  |   |
| <b>Additional Review<br/>(as necessary)</b> | <b>9/25/2023</b>                                  |   |

**CEO Recommendation**

**Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations**