Strengthening Community-managed Protected Areas for Conserving Biodiversity and Improving Local Livelihoods in Pakistan

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID
10529

Project Type
FSP

Type of Trust Fund
GET

CBIT/NGI
☐CBIT
☐NGI

Project Title
Strengthening Community-managed Protected Areas for Conserving Biodiversity and Improving Local Livelihoods in Pakistan

Countries
Pakistan

Agency(ies)
UNDP

Other Executing Partner(s)   **Executing Partner Type**

Other Executing Partner(s)
Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)

Executing Partner Type
Others

GEF Focal Area

Biodiversity

Taxonomy

Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Demonstrate innovative approache, Biodiversity, Focal Areas, Species, Threatened Species, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Financial and Accounting, Conservation Finance, Biomes, Tropical Dry Forests, Temperate Forests, Mainstreaming, Tourism, Stakeholders, Private Sector, SMEs, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Participation, Partnership, Consultation, Civil Society, Academia, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Beneficiaries, Local Communities, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Access to benefits and services, Capacity Development, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Innovation, Learning, Adaptive management, Knowledge Generation, Enabling Activities, Targeted Research, Climate Change, Mainstreaming adaptation, Climate Change Adaptation, Climate resilience, Communications, Awareness Raising, Public Campaigns, Theory of change, Knowledge Exchange

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 1

Duration

60 In Months

Agency Fee($)

222,144

Submission Date

3/20/2020

A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
BD-1-1	GET	930,000	4,700,000
BD-2-7	GET	1,408,356	7,060,000
Total Project Cost ($)		**2,338,356**	**11,760,000**

B. Indicative Project description summary

Project Objective

To strengthen Community-Managed Protected Areas (CMPA) through improved governance of Integrated Natural Resources Management (INRM), local livelihoods and co-management of protected areas (PAs) in the mountain landscape of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Punjab (Pb).

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
Component 1: Enabling policy and governance framework and institutional capacity on CMPA and INRM.	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 1.1:** Strengthened CMPA and INRM provincial policies on wildlife management and enhanced community governance as measured by: - *Three wildlife management through CMPA policies (GB, KP & Punjab) prepared and adopted, and Wildlife Act of GB updated.* - *# of forum established to promote inclusiveness; #Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs)s/Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)*	**Output 1.1:** Wildlife Management through CMPA policy for Gilgit-Baltistan, KP, and Punjab prepared, and Wildlife Act of GB updated and adopted to strengthen Community-managed PAs and landscape level INRM[1]. **Output 1.2:** Thirty-seven (37) existing local governance institutions [Wildlife Conservation and Development Organizations (WCSDOs)/ Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)]and 15 Conservancy-based Forums strengthened by re-vitalizing their functioning and establishing sectoral committees in GB covering ~600,000 ha of CMPAs. **Output 1.3:** Successful governance models replicated/scaled-up to 9 potential areas —4 in KP and 5 in Pb covering ~100,000 ha of mountain landscape **Output 1.4:** Capacity in office & finance management for at least 110 office holders of local governance institutions (WCSDOs/CBOs) enhanced. **Output 1.5**: Capacity in participatory learning, resources assessment, and planning [by training at least 170 field staff of the provincial line departments and 200 Community Wildlife Guides (CWGs)] enhanced. **Output 1.6:** Capacity in INRM [including wildlife management techniques and wildlife-based ecotourism, and agroforestry] for selected community members and field staff of the provincial line departments enhanced. ─────────── [1] Table in Annex F provides at a glance the proposed activities and targeted areas.	GET	710,000	3,350,000

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
Component 2: Promote effective management of PAs and INRM in the three target landscapes in GB, KP and Punjab [specific project sites (mountain landscapes)] within two provinces and GB Region will be determined during the PPG	Investment	**Outcome 2.1**: Status of critical species and their habitat improved / not deteriorated, as a result of project's focused biodiversity conservation and INRM interventions as measured by: - *# of partnerships agreement signed for local communities' engagement;* - # of CMPAs implementing community-based wildlife patrolling and monitoring system; - *# recovery plans for endangered and threatened*	**Output 2.1:** Co-managed of PAs implemented by signing tripartite (Government, CBOs and conservation NGOs) Agreements and Terms of Partnerships for effective management of CMPAs, including implementation of community-based wildlife patrolling and monitoring system in 15 CPMAs (7 in GB, 5 Punjab and 3 in KP). **Output 2.2:** Annual participatory mountain ungulate surveys conducted in selected CMPAs to support their co-management. **Output 2.3:** Recovery plans for endangered Kashmir musk deer and woolly-flying squirrel and threatened Ladakh and Punjab urial prepared and endorsed by relevant authorities. **Output 2.4:** Integrated Conservation and Development Plans (CDPs), including livestock grazing management, of existing 15 CMPAs of GB updated and 9 CDPs produced for new CMPAs areas (5 in Punjab and 4 in KP) through use of remote sensing technologies and participatory biodiversity assessment/appraisal of natural resources. **Output 2.5:** Reforestation through community involvement by planting 1.5 million saplings of indigenous coniferous/scrub trees in degraded patches of mountain landscape **Output 2.6:** Harmonized management plans prepared for Naltar WS in GB and Chumbi Surla WS in Punjab and adjacent CMPAs	GET	750,000	3,825,000

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
Component 3: Improve Livelihood and establish community conservation funds for financial sustainability	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 3.1:** Improved financial sustainability and new alternate livelihoods for communities in the conservancies as indicated by: *- at least 3 community mobilization strategies prepared for each landscape (GB, KP & Pb).* *- CDFs established and made operational (minimum amount to establish a CDF will be determined during the PPG phase).* *-* *- # of model business plans*	**Output 3.1:** Community mobilization and engagement strategy developed and implemented for three (3) targeted landscapes (one each for GB, KP, and Pb). **Output 3.2:** Fifteen (15) conservancy level Conservation and Development Funds (CDFs) (7 in GB, 5 Punjab, and 3 in KP) established and made operational to ensure long term sustainability of CMPAs. **Output 3.3:** Potential wildlife-based ecotourism assessed, and model business plans developed for introduction of a new source of livelihoods in at least 5 selected CMPAs across GB & 2 in Punjab. **Output 3.4:** Livestock protected against selected contagious diseases which are also susceptible to spread to wildlife species by implementing livestock vaccination schemes in 15 CMPAs in GB, 5 in Punjab, and 4 in KP to limit the risk of disease spill-over to wildlife and human. **Output 3.5:** Promote agroforestry by planting 1.0 million indigenous tree species in the valleys to mitigate anthropogonic & climate change impacts on natural forests, wildlife habitats and high pastures bringing ~1,000 ha of land under improved management practices.	GET	542,000	2,675,000

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
Component 4: Knowledge management, awareness raising, gender mainstreaming, and monitoring & evaluation	Technical Assistance	**Outcome 4.1:** Knowledge on biodiversity and its values and co-management of PAs by communities documented and disseminated as measured by: *- # of biodiversity assessment studies conducted and integrated into the National Red Data Book under development.* *- Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) assessment performed for the target stakeholders* *- # of Assessment*	**Output 4.1:** Lesson learned, best practices and knowledge management (KM) products produced and made available to planners, professionals and local communities through an online repository created and maintained in collaboration with the concerned government departments. This also includes a comprehensive impact assessment study of markhor and Punjab urial trophy-hunting's contribution to biodiversity conservation and local economic development. **Output 4.2:** Multi-media outputs produced (websites, social media, advocacy material, videos and conferences/ seminars) to create public awareness and disseminate project results and successes stories. **Output 4.3:** Participatory monitoring, evaluation and learning strategy incorporating gender mainstreaming developed and implemented to facilitate adaptive project management.	GET	225,006	1,350,000

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs		Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
				Sub Total ($)		2,227,006	11,200,000
Project Management Cost (PMC)							
					GET	111,350	560,000
				Sub Total($)		111,350	560,000
				Total Project Cost($)		2,338,356	11,760,000

C. Indicative sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
Government	Ministry of Climate Change	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,200,000
Government	Government of KP	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	760,000
Government	Government of KP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	800,000
Government	Government of GB	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	800,000
Government	Government of GB	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,000,000
Government	Government of Punjab	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	500,000
Government	Government of Punjab	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	900,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	600,000
CSO	Wildlife Conservation Society	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,050
Private Sector	Outfitters, Tour Operators, Tourism and Hoteling Industry & local traders	Grant	Investment mobilized	300,000
Private Sector	Outfitters, Tour Operators, Tourism and Hoteling Industry & local traders	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,200,000
Beneficiaries	Local Community Groups	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,200,000

			Total Project Cost($)	**11,760,000**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Investment Mobilized: The largest government investment to the project is expected under the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Program (TBTT-P). In 2019, the Government of Pakistan launched TBTT-P, a national program, for the revival of the forest cover, wildlife population and their habitat in the country. This flagship program initiated by the current Prime

Minister of Pakistan has an objective "to facilitate transition towards environmentally sustainable Pakistan by promoting afforestation, biodiversity conservation, and creating enabling environment". The proposed GEF project is directly align with the program objective and it has a strong support from the national government. The funds allocated for these interventions are managed by the provincial governments. The provincial governments of GB, KP, and Punjab are advocating strengthening community managed PAs and have expressed strong interest in co-financing the proposed project activities by providing grants through their public sector development funds. In order to secure these grants, specific project documents (PC-Is) will be developed. Private sector (outfitters and tour operators) is already engaged in organizing and facilitating community-based trophy hunting, it has shown interest in making further investments for promoting wildlife-based tourism at the proposed project sites, especially in GB and Punjab. In addition to the strong support from the national and provincial governments, the local communities in GB, KP, and Pb that are engaged in community-based trophy hunting have indicated strong commitments to the proposed GEF project through in-kind and grant co-financing. These local communities generate considerable revenue (an estimated US$80,000 to US$110,000 for markhor permits and estimated US$10,000 to US $15,000 for urial, wild sheep,) from these activities. As a result of revenue-sharing government policy , 80% of the permit fee disbursed to the community-based organizations. developing facilities for encouraging wildlife-based tourism. The private sector actors will be actively engaged and encouraged to support conservation efforts by providing co-financing to the project activities. And under an agreement with the government, the communities are required to invest 30% of the community share back in conservation of wildlife populations, including patrolling and monitoring by Community Guards, wildlife surveys. At the PIF stage, indicative co-financing from the private sector is expected from local tour operators, outfitters, hoteling industry and local entrepreneurs.

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount($)	Fee($)	Total($)
UNDP	GET	Pakistan	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	2,338,356	222,144	2,560,500
				Total GEF Resources($)	**2,338,356**	**222,144**	**2,560,500**

E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required

☐

PPG Amount ($)

100,000

PPG Agency Fee ($)

9,500

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount($)	Fee($)	Total($)
UNDP	GET	Pakistan	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	100,000	9,500	**109,500**
				Total Project Costs($)	**100,000**	**9,500**	**109,500**

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
688,416.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	
Akula National Park Establishment of 9 new CMPAs	**125689**	**Select**	100,000.00				☐

Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
588,416.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Bunji	**125689**	**Select**	37,800.00						
Akula National Park Chumbi Surla (WS)	**125689** 6690	**Select**	55,945.00						
Akula National Park Danyore	**125689**	**Select**	48,300.00						
Akula National Park Dashkin-Mushkin-Turbaling-Doyan (DMTD	**125689**	**Select**	31,600.00						
Akula National Park Goharabad/ Thalechi	**125689**	**Select**	31,100.00						
Akula National Park Harali	**125689**	**Select**	40,600.00						

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Jutial (Jutial-Sakwar-Barmas)	**125689**	**Select**	19,420.00						☐
Akula National Park Kalapani	**125689**	**Select**	65,000.00						☐
Akula National Park Kargah	**125689**	**Select**	25,400.00						☐
Akula National Park Naltar (WS)	**125689** 6750	**Select**	27,206.00						☐
Akula National Park Nanga Parbat	**125689**	**Select**	64,000.00						☐
Akula National Park Rupal	**125689**	**Select**	52,400.00						☐

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Sai	**125689**	**Select**	32,600.00						☐
Akula National Park Sassi	**125689**	**Select**	18,600.00						☐
Akula National Park Skoyo-Karabathang-Basingo (SKB)	**125689**	**Select**	13,200.00						☐
Akula National Park Tangir (Luruk)	**125689**	**Select**	25,245.00						☐

Indicator 3 Area of land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
1500.00	0.00	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)

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)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
1,500.00			

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)
1000.00	0.00	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)
1,000.00			

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)

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)

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)

Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title	Submitted

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_2e (direct)	293627	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (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_2e (direct)	293,627			
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
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_2e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (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)

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	800			
Male	1,200			
Total	2000	0	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

Methodology Used for Estimating Core Indicators: The project's contribution to the core indicators of GEF-7 are based on the calculations of areas of terrestrial ecosystems currently under 15 community-managed PAs in Gilgit-Baltistan covering area of ~600,000 ha to be brought under co-management system for improved biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. In addition, 9 new CMPAs will be created covering an area of approximately 32,971 ha of scrub forests in Punjab and ~67,029 ha of mountain landscape of Himalaya and Hindukush mountain ranges. Besides, co-management of two government managed PAs will be introduced by developing and implementing harmonized management plans over an area of about 83,000 ha, one in Punjab and another in Gilgit-Baltistan. Deforestation in the mountain landscape is a major issue. It is anticipated that reforestation program by planting 1.5 million sapling of coniferous forests at degraded patches would help in restoring more than 1,500 hectares of degraded land. The project also envisages to promote agroforestry by planting 1.0 million trees at valley bottoms and introducing INRM, thus bringing around 1,000 ha of land outside the PAs under improved management practices. During the project cycle, the reforestation and agroforestry activities will result in sequestration of carbon dioxide estimate at 293,627mtCO2e. The estimated was made using FAO's Carbon Balance Tool (EX-ACT) Version 8.5.4c for High Activity (HAC) soils and temperate mountain systems. It is expected that the project will direct benefit approximately 2,000 people (of which at least 40% will be women) through their direct involvement in project activities and/or as recipients of project support at the provincial, local and project landscape levels. These include the project staffs to be engaged for on the ground implementation of project activities, the government officials of the relevant departments participating in capacity building interventions, the office holders of the local institutions/governance structures (including office bearers of women organizations), the community wildlife guards, the community members, the representatives of local tour operators, and the community tourist guides to be engaged for community-based tourism. The project is also expected to reach more than 200,000 indirect beneficiaries likely to benefit from sustainable use and local economic development activities, including wildlife-based tourism enterprises. The project contribution to core indicators will be further confirmed during the PPG. Please refer to Core Indicator Worksheet in Annex B for detailed breakdown on each of the core indicators.

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

1a. *Project Description.* **Briefly describe**:

The proposed project aims at strengthening CMPAs in Pakistan through improved governance and integrated natural resources management to promote co-management of protected areas and sustain local livelihoods in the mountain landscape of the country. It is expected that with the successful implementation of the project around 24 CMPAs covering an area of about 700,000 hectares of terrestrial ecosystems will be brought under the co-management (communities and government) regime. The project aims to address policy, planning, financial, and knowledge barriers by effectively promoting community-based conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. More importantly, the project will contribute to conservation of biodiveristy of global significance, including endnagered, threatened and endamic plant and animal species. Besides, making investments for improving local governance, building capacities, introducing alternate livelihood opportunities (e.g. wildlife-based tourism), and promoting INRM will ensure biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability, political stability, peace and harmony in the region.

1) **Global environmental and/or adaptation problems**.

In Asia and Pacific region that is home to around 21% of world's animal and plant species, the extinction risk for endemic species is even higher (~25% threatened), whereas in south Asia 16 % of species are threatened to extinction. The main drivers of these adverse trends are growing human population and growing need for food, energy, water, and materials (IPBES 2019)[1][1]. The climate change is likely to further accelerate the impact of these drivers over the coming decades. No doubt that some progress has been made to conserve nature and implement policies, global goals for conserving and sustainably using biodiversity cannot be met under the current trajectory by 2030 projected under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is expected that the current negative trends in biodiversity and ecosystems will undermine progress towards 80% (35 out of 44) of the SDGs related to poverty, hunger, health, water, cities, climate, oceans and land (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 6, 11, 13, 14 and 15) (IPBES 2018)[2][2]. The loss of biodiversity is, therefore, considered not only an environmental issue, but also a developmental, economic, security, social and moral issue.

Pakistan is predominantly an agrarian country with a total geographical area of 79.1 million ha. The cultivated area is 22.4 million ha with the forest cover of 4.27 million ha. The total estimated population of the country is around 208 million as of 2019. Agriculture is a high priority sector and accounts for approximately 20.88 % of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 43.5 % of total national employment. The sector has direct and indirect linkages with other sectors of the economy and play significant role in socio-economic development of the country. The climate of Pakistan is largely arid to semi-arid, where approximately 60 % of the area receives less than 250 mm per annum of rainfall. Pakistan

is prone to natural disasters and falls under climate change affected countries' list. According to the German Global Climate Risk Index of 2016, Pakistan is ranked as the 8th most effected country from climate change impacts, with reported 143 disastrous events from climate change since 1995 to 2014. Pakistan is rich in biodiversity, which is the result of presence of diverse physiography, soil types and climatic conditions. Two major physiographic regions are: 1) mountainous north, and 2) the Indus plains. The mountain ranges on the eastern side of the Indus River include—the Himalaya, the Karakorum and Hindu Kush. These ranges are rich in mountain biodiversity, particularly the Himalayas, which fall under the global biodiversity hotspots—the Himalayan Biodiversity Hotspot. Out of Pakistan's 55 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), around 12 KBAs are located within these three mountain ranges. The two of WWF's Global List[3][3] of 200 of priority ecoregions important for their biodiversity significance and conservation values also fall in northern Pakistan: 1) Western Himalayan Temperate forests, 2) Tibetan Plateau Steppe, which are rich in faunal and floral diversity. Despite the global biodiversity significance and high conservation values, Pakistan biodiversity is threatened with many anthropogenic and climatic factors. The rapid growth in human population and resultant increase in uses of fuelwood, timber, forage, Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs), illegal trade in wild fauna and flora, coupled with infrastructure development and expanding agriculture to marginal lands, have caused land degradation, loss of habitat, and endangered existence of many plants and animal species of global significance.

The mountain landscape of northern Pakistan is critically important. It is considered lifeline for Pakistan's economy as it provides fresh water and energy supply depend on it. Moreover, the remaining tracts of natural forests are located in the mountain landscape, which provide habitats for rare plants and animal species that are critical for supporting local livelihoods, ecosystem services, climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits. The mountain communities that inhabit these rugged mountains presented many governance challenges in the past, as the tribal system functioned through the tribal institutions and customary laws. However, the situation is gradually changing, and it is now considered the right time to blend customary and statutory laws to strengthen local governance for the sustainable management of natural resources. The region is also home to most marginalized and poor communities, where majority of them depend on natural resources to support their livelihoods. Thus, requiring integrated and participatory approaches for the sustainable management of natural resources through effective partnerships for the co-management of Community Protected Areas.

Context and Global Significance

The mountain landscape of the northern Pakistan provides natural habitat to 113 mammal species against Pakistan's total of 174 species (Roberts, 1997)[4][4]. It supports 525 species of birds, which represents 80% of the avifauna of the country (Roberts, 1991[5][5]; 1992[6][6]). Of the 177 fish species documented in Pakistan, 90 (51%) occur in the Himalayas. Fifty species of reptiles and 15 of amphibians have been recorded from the region, representing 33% of Pakistan's herpetofauna[7][7]. Similarly, 90 fish species (51%) out of the 177 native freshwater fish species in Pakistan have been reported from the northern Pakistan, of which 29 species are endemic to the country. Moreover, northern Pakistan includes elements of four phytogeographic regions (Sino Himalayan, Indian, Euro-Siberian and Mediterranean), and almost 80% of Pakistan's endemic flowering plants are confined to these mountains. The northern Pakistan also has the highest coverage of PAs (19 %, as opposed to 11% in the country) that reflects the disproportionally greater

importance of the area. Currently there are 61 PAs established, comprising of: 15 national parks; 9 wildlife sanctuaries; and 37 game reserves. Pakistan is one of the most important countries in the world for the conservation of the Mountain Monarchs (*Caprinae species*), whereas the northern part of the country is considered an important stronghold for the globally significant species like snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*, VU on the IUCN Red List[8][8]; Appendix I of CITES) and Woolly Flying Squirrel (*Eupetaurus cinereus*) listed as globally Endangered on the IUCN Red List. Other important species within northern Pakistan include: flared-horned markhor (*Capra falconeri*); Marco Polo sheep (*Ovis ammon polii*); Kashmir musk deer (*Moschus chrysogaster*; globally Endangered); Himalayan lynx (*Lynx lynx*); blue sheep (*Pseudois nayaur*); Ladakh urial (*Ovis vignei vignei*) VU on the Red List and at Appendix I of CITES; brown bear (*Ursus arctos*); Indian wolf (*Canis lupus*); and Himalayan ibex (*Capra sibirica*); and Punjab urial (*Ovis vignei punjabiensis*) in Phothar Tract of northern Punjab.

Threats and root causes of biodiversity loss in Pakistan

Despite global significance and national importance of biodiversity found in northern mountain region and number of conservation initiatives in the region, and more prominently in recently, is still faced with number of challenges and threats to its natural resources and biological capital of the region. Some of the threats and the root casuses of biodiversity loss are briefly descibed below:

Overgrazing and Degradation of High Pastures: Degradation in high pastures and upland rangeland are causing considerable damage to the integrity of the ecosystems and the provision of essential ecosystem services, including soil quality, forest cover and forest health, water quality and availabity, and biodiversity richness. Overgrazing has resulted in a high composition of low nutritive forage species, including wide-spread weeds and poisonous plants. Overgrazing also impacts Juniper forests as young seedlings are susceptible to the browsing and trampling of livestock. The livestock census indicates an annual growth rate of 3.5% in Gilgit-Baltistan since 1976. Based on the livestock census of 1996, Khan (2003)[9][9] estimated stocking rate at 5.2 ha/animal unit, which was three times more than the FAO's (1987)[10][10] recommended critical stocking rate (i.e. 16 ha/animal unit for low potential range). Thus the high-pastures and rangelands that were assessed as burdened and overgrazed 20 years ago are experiencing even higher degradation due to progressively increasing livestock numbers. This has also led to high disturbance to wild ungulates such as markhor and ibex. Competition with livestock for forage is one of the most widespread causes of decline in mountain ungulate populations.

Deforestation and Unsustainable Use of NTFPs: Local people dependent heavily on natural forests for fuelwood and timber, which have led to widespread deforestation and degradation and diminishing forest resources. Deforestation rates in Pakistan are among the highest in the world. The total natural forest cover has reduced from 3.59 million hectares to 3.32 million hectares,. The annual average rate of loss estimated at 27,000 hectares. Sedimentation resulting from the loss of forests adverse negative social impact and costs, primariliy resulting from reduced storage capacity of reservoirs, loss of fertile soils, increased maintenance cost of irrigation infrastructure, reduction in agricultural production and increased vulnerability to climate change impacts. Growing human and livestock populations, coupled with government control over forests in northern Pakistan and erosion of traditional systems of forest resource management has led to overuse of timber and NTFPs. Local communities rely on forests, particularly juniper, for construction material, fuel wood, thatch, fencing material, grazing ground for livestock and household medicine/remedies. Collection of wood and NTFPs has resulted in severe degradation of, causing reduction in forest cover.

Poaching and Human-Wildlife Conflict: While poverty has a direct connection to increased reliance on natural forests and high pastures, economic harship can be correlated to illegal wildlife hunting in northern Pakistan. Degraded rangelands, reduced abundance of wild herbivores, and increased prevelance of domestic livestock culminate in increased conflict between local communities and predator species like snow leopard and wolf. Human-widlife Conlfict is a result of defensive act to protect the cattles. In addition, to compensate for livestock losses and supplement their incomes, herders in the mountain regions of engage in poaching for meat and trading body parts of wildlife species.

Adverse Climate Change Impacts: The Greater Himalayas as a whole is very sensitive to global climate change. According to IPCC 's the fourth assessment report, progressive increases in average temperature at the higher elevations are occurring at approximately 3 times the global averages. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has

projected that average annual mean warming will be about 3 °C by the 2050s and about 5 °C in the 2080's over the Asian land mass, with temperatures on the Tibetan Plateau rising substantially more. Given that current discussions about dangerous climate change are centered on increases of 2–3 °C, these temperatures are potentially catastrophic for Greater Himalayan peoples and ecosystems. Ongoing climate change over succeeding decades will likely have additional negative impacts across these mountains, including significant cascading effects on river flows, groundwater recharge, natural hazards, and biodiversity; ecosystem composition, structure, and function; and human livelihoods.

Therefore, the proposed project intends to strengthen community-managed protected areas in partnership with the provincial Wildlife and Parks Departments and conservation NGOs by overcoming a number of barriers in effectively promoting community-based conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. These barriers are briefly described below:

Long-term change and barriers to effective management and governance of CMPAs

The long-term change in the effective management of protected areas and their surroundings to reduce treats on them is possible only through CMPA. This especially applies to areas that are remotely located and not on national government's attention. CMPA encourages community ownership of these areas and cascades effective management through responsible business operation and sustainable natural resource management for livelihood. According to the local government in the proposed project areas, resulting from the improved security situation, there has been an increase in domestic tourism in the proposed project area as well as some increase in international tourists visiting the area. Therefore, to improve effective management of these protected areas are urgently necessary.

[1] IPBES. 2019. Summary for policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services, Document--IPBES/7/10/Add.1: 45 pages.

[2] IPBES. 2018. Summary for policymakers of the regional assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services for Asia and the Pacific,IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. 41 pages

[3] David M. Olson and Eric Dinerstein. 2002. The Global 200: Priority Eco-regions for Global Conservation. Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 89: 199–224.

[4] Roberts, T. J., 1997. The Mammals of Pakistan; Oxford University Press, Karachi: 525 pages.

[5] Roberts, T. J., 1991. The Birds of Pakistan, Vol. 1; Oxford University Press, Karachi: 666 pp.

[6] Roberts, T. J., 1992. The Birds of Pakistan. Vol. 2, Passeriformes; Oxford University Press, Karachi: 616 pp.

[7] Akbar, G. and M. Anwar (Eds.) (2011). Wildlife of Western Himalayan Region of Pakistan (Northern Mountains) ISBN: 978-969-8283-67-4.

[8] See: www.iucnredlist.org

[9] Khan, A.G. (2003), NASSD Background Paper: Rangelands and Livestock. IUCN, Pakistan, Gilgit.

[10] FAO. 1987. Pakistan's experience in rangeland rehabilitation and improvement. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
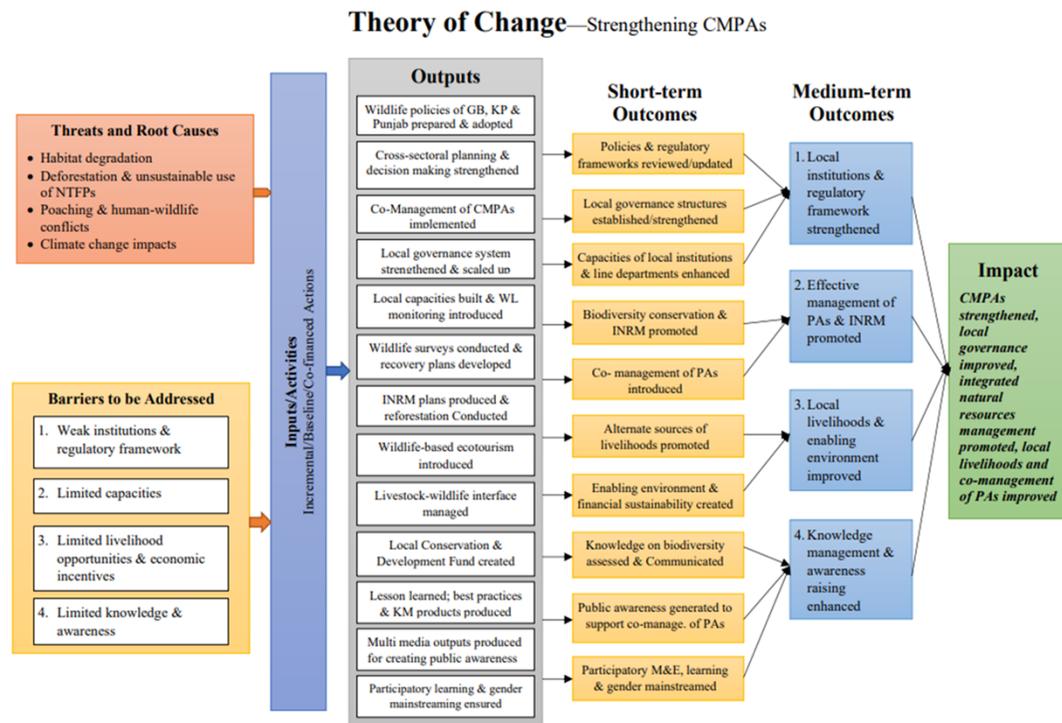
Figure 1: Theory of Change for Effective Management of Protected Areas Through CMPA

The proposed project will dismantle the four key barriers impeding the change and these key barriers to the change are described below:

Barrier 1: *Weak institutional capacity and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in the planning and management of Community-Managed Protected Areas*

The main focus of biodiversity conservation strategies in Pakistan has been on establishing a network of PAs and creating CMPAs. The PAs system review, and gap analysis conducted respectively in 2000 and 2012 reported that many PAs in Pakistan do not meet global standards. Many institutional, legal, and policy gaps in their effective management are identified that need to be urgently addressed through capacity building to improve effective management. Though there are some success stories in community-based conservation in the country, similar barriers apply to them and institutional and regulatory frameworks that govern them remain are absent or weak. The low-level of participation of community institutions in decision making process in the wildlife populations management and sustainable use governance is generating distrust and results in occasional conflicts among the stakeholders. Also, no mechanism for effective coordination and communication between local community institutions and provincial Wildlife and Forest Departments exists. Realizing these gaps, the updated NBSAP (2016) of Pakistan has called for improving institutional and regulatory frameworks to address challenges faced in conservation of biodiversity, its sustainable use and the equitable benefit-sharing. The document recommends that local communities should be structured, empowered and their capacity built to both collaborate in the management of PAs and establish community conservation areas on common property lands.

Barrier 2: *Limited capacities of local governance institutions and CBOs to plan, develop and implement operational mechanisms for an adequate management and monitoring of CMPAs*

Twenty years ago, the introduction of community-based conservation concept in the country helped local communities to organize themselves through strengthening traditional institutions or creating new institutions aiming to manage sustainably their natural resources. In addition to institutional gaps, little investment has been made by the government to strengthen capacities of local governance institutions and CBOs. The lack of capacity for undertaking even basic operational activities, such as office and financial management, constitutes a serious barrier to effectiveness of CMPAs and their further development. Though the office holders of these local institutions are generally aware of the natural resources and wildlife found in their areas, they have very limited capacity to assess the status and take informed decisions for sustainable management, such as controlling poaching or over-use of natural resources. Similarly, they lack capacity in developing and implementing conservation and development plans for their areas and they have to look

for external technical support either from conservation NGOs or relevant government departments, which often lack funds for providing the much-needed technical assistance. At the moment, none of the provincial Parks and Wildlife Departments can coordinate and assist comprehensively community-based conservation efforts.

In the recent past, several conservation NGOs and development projects assisted local communities in preparing conservation and development plans for their PAs. Yet these plans are usually not implemented effectively despite having financial resources available with some of the communities. This is mainly caused by limited understanding and capacity of local institutions and CBOs, resulting in their inability to implement good practices and adopt proper PAs management strategies. Finally, appropriate community-level trainings have rarely been offered to them at a scale and duration that would support their sustainable development.

Barrier 3: *Inadequate livelihood opportunities and economic incentives for the integrated management of natural resources*

The mountain landscapes of northern Pakistan are home to some of the most marginalized and poor communities in the world and offer few modern livelihood opportunities to support their growing demography. Therefore, a vast majority of local communities depend directly on natural resources – rangelands, forests, and wildlife – to support their livelihoods. Land holdings in this mountain region are small, often driving local communities to opt for unsustainable use of natural resources. For example, the region has experienced the highest rate of deforestation in the recent past, thus taking away critical direct livelihood resource from the local communities, from construction timber to fuel wood, and other economically important non-timber forest products (NTFPs). Moreover, limited livelihood opportunities are also due to lack of skills, market access, and many other structural economic problems. Introducing integrated natural resource management and sustainable use of natural resources are important elements and the way forward for providing alternate livelihoods, improving lives of rural communities, and increasing economic stability in the region.

Unfortunately, traditional communities lack capacity and knowledge to access alternative livelihoods suitable for the local environment. This will be achieved by the project through the progressive introduction of integrated management of natural resources, including promotion of wildlife-based ecotourism, agroforestry, high pasture management, developing and implementing trophy-hunting business plans, managing livestock-wildlife interface, and creating enabling environment for engaging local communities for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity components.

Barrier 4: *Knowledge and awareness about the conservation significance of the wildlife populations and wildlife-based tourism are limited.*

There is very limited information available on the current state of biodiversity in government and community-managed PAs, whereas the effective planning and management of these areas require proper resource appraisals and biodiversity assessments. Without these assessments, it is very difficult to devise local conservation strategies and develop regulatory mechanisms for the sustainable use of biodiversity components. There is a critical need to assess, map, and identify biodiversity hotspots, so that these areas could be adequately protected with the involvement of local communities. Similarly, the link between biodiversity conservation and the well-being of local people is poorly understood. Though Pakistan is considered as pioneer in introducing community-based trophy hunting for promoting conservation of wild ungulates, it is poorly understood how trophy hunting contributes to biodiversity conservation and local economic development. Unless this is properly documented and shared with planners and policy-makers, it would be very difficult to convince them for making investments for the effective management of community PAs.

Generally, policy makers, planners and local communities are unaware of conservation significance of wildlife populations. They are also unaware that a number of sustainable practices such as wildlife-based tourism (wildlife viewing) could contribute to local economic development, employment generation for local youth, and most importantly as an alternate livelihood for the local communities. Communication and public awareness have always received very low priority in management of PAs and could be almost non-existence when it comes to management of community PAs. Therefore, the project intends to design a communication and awareness raising program that appeals both to the people and policy makers and planners.

2) Baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

Pakistan signed CBD in 1992 and ratified it in 1994, and is also signatory to CTIES, CMS and Ramsar Convention. The country prepared its first National Conservation Strategy in 1993 and in follow up provincial conservation strategies were prepared, which contributed significantly to tackle biodiversity conservation issues. The National Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) prepared in 2000 to fulfil obligations under CBD was revised in 2016 into NBSAP to implement Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs). Pakistan has also updated its National Action Program (NAP) to combat desertification and recently set national Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets for the implementation of UNCCD, submitted Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to meet the obligation under Paris Agreement and UNFCCC. In addition, a number of national polices have been prepared which emphasize on taking priority actions for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including National Environment Policy (2005), National Climate Change Policy (2012), National Forest Policy (2015) and draft National Wildlife Policy in 2018. The provinces have enacted provincial forest and wildlife laws for the management of these resources. These policy documents and legal instruments show Pakistan's commitment for conservation of its national resources that provide a strong baseline for the proposed project.

In addition, Pakistan has taken concrete steps for the conservation of biodiversity by establshing an extensive network of protected areas, comprising of 27 National Parks, 78 Wildlife Sancturaies, 78 Game Reserves, 147 CMPAs, and 18 private Game Reserves covering ~14% of country's land mass. The strategies used have multiple thrusts, including enhancing capacities, improving wildlife laws and regulatory frameworks by incorporting emerging needs and challenges, empowering local communities, and providing them economic incentives e.g. community-based trophy hunting. However, there was growing recognition from the practionors, conserversatinists and conservation academics that policing and strictly controlled measures alone was insufficient to protect wildlife species and their habitat. This led to evolution of a new conservation paradigm in the 1990s known as Community-based Conservation (CBC). The approach was tested during mid-1990s with a grant from the GEF. The concept was further expanded to conservancies covering larger landscapes and to support these conservancies, a Mountain Areas Conservation Fund (MACF) was established at the federal level. However, insutitutionizing this

large conservancies model remained a challenge. On the other hand, creating watershed level CMPAs gained poplarity and are considered more paractical for safeguarding biodiversity and interest of local communities. Gilgit-Baltistan alone has established 46 CMPAs, which are managed jointly by the GB Parks and Wildlife Department, concerned communities, and NGOs. In total, an area of 2.24 million hectares have been brought under the CMPAs. The creation of CMPAs has helped restoring populations of many rare and endangered species, particularly mountain ungulates. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), an international conservation NGO has been actively supporting creation of CMPAs in GB (**Annex A2)**. Similarly, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province has established around 90 CMPAs covering an area of 448,900 hectares, while Punjab province has notified only 5 CMPAs managed by the local Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in partnership with the Punjab Wildlife and Park Department. Since early 1990, a number of government and donor funded projects have been implemented, which helped creation CMPAs. However, very little efforts have been made for strengthening local institutions and building capacity of the local communities for sustainably managing their natural resources. Some recently concluded and on-going projects and programs, including GEF supported, are briefly described below, which could be considered a strong baseline for the proposed project:

Government Supported Projects/Programmes

*Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Program (TBTT-P)***:** The Government of Pakistan has recently launched TBTT-P with financial layout of Rs.125 billion (approximately US$806 million) by up-scaling the Green Pakistan Program for the revival of the forestry and wildlife sectors. The objective of the Program is "to facilitate transition towards environmentally resilient Pakistan by mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation targeted initiatives for promoting afforestation, biodiversity conservation and creating enabling environment." Many of the outputs and activities under the wildlife component of TBTT-P are aligned with the proposed project and vice versa. The project will work closely with the TBTT-P, particularly in GB, KP and Punjab, and will develop complementarity and synergy with the program.

GEF Supported Projects and Programmes

9231--Pakistan Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Program (PSLEP) (2018-22): The Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) an NGO is implementing a GEF-UNDP funded project in the mountain landscape of GB, KP, and AJK with a GEF grant of USD 4.6 million in collaboration with the MoCC and provincial Wildlife Departments. The project aims to promote a landscape approach for the conservation of snow leopard and its prey species by reducing threats and advocating sustainable land and forest management in critical snow leopard in northern Pakistan. The proposed project will benefit from the lessons learned and experiences of the PSLEP and avoid duplication of project interventions and project areas.

9516--FAO's GEF Project for Reversing Deforestation and Degradation in high-conservation value Chilgoza pine forests in Pakistan: FAO is implementing a GEF funded project in collaboration with provincial Forests Departments and with the involvement of the local communities with a GEF grant of US$3.978 million. The overall project objective is "to contribute to restoration, protection and sustainable management of Chilgoza Pine forests to provide global environment benefits and enhanced resilience and livelihoods of local stakeholders in Pakistan." The proposed will avoid duplication of project interventions and will work very closely to forage complementarity and synergies. Besides, lessons learned will be incorporated in the proposed project design.

5660--Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) to Secure Multiple Benefits in Pakistan's High Conservation Value Forests: This is another on-going GEF Project targeting adoption of integrated approach for the management of high conservation value forests that will provide global biodiversity conservation and carbon sequestration benefits and

provide ecosystem services to local communities. The proposed project will closely coordinate with SFM project and build on the lessons learned, especially on restoration and rehabilitation of degraded forests.

4754--Sustainable Land Management Program to Combat Desertification in Pakistan (2015-20): This GEF project is near completion which has focused on creating enabling environment for sustainable land management (SLM), building local capacities, establishing SLM information system, and providing incentives for sustainable management of land and water resources. The SLM project has used various community engagement and governance mechanisms, alternate livelihoods and development of inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms. The proposed project will benefit from the training products, best practices documented, and land use planning guidelines developed. These would inform the project designing and development of conservancy level "Conservation and Development Plans".

Other Donor Supported Projects

Economic Transformation Initiative Gilgit-Baltistan (ETI-GB): This is another important program in GB co-funded by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Government of Pakistan. The total of cost of the program is USD120 million including USD65.24 million IFAD funding. It focuses on rural development, economic empowerment, agriculture and land development. Three key components of the program are—1) economic infrastructure development, 2) provision of support services for value chain development, and 3) program management and policy support services. The geographic focus of the project is Gilgit, Diamer and Astore Districts of GB.

GLOF-II: Scaling-up of Glacial Lake Outburst risk reduction in northern Pakistan (2018-23): The Ministry of Climate Change and UNDP are implementing a US$41.46 million project, including US$36.96 million grants from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in northern Pakistan. The objectives of the project are to: (i) empower communities to identify and manage the risks associated with GLOFs and other related impacts of climate change; (ii) strengthen public service systems to lower the risk of GLOF related disasters; and (iii) support the development of sustainable and climate-resilient livelihood options for communities in the regions targeted by this project. The proposed project will develop complementarity and synergy with GLOF-II and incorporate its knowledge generated in the project design during the PPG phase.

Mountains Protected Areas (MPA) Project (2018-20): The Ev-K2-CNR an Italian NGO that promotes scientific research and conservation in mountain areas. They implementing an Italian Government funded Euro 2 million (US$ 2.36 million) project for development of management and operational plans for Central Karakoram National Park (CKNP) and Deosai National Park (DNP), establishment of connectivity and conservation corridor between CKNP and DNP, promotion of conservation awareness, and development and implementation of valley level CDPs. The proposed project will develop complementarity and incorporate lessons learned in development of management plans in the project design.

The proposed GEF Project will build on and informed by the above-mentioned baseline initiatives to strengthen co-management of CMPAs for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity by building local governance structures and their capacities. Though many of these baseline initiatives look promising for providing basic support and framework for the socio-economic development of the local communities, there is little focus on promoting collaborative partnerships and building local capacities for sustainable management of wildlife and other natural resources. The baseline scenario described here will be further analyzed and documented during the implementation of the PPG.

3) Proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes & components of the project

Component 1: **Enabling policy and governance framework and institutional capacity on CMPAs and INRM:** This component aims to review and strengthen existing provincial wildlife conservation policies and regulatory framework (provincial Wildlife Acts) to support co-management of PAs and promote INRM. This will involve developing provincial wildlife policy frameworks to support CMPAs in GB, KP and Punjab and updating and adopting of legal instruments of GB to strengthen CMPAs. This component will facilitate establishment of new institutions where do not exist, strengthen existing community governance structures, and replicate/scale-up to other potential landscapes to enhance effectiveness of community-managed protected areas in KP and Photohar region of Punjab. This will include strengthening 37 existing local governance institutions (WCSDOs/CBOs) and 15 Conservancy-based Forums by revitalizing their functioning and establishing sectoral committees covering ~600,000 ha. It will also include replicating/scaling-up of the successful governance models across larger landscape—4 areas in KP, and 5 in Potohar region of Punjab covering ~100,000 ha of the mountain landscape. This component will have provisions for capacity building and trainings of 110 office holders of the local governance institutions (WCSDOs/CBOs) in office and finance management. In addition, around 170 field staff of the provincial line departments and 200 Community Wildlife Guides (CWGs) will be trained in participatory learning, natural resources assessment, and planning for the biodiversity conservation and effective management of the Community PAs. They would contribute to meeting targets set under the CBD's Program of Work on PAs, which consists of 4 interlinked components and deals with direct actions for planning, selecting, establishing, strengthening, and managing PAs; ways and means to improve governance, participation and equity; and enabling activities, monitoring and assessment. Capacity in INRM (including wildlife management techniques, wildlife-based ecotourism, and agroforestry) of the selected community members and field staff of the line departments will be enhanced in collaboration of the provincial line departments and the private sector.

Component 2: Promote effective management of PAs and INRM in three target landscapes in GB, KP, and Punjab: This component will focus on promoting co-management of PAs by signing tripartite (Government, CBOs and conservation NGOs) agreements and Terms of Partnerships (ToPs) for the effective management of CMPAs, including implementation of community-based patrolling and monitoring system in 15 CMPAs (7 in GB, 5 Punjab and 3 in KP. This would help in enhancing governance capacity of the line departments and community institutions for effective law enforcement and co-management of the CMPAs. The priority would be on sustainable management of mountain ungulates (markhor, Himalayan ibex, Ladakh urial, and Punjab urial) populations through joint (WCS, Govt. staff and CWGs) annual winter and spring wildlife surveys conducted in selected CMPAs to document status and trends in mountain ungulate populations and to determine annual trophy-hunting quotas to meet CITES and National Wildlife Policy requirements. In order to restore depleted populations of 4 endangered/threatened wildlife species, including Musk deer, Woolly Flying Squirrel, Ladakh urial, and Punjab urial, recovery plans will be developed and got endorsed from the relevant government authorities. Another important intervention would be development of integrated Conservation and Development Plans (CDPs, including grazing management. To accomplish this, the CDPs of existing 15 CMPAs in GB will be updated and CDPs for 9 new CMPAs covering ~100,000 ha (5 in Punjab and 4 in KP) will be produced through use of remote sensing technologies and participatory biodiversity assessment/appraisal of natural resources in the targeted areas. Many patches of mountain landscape of CMPAs in GB and Photohar tract of Punjab have been badly degraded due to clear cut of forests

and removal native vegetation. These patches will be rehabilitated through reforestation by planting 1.5 million saplings of indigenous coniferous and scrub trees covering an area of ~1,500 ha with the involvement of local communities. This would also help in habitat improvement for native wildlife species. In addition, the complementarity and connectivity between government and community managed PAs will be enhanced through interventions such as development of harmonized management plans of 2 Govt. managed PAs—Naltar Wildlife Sanctuary in GB and Chumbi Surla Wildlife Sanctuary in Punjab covering an area of ~83,000 ha.

Component 3: Livelihood improvement and establishment of community Conservation Funds for financial sustainability: This component will focus on strengthening Community PAs: 1) promoting alternate sources of livelihoods and reducing pressure on natural resources and wildlife habitat. In order to build a good working partnership with local communities, community mobilization and engagement strategy would be developed and implemented, one each for three targeted landscapes in GB, KP and Punjab. These strategies will describe steps for community mobilization/engagement and provide direction on how to ensure that local communities participate fully and own the process of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity based on local social, economic, and natural settings. Financial sustainability will be ensured through establishment of at least 15 Conservancy/PAs level Conservation and Development Funds (7 in GB, 5 in Punjab, and 3 in KP) and these funds will be made operational to cover future community level conservation costs. Many CMPAs are already engaged in generating income from the use of biodiversity components, especially from trophy-hunting. However, the funds generated from this activity are not yet properly channeled towards conservation, as community infrastructure projects are a priority by the local communities. This shortcoming is mainly due to lack of capacity and proper guidance from the government institutions and conservation NGOs for the effective management of these funds. As a result, a comprehensive solution to eliminate the threats to biodiversity and natural habitats will be delivered through the CDFs. Potential of wildlife-based ecotourism will be assessed, and model business plans will be developed to introduce a new source of livelihood in at least in 5 CMPAs in GB and 2 in Punjab. Trophy-hunting has been recognized as a form of ecotourism having low environmental impact, but high value activity. Community-managed trophy-hunting will be promoted as a local enterprise through effective business planning, including marketing of trophy hunts in the international hunting market and promoting healthy relationship between the community, provincial Wildlife Department and outfitters fraternity. Main livelihood of the mountain communities is raising livestock, which compete with mounting ungulates for food and livestock-wildlife interaction sometimes leads to spread of contagious diseases. Livestock will be protected against selected contagious diseases which may be dangerous to susceptible wildlife species and to human. For this purpose, livestock vaccination schemes will be implemented in 15 CMPAs in GB, 5 in Punjab, and 4 in KP. Another important intervention will be promotion of agro-forestry (social-forestry) by planting 1.0 million indigenous tree species in the valleys covering an area of around 1,000 ha to mitigate anthropogonic and climate change impacts on natural forests, wildlife habitats, and high pastures. This would help in taking pressure off from the high pasture/rangelands, thus providing more fodder for wild ungulate populations in their natural habitat.

Component 4: Knowledge management, awareness raising, gender mainstreaming, and monitoring & evaluation

This component will focus on knowledge management on biodiversity values and conservation benefits generated from effective management of community PAs. General public, planners and policy makers are not fully aware of potential of the community managed PAs, which is generally less costly as compared to government managed PAs. Lessons

learned, best practices and knowledge management produced and made available to planners, professional and local communities through online repository created and maintained in collaboration with the concerned government agencies. At this stage, it is not clear that how and to what extent community-based trophy hunting is contributing to conservation and local economic development. In order to document this a comprehensive impact assessment study of markhor and Punjab urial trophy hunting will be conducted. Results of this assessment will be disseminated widely, especially with policy makers at the federal and international level (e.g. CITES). Further, this will help in generating public awareness to mobilize support on the potential of co-management of community PAs. Now a days, both electronic and print media plays an important role for creating awareness about environmental conservation issues, especially wild species and natural forests. Multi-media outputs (websites, social media, blogs, advocacy material, videos, and conferences/seminars) will be produced and disseminated to create public awareness and disseminate project results and successes stories generated from the project interventions. There will be strong emphasis on participatory monitoring, evaluation, learning and gender mainstreaming at all levels of project implementation, including on-the-ground implementation of project interventions for strengthening PAs management. Participatory monitoring, evaluation and learning strategy incorporating gender mainstreaming will be developed and implemented to facilitate adaptive project management and monitoring progress against key indicators of project outcomes.

4) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program strategies

The proposed project is line with the goal of the GEF-7 Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy that calls for "maintaining globally significant biodiversity in landscapes" and fits well under the GEF-7 Biodiversity Focal Area priorities—1) mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes, and 2) address direct drivers to protect habitats and species. The project components are well aligned with the entry point "biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors" and the GEF-7 program area element:

BD-1-1: Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes & seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors

This element calls upon national governments to advance biodiversity mainstreaming through spatial and land-use planning to ensure that land and natural resource use are promoted without degrading biodiversity. It further emphasizes on linking objectives of sustaining PAs and their conservation objectives with targeted investments in land use planning in the surrounding areas and encourages on developing policy and regulatory frameworks that provides incentives for biodiversity conservation without degrading biodiversity.

The project is also aligned with the GEF-7 element to address direct drivers to protect habitat and species namely:

BD-2-7: Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species and improve financial sustainability, effective management, and ecosystem coverage of the global protected areas estate

The GEF support for the proposed project will be channeled towards: 1) effective protection of ecologically viable and climate-resilient ecosystems and advocate coverage of threatened species, 2) making available sufficient and predictable financial resources to support protected areas management, and 3) developing institutional and individual capacities for effective management of protected areas.

5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing;

GEF support is being sought to fund the incremental costs for strengthening community-managed PAs in the mountain landscape of Pakistan and achieving multiple Global Environmental Benefits. This will be achieved through 1) strengthening policies, regulatory frameworks and decision-making to support co-management of PAs and promoting INRM, 2) strengthening local governance structures to improve effectiveness of community-managed PAs, 3) building/enhancing capacities of local communities/line departments in resource assessment, planning, and decision making for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, 4) promoting biodiversity conservation and INRM implemented through effective planning, implementing, and monitoring sustainable use of natural resources, 5) rehabilitation of wildlife habitat by increasing tree-cover in CMPAs and introducing grazing management, 6) promoting co-management of PAs, 7) promoting alternate sources of local livelihoods, 8) and creating enabling environment for engaging local communities for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity components.

Table 1: Baseline practices, incremental alternatives, and global environmental benefits

Baseline Scenario	Alternative to be put in place	Global Environmental Benefit
Enabling policy and governance framework and institutional capacity on CMPA and INRM		

Policy gaps and weak regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation planning and management of community PAs; Weak community institutions and mechanism for effective coordination and communication between community institutions and provincial Wildlife and Forestry Departments, conservation NGOs and other partners; Current PAs system in Pakistan do not meet global standards and there are many institutional, policy and legal gaps in their effective management; Low level of participation of community institutions in decision making for PAs management and sustainable use governance leading to distrust and occasionally conflicts among stakeholders; and Limited capacities of community institutions and concerned departments to plan, develop, and implement actions for effective management and monitoring of CMPAs, particularly in developing and implementing conservation and development plans.	Existing forest and wildlife policies reviewed, and recommendation made for strengthening CMPAs, mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in to cross-sectoral planning and decision-making, and promoting co-management of PAs; Capacities of community institutions and field staff of concerned government departments enhanced for effective planning and management of community PAs and establishing communication and coordination between local communities and government functionaries; and Community-based biodiversity conservation scaled up to larger landscape by creating 9 new CMPAs.	Strengthening policy, local governance and institutional capacity for sustainable use of natural resources, as well as local decision making and co-management of PAs covering ~ 600,000 ha area of globally significant areas that are important habitat for number of rare and endangered specie. Enhanced local capacities local capacities for effective planning and managing community PAs; Biodiversity conservation scaled up to larger landscapes covering important habitat of rare and endangered species covering ~ 100,000 ha of globally significant mountain landscape important for rare and endangered species. Trained people available at the local level for managing wildlife population
Promote effective management of PAs and INRM in three target landscapes in GB, KP and Punjab		

High rate of deforestation, habitat degradation/encroachment, and unsustainable use of natural resources; Poaching, human-wildlife conflicts, and lack of effective community-based patrolling and wildlife monitoring mechanism; and Effective management of PAs and promoting integrated natural resource management remained a challenge due to lack of cross-sectoral and integrated approach in managing natural resources; Lack of funding and investment for effective management of PAs.	Co-management of PAs implemented by signing Agreements/ToPs, including implementation of community-based wildlife patrolling and monitoring system to curb poaching and address direct threats to endangered species; Mechanism for participatory monitoring of wildlife populations, combating deforestation and controlling habitat degradation and check unstainable uses of natural resource introduced; Recovery plan for endangered/flagship wildlife species prepared and got endorsed from the government; ==Integrated CDPs of existing 15 CMPAs updated and 9 new CMPAs plans prepared through the use of remote sensing technologies and participatory biodiversity assessment and planning; and== Reforestation conducted by planting 1.5 million trees in degraded patches of natural forests and wildlife habitat.	Deforestation curtailed and wildlife habitat in CMPAs improved to reduce threats to key species such as Kashmir Musk Deer (EN), Wooly Flying Squirrel (EN), Asian Black Bear (VU), Ladhak Urial (VU), Punjab Urial (VU) etc. Other important species that are not on endangered or critical status within project area that will benefit from the project include: Flared-Horned Markhor; Marco Polo sheep; Himalayan Lynx; Blue Sheep; Brown Bear; Indian Wolf; and Himalayan Ibex. Population of endangered/flagship wildlife species recovered with the implementation of their recovery plans; Root causes and threats to biodiversity loss addressed; INRM introduced by adopting cross-sectoral management approach; and Carbon sequestration capacity enhanced through launching reforestation program in the CMPAs. In addition, 20 years of carbon equivalent sequestration benefit from the project activities are estimated at 293,627 mtCO2e.
Improve livelihood and establish community conservation funds for financial sustainability		

Marginalized and poor mountain communities having small land holdings, this forcing them to depend heavily on natural resource uses to support their livelihood; Limited livelihood and economic incentives for adopting INRM Lack of skills and market access and many other structural economic problems; and Lack of capacity, knowledge and resources to access alternate livelihoods.	Alternate sources of livelihoods promoted to reduce pressure on natural resources and wildlife habitat; Economic incentives provided through introduction of community-based tourism and promoting wildlife viewing; Enabling environment provided for sustainable use of natural resources by enhancing skills and marketing access for use of natural resources; and Agroforestry promoted to enhance biodiversity and household income; Local level Conservation and Development Funds established from the sustainable use of biodiversity and enhanced sustainability of CMPAs.	Reduced pressure on natural resources and wildlife habitat; Incentive measures introduced for protection and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance; Enabling environment created for sustainable use of natural resources; Wildlife habitat improved; and Local level endowment funds created to finance biodiversity conservation actions and enhance long-term sustainability of CMPAs
Knowledge management, awareness raising, gender mainstreaming, and M&E		
Limited information on the current state of biodiversity in both government and community-managed PAs; Link between biodiversity and the well-being of local communities is poorly understood; Limited knowledge and low priority on creating public awareness on conservation significance of wildlife populations; and Existing biodiversity conservation strategies do not give due consideration to gender mainstreaming due to local cultural norms and existence of tribal societies.	Lessons learned, best practices and KM products produced and made available through online repository for sharing experiences and replicating and scaling up biodiversity conservation actions; Assessment of community-based trophy hunting's contribution to biodiversity conservation and local economic development conducted; Multimedia products produced to create public awareness, disseminate project results and success stories; and Project M&E strategy developed to monitor progress and ensure compliance with project indicator, including gender mainstreaming.	Lessons learned, best practices, and success stories shared with global audience through online repository; Community-based trophy hunting assessment study report available to global audience; Multimedia awareness raising products made available to policy makers and international community.

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

The project demonstrations will support improved management for community-managed protected area and integrated natural resources management and its sustainable use in over 700,000 ha of globally significant habitats in Pakistan The project focuses on conservation of the globally important biodiversity and critical ecosystems and landscapes of global value, including biodiversity hotspots of Karakoram, Himalayas, and Hindu Kush ranges. These mountain ranges harbor the most heavily glaciated part of the world outside the Polar Regions and high-altitude lakes, streams, marshlands, peat lands and bogs, that are used as temporary and permanent staging, feeding and breeding grounds by migratory water birds, including several endangered aquatic bird species. The region supports 113 species of mammal, 525 birds, 177 of fish, 50 reptiles and 15 species of amphibian. Similarly, northern mountain region is rich in plant diversity, where 80% of Pakistan's endemic plants are confined to these mountains. Thus, making the region a biodiversity hotspot, as it falls under the globally important 200 Ecoregions having high-level floral, avian, and mammalian diversity. Moreover, it contains the last remaining tracts of coniferous forests in Pakistan, which provide critically important habitat for many wildlife species of global significance. More importantly, the primary GEB will be conservation of globally important species like snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*, VU on the IUCN Red List; Appendix I of CITES) and Woolly Flying Squirrel (*Eupetaurus cinereus*) listed as globally Endangered on the IUCN Red List. Other important species include: flared-horned markhor (*Capra falconeri falconeri*; globally Near Threatened); Marco Polo sheep (*Ovis ammon polii*; globally Near Threatened); Kashmir musk deer (*Moschus cupreus*; globally Endangered); Himalayan lynx (*Lynx lynx*); blue sheep (*Pseudois nayaur*); Ladakh urial (*Ovis vignei vignei*) VU on the Red List and at Appendix I of CITES; brown bear (*Ursus arctos*); Indian wolf (*Canis lupus*); and Himalayan ibex (*Capra sibirica*); and Punjab urial (*Ovis aries punjabiensis*; VU). Another GEB would be reduced loss and degradation of natural habitat and improved ecosystem services from protection of plant diversity in CMPAs, as well as improved connectivity and biological corridors in unique mountain landscape of the world.

Furthermore, the proposed GEF-7 project investment will provide multiple co-benefits by reducing deforestation, restoring degraded forest lands, and integrated natural resources management interventions as well as will generate additional benefits in climate change mitigation and adaptation by sequestering atmospheric carbon and by increasing the resilience of ecosystems and communities. Please refer to Core Indicator Worksheet in **Annex B** for the GHG mitigated estimate. More importantly, the project outcomes and outputs will contribute to Aichi Biodiversity Targets, specifically to Targets 5, 7, 11, 12, and notable to Target 18, which emphasis on participation of local communities in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

7) Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

Innovation: The community-based programs advanced through this project are innovative models that will generate important lessons for wider application, particularly the role of incentive measures to be introduced for conservation of mountain ungulate populations and their habitat in Pakistan. Involvement of local institutions, such as the WCSDOs/CBO/VCCs, in landscape/watershed level management planning is novel approach for promoting INRM in northern Pakistan. New structures will be established by the project to further facilitate involvement of targeted populations and local stakeholders in conservation planning and local economic development. The project will also test innovative ideas for improving local livelihoods and creating enabling environment for sustainable use of natural resources. The introduction of wildlife-based ecotourism, development of community-managed trophy-hunting local enterprise, promotion of agro-forestry, and managing livestock-wildlife interface will provide alternate sources of livelihoods and help in job creation for the local youth. Furthermore, creation of conservancy or watershed level "conservation and development funds" will be another innovative intervention that would help in local socio-economic development of the targeted human populations and would ensure long-term sustainability of the CMPAs. The engagement of private sector (multi-national companies) in establishing these endowment funds through their Corporate Social Responsivity (CSR) contributions will also be explored. This project will also take advantage of new advances in research to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the community-based conservation and participatory monitoring and evaluation of the project activities and their impact toward conservation of wild species and local economic development.

Sustainability: Sustainability will be ensured through incorporating local governance structures and community institutions with local, provincial and national government agencies into every aspect of project design and implementation. This will ensure the creation of the broad-based constituency that is essential to sustainable investment and achievement of conservation and development goals. The project will help mobilizing diversified sources of funding including sustainable management of forests (including NTFPs), eco-tourism, community-based trophy hunting of mountain ungulates, developing and implement business plans for NRM, local enterprises development, and establishing community-managed conservation and development funds. These interventions will ensure financial sustainability. The outcomes and outputs described above include capacity building through targeted training programs, and also include institutional strengthening of government agencies, local governance structures and community institutions. The project will strengthen local ownership by creating an enabling environment for INRM, biodiversity conservation, and enhance institutional and local capacities. Through these actions the project will support environmental and financial sustainability by ensuring wise use of natural resources, and contributing to conservation of natural resources and biodiversity, while supporting local livelihoods.

Potential to scale-up: On a national level, best practices from this project will be replicated in other parts of the country, as well as applied to other wildlife conservation activities at large. Many of the innovative activities supported through this project for reducing threats to biodiversity and natural resources. Lessons learned through the projects on the ground interventions in the targeted landscape will be used to replicate and scaling-up of the interventions, including community-based conservation mechanisms, at the national, regional and global levels through knowledge management and dissemination of best practices through online repository as described under component four of this project.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

The project will be implemented in selected Community-managed PAs/Conservancies/CCHAs in the mountain landscape GB, KP, and Punjab in partnership with the provincial Parks and Wildlife Department of the respective provincial government. The proposed project districts include: Gilgit, Astore, Diamer, and Skardu of GB; Kohistan district of KP; and Jhelum, Chakwal, and Mianwali districts of Punjab. See attached map for geo-reference of project districts, where project interventions will take place at **Annex A1**.

2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above,please explain why:

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.

The key stakeholders that were identified through the preliminary analyses are listed in **Annex D**. Primary stakeholders are the MoCC, provincial governments (of GB, KP, and Punjab), and local communities (including women and ethnic minorities). These stakeholders have been kept on board while developing the PIF, while their specific inputs were sought from the provincial Wildlife Departments and community representatives (office holders) during the consultative sessions held in the provinces. In order to ensure stakeholders participation in the project designing a stakeholders' engagement plan will be developed during the PPG phase to describe detailed stakeholders' engagement during the implementation of the full project. Roles and responsibilities of all the major stakeholders will defined and they will be actively engaged during planning and implementation of the project. They will be given representation at the Provincial Coordination Committees keeping in view their experience and expertise in conservation and integrated management of natural resources.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis).

This project recognizes that women of all ages play a critical role in managing natural resources and biodiversity components. Women work in fields and may spend as much as 60 percent of their time in productive gender roles during the growing season. Women collect fuel, medicinal plants, and water and are responsible for storing grain. Women maintain family gardens and storing of vegetables. Women are most often in charge of livestock health care, shed cleaning, feeding and care of pregnant and lactating animals, milk processing and preparation of milk products. Handicrafts, such as making woolen mats, knitting and embroidery, are also a source of income for women, particularly during the winter months when they are less involved in agriculture. Overall, they have a great deal of indigenous knowledge that should be utilized towards conservation. Men and women have different roles within the family, village and larger socio-political arena. Women are physically removed from men in society at large, and in rural communities' women's roles in governance and decision-making are negligible, and in some areas restricted to adult. Female literacy rates lag behind males, for example in GB female literacy is estimated at 38% vs 64% for males. There is also an indication that women's perceptions towards wildlife may be different than men, due to their differing social roles.

Recognizing the importance of the role played by women in biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use, the project will undertake a gender analysis during the PPG phase in order to assess opportunities to enhance the status of women in respect to biodiversity conservation related activities. The PPG phase will ensure women's involvement during project activities design and defining indicators that will ensure women's full participation as beneficiaries of technical cooperation and capacity building efforts. During the PPG phase, community consultations will be organized to obtain views and inputs of a wide range of local stakeholders, including women, to develop project activities and to inform a robust stakeholder involvement plan with full gender considerations. Gender-disaggregated targets and indicators will be included within the project results framework, and appropriately evaluated during the project monitoring and evaluation. A comprehensive project gender mainstreaming for the project will be completed and submitted with the project document at time of CEO Endorsement.

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; and/or

generating socio-economic benefits or services for women. Yes

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

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

The involvement of the private sector will be based on effective management of community PAs and sustainable use of natural resources. The private entities likely to be involved in the project would be outfitters, tour operators, tourism and hoteling industry, and Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) traders. First step would be to invite the private sector to participate in the feasibility analysis for the development of market-oriented business plans for the products originating from the CMPAs and opportunities available within the PAs. This will include analyzing potential of wildlife-based tourism and community-based trophy hunting of markhor, Himalayan ibex and Punjab urial. Other option would be to explore the potential of promoting sustainable use of NTFP and medicinal/economic plants found in the CMPAs. The project will follow two prong approach to involve the private sector in biodiversity conservation and promoting wildlife-based tourism. First, the project will work with the community institutions to develop strategies that boost the local livelihoods and bring improvement in access to economic benefits, for example establishing community guest houses and hospitality centers, wildlife viewing hideouts, local enterprises development, and the search of markets for the NTFPs originating from the CMPAs. The private sector will be the key player in establishing different links of the value chain that are identified during the market analysis. The private sector will also be encouraged to participate in: a) analysis and identification of market needs, b) design and develop mechanism for the supply of products and services from CMPAs, c) development of business models for local-enterprises in collaboration with local communities; and d) development of commercial partnerships that boost the value chain and recognize the importance of biodiversity conservation efforts and sustainable use of natural resources. Second, possibility would be to encourage local micro-finance banks and other financial institutions to facilitate access to loans and financial assistance to local community institutions for developing facilities for the tourists and local women enterprises, especially local handicrafts and natural products. Finally, possibility of engaging private sector (multi-national companies) in establishing local level conservation endowment funds and creating CMPAs for conserving endangered plants and animal species through their Corporate Social Responsivity (CSR) contributions will be explored.

5. Risks

Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the Project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the Project design (table format acceptable)

Risks	Rating	Preventive Measures
Security situation may -delay project implementation	Low	Security situation in the country has been improved during the recent years. Proposed project areas have been carefully selected and insecure areas have been avoided. In addition, by adopting a participatory approach and involving all local stakeholders, risks related to social instability is reduced. In addition, the project's reliance on local institutions to implement field level activities ensures that much of project implementation can continue under moderate security threats.
Resistance or low levels of participation of local communities	Low	The project will be implemented in the existing CMPAs, where communities have already been mobilized. Moreover, will be implemented with full community participation, using existing governance structures to facilitate community engagement wherever possible, and with recognition for meeting economic/social needs of communities.
Provincial governments reluctant to bring policy reforms and strengthen regulatory framework to provide enabling environment for the effective management of community PAs.	Low	The draft National Wildlife Police acknowledges the role of local communities in biodiversity conservation and providing then economic incentives through creation of community-managed conservation areas and call upon provincial governments to strengthen participatory conservation approach and bring policy reforms for the effective management of community PAs. The KP government has already a new wildlife policy and Act in 2015, while GB and Punjab governments has shown their interests to bring policy reforms and strengthen their regulatory framework in line with the national wildlife policy. Therefore, it less likely that they resist to policy review and updating, and bring it at par with the KP.
Sustainable use (through trophy hunting) of wild species may be subject to restrictions on carriage or import of trophies.	Moderate	Trophy hunting has been promoted as a conservation tool and a form sustainable use of wild species across the world, especially in community managed conservation areas. It is currently the subject of intense debate, with a move to end or restrict it, including possible ban on import of trophies. Pakistan has successfully tested this approach through a community managed trophy hunting program and there are set policies and procedures put in place under the CITES guidelines. It is expected that this debate would continue and there is less likely that such a ban would be imposed. Moreover, project intends to introduce wildlife-based tourism as an alternate to trophy hunting to mitigate this risk.
Lack of coordination among federal and provincial governments, conservation NGOs and local communities	Low	Clear project institutional arrangements have been proposed that specify roles and responsibilities of the partner organizations.
Natural disasters (including those induced by climate change) in the CMPAs may slow or prevent implementation of some project interventions	Moderate	The project is designed to contribute to increasing the resilience of the target landscapes and communities prone to natural disasters. In the event of a natural disaster making work untenable in a Community PAs, the project will shift resources and activities in the other CMPAs until recovery of the area affected by natural disaster.

Some of the project outcomes will be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change e.g. habitat rehabilitation and alternate sources of livelihood to be introduced.	Moderate	The project has been designed to increase climate change resilience, especially in the areas prone to natural disasters like flash floods, landslides and drought. The sites for reforestation for habitat rehabilitation will be carefully selected in consultation with the communities and keeping in view historical information and future probability of such climatic events. Furthermore, the possibilities of potential climate change impact on the alternate livelihood opportunities will be studied during the initial stage of the project and appropriate mitigation measures will be incorporated in the annual plant of actions of the project.
Communities do not adhere to sustainable use of natural resources	Low	Integration of conservation with development through sustainable utilization of natural resources and compliance measures with proper checks and balances will help in mitigating this risk.
Restoration of degraded forests through community driven reforestation and promoting agroforestry farmlands may involve the risk of accidental introduction of Invasive Alien Species (IAS).	Moderate	The project will ensure that only native plant species that used to exist on degraded patches are planted under reforestation activities. Similarly, for agroforestry only planting of indigenous fast-growing species will be encouraged. Moreover, the Project's M&E system will provide sufficient information to measure the impact of reforestation and agroforestry on biodiversity in the CMPAs and surrounding landscape. These measures would help in mitigating this risk.
Intra and inter community conflicts on ownership rights and natural resources use	Low	Training of project staff and community representative in conflict management, peace & harmony, promoting collective decision making, and encouraging communities on transparency and respecting community traditional resource use rights will help in minimizing this risk.
Cultural norms limit gender integration, especially women's participation in project interventions	Low	Conducting awareness raising sessions and meetings with notables, political and religious leaders of communities will help in gender integration and ensure participation of women folks in project activities by respecting local cultural norms and traditions.
Insufficient data to produce knowledge for improved programs and policies	Low	Proven governance models are in place and already tested in GB. Increasing capacity through field-based training of the Community Wildlife Guides and training of wildlife department staff should improve the ability to collect larger, more thorough data sets and repeated mountain ungulate surveys.
Private sector will not be forthcoming to participate in the project and co-finance its activities	Moderate	So far, private sector, especially outfitters, tour operators, hoteling chains etc. have not be involved in the conservation activities, except a few multi-national companies who have supported some conservation projects under the CSR in the past. The mechanism for involvement of the private sector in community-based conservation will be further assessed during the PPG phase and a private sector's involvement strategy will developed during the inception phase of the project. Moreover, private sector will be included in the project board to involve them in decision making and their interests are considered. This may provide an incentive for them to participate in the project activities.

6. Coordination

Outline the institutional structure of the project including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the project level. Describe possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

The Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) will be the executing agency and over-see the project implementation through effective coordination with the GEF Implementing Agency (UNDP) and provincial governments. Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) will be the key Implementing Partner (IP) within the provisions contained in the NGO modality of the UNDP, for the coordination with other the GEF financed project please see 1a2) Baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects. On institutional arrangements, support services may be requested during project implementation. The Pakistan is a lower-middle-income country, however support to national implementing partners is needed for various activities including procurement, recruitment and operational transactions in addition to management oversight, such as the recruitment of national and international consultants, procurement of goods and services, and direct payments to international consultants [particularly goods and services to be paid in foreign currencies]. The main reasons for this are: the fact that the WCS Implementing Partner (IP) for this project has limited in-country capacity to hire qualified international consultants/consultation services; their procurement processes are very lengthy; and, they cannot make transactions in foreign currencies due to strict domestic foreign exchange control. At PPG stage, further analyses will be performed, for example including HACT assessments, to determine which entity is the best actor to provide these support services and what are the associated costs. In addition, other potential organization will be explored during the PPG phase.

7. Consistency with National Priorities

Is the Project consistent with the National Strategies and plans or reports and assesments under relevant conventions

Yes

If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc

The proposed project is consistent and aligned with the following national/provincial policies, strategies and plans, which is further elaborated in the table placed at **Annex E**:

Year	National Strategies and Plans
2019	Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Programme (TBTT-P)
2018	Clean Green Pakistan Movement (CGP-M)
2018	Draft National Wildlife Policy
2016	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)
2016	KP-Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (KP-BSAP)
2015	Sustainable Dev. Goal - 15 (SDG-15)
2015	National Forest Policy

2013	Pakistan's Vision 2025-–One Nation-One Vision
2012	National Climate Change Policy
2010	Aichi Biodiversity Targets

8. Knowledge Management

Outline the Knowledge management approach for the Project, including, if any, plans for the Project to learn from other relevant Projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

The proposed project recognizes the importance of knowledge management (KM). The approach to be adopted for the KM is briefly described below:

Project results and experiences will be documented and stored by the executing partners. Each project partner will be responsible for seeking and coordinating participatory learning and sharing information pertaining to project implementation. The project achievements and results will be shared with the stakeholders, researchers, and published as project reports and publications within and outside the project circle wishing to use the information for further research. It is the role and responsibility of the executing partners to ensure proper storage of data for future reference and use. Develop an online repository for knowledge management products for local communities. The repository will be hosted and maintained by the executing partners. A database on wildlife survey results and habitat assessment will be developed and shared with project partners and PAs communities. Information gathered from the field will be shared with all the project partners.

The publications and journal articles will be published and shared with the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and provided open access on the project website and the website of the MoCC. Efforts will be made to produce guidelines and strategies in national language, so that the same could be used by the local governance institutes.

Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And Gef Agency(ies)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).

Name	Position	Ministry	Date
Mr. Hassan Nasir Jamy	Secretary/GEF Focal Point-Pakistan	Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan	11/29/2019
Naheed S. Durrani	Secretary/GEF Focal Point-Pakistan	Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Pakistan	3/30/2020

ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place

Project Areas

The project areas will be located in two different geographic locations—1) Northern Mountain Region spans over four contiguous districts of Gilgit-Baltistan (Gilgit, Astore, Diamer, and Skardu) and one District of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Kohistan), and 2) Potohar Tract covering three districts of Punjab (Jhelum, Chakwal, and Mianwali). The project will be implemented in selected Community-managed PAs/Conservancies falls under these two landscapes. The ecological and socio-economic features of these landscapes are briefly described below:

Northern Mountain Region: The project areas fall under this region will cover parts of mountain ranges of Western Himalaya, Karakoram, and Hindu Kush. The region contains some of the world's high mountains and the landscape is dissected by narrow valleys and carved by the Indus River and its tributaries. The region has dry temperate climate with great variation in temperature, which range from extreme cold in winter (-18$_o$C) to highs of 45$_o$C in summer at lower elevations. Rainfall is sparse as the region lies outside the monsoon range. The area is rich in plants and animal diversity and is considered as biodiversity hotspot. The vegetation types vary from xeric plant communities to alpine zones and cold desert, encompassing sub-alpine scrub, dry-temperate coniferous forests, coniferous forests, stands of oak trees and birch forests. The area is famous for medicinal and economic plants, including mushroom, black cumin, endangered kut (Costus roots), and Non-Timber Forest Products like pine nuts, walnuts etc. The region supports range mammalian and avian fauna including healthy populations of snow leopard, flared-horned markhor, and Himalayan ibex. Other important wildlife species include Kashmir musk deer, Ladakh urial, Himalayan brown bear, black bear, wolf, Himalayan Lynx, and endemic Woolly Flying Squirrel. Among large birds Himalayan Griffon Vulture, Golden eagle, Himalayan snowcock, chukar partridges, monal pheasant, and western tragopan (only Kohistan District of KP).

It is expected that the project will be implemented in 24 CMPAs PAs falling in four districts of GB and one district of KP covering around 35 mountain valleys spread over an area of more than 8,000 km2. Estimated human population in the region is about 0.35 million spread across 230 villages and around 27,000 households. Communities living in these valleys largely depend on natural resources for fodder, fiber wood, and collection medicinal plants and NTFPs like Chilgoza pine and walnuts. Subsistence agriculture and livestock rearing are the main sources of livelihoods. Tourism is another important source of off-farm income for the marginalized mountain communities, which has been increasing for the last several years, especially domestic tourists. There are number of reasons for the selection this region for project, including presence of large number of CMPAs, globally important biodiversity components and critical ecosystems and landscapes of global significance as well as connectivity with government PAs and reduced habitat fragmentation. Proposed project sites in Gilgit-Baltistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are listed in the table below:

S.#	Proposed Project Sites	District	No. of Local Institution (WCSDO/VCC)	Area (In Hectares)	Key Wildlife Species
Gilgit-Baltistan Province—Existing CMPAs (To be further reviewed during the PPG)					
1.	Kargah	Gilgit	4	25,400	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, Kashmir musk deer, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Wolf, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, and snowcock
2.	Jutial (Jutial-Sakwar-Barmas)	Gilgit	3	19,420	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, Kashmir musk, Snow Leopard, Himalayan Lynx, Wolf, Asiatic Black Bear, Woolly Flying Squirrel, Lynx, Wolf, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, Snowcock, Monal Pheasant, & Snow Partridge
3.	Sai	Gilgit	2	32,600	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, Kashmir musk, Snow Leopard, Himalayan Lynx, Wolf, Asiatic Black Bear, Woolly Flying Squirrel, Wolf, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, Snowcock, Monal Pheasant, Koklas Pheasant, & Snow Partridge
4.	Sassi	Gilgit	1	18,600	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Asiatic Black Bear, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, and snowcock
5.	Danyore	Gilgit	4	48,300	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, Ladakh urial, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Wolf, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, Snowcock, and Monal Pheasant
6.	Harali	Gilgit	3	40,600	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, Ladakh urial, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Wolf, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, Snowcock, and Monal Pheasant
7.	Sikandarabad-Jaffarabad	Nagar	1	11,400	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Wolf, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, Snowcock, and Monal Pheasant

8.	Tangir (Luruk-Diamer)	Diamer	1	25,245	Markhor, Common Leopard, Leopard cat, Asiatic Black Bear, wolf, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, Snowcock, and Monal Pheasant
9.	Goharabad/Thalechi	Diamer	2	31,100	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, Kashmir musk, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Asiatic Black Bear, Woolly Flying Squirrel, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, Snowcock, Monal Pheasant, Koklas Pheasant, & Snow Partridge
10.	Nanga Parbat	Diamer	4	64,000	Markhor, Ladakh urial, musk deer, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Wolf, Asiatic Black Bear, Civet cat, Leopard cat Woolly Flying Squirrel, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, Snowcock, Chukar partridge, and Monal Pheasant
11.	Bunji	Astore	1	37,800	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, Ladakh urial, musk deer, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Wolf, Asiatic Black Bear, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, snowcock, monal pheasant, & chukar partridge
12.	Dashkin-Mushkin-Turbaling-Doyan	Astore	4	31,600	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, musk deer, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Asiatic Black Bear, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, snowcock, monal pheasant, snow partridge, and chukar partridge
13.	Rupal	Astore	2	52,400	Himalayan ibex, musk deer, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Asiatic Black Bear, Golden eagle, snowcock, monal pheasant, snow partridge, and chukar partridge
14.	Kalapani	Astore	2	65,000	Himalayan ibex, musk deer, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Asiatic Black Bear, Golden eagle, snowcock, monal pheasant, snow partridge, and chukar partridge
15.	Skoyo-Karabathang-Basingo (SKB)	Skardu	3	13,200	Markhor, Himalayan ibex, musk deer, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Wolf, Asiatic Black Bear, Golden eagle, Griffon Vulture, snowcock, monal pheasant, and chukar partridge
Government Managed PAs					

1.	Naltar (WS)	Nagar	-	27,206	Himalayan ibex, musk deer, Snow Leopard, Lynx, Golden eagle, snowcock, monal pheasant, and snow partridge
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province—Proposed CMPAs (To be finalized during the PPG)					
1.	Kaigah	Kohistan	1	5,000	
2.	Laachi	Kohistan	To be established	To be determined	Markhor, musk deer, common leopard, leopard cat, Asiatic black bear, wolf, golden eagle, Griffon vulture, Western Tragopan, and Monal Pheasant
3.	Sher Shal	Kohistan	To be established	To be determined	
4.	Utor (Kandia Valley)	Kohistan	To be established	To be determined	

Potohar Region: This landscape covers part of salt range and lowers hills Potohar tract of three northern districts of Punjab province. The elevation of hills falls between 400 to 1050 meter, where winter temperature drops down 4° C and summer temperature rise around 42° C. The average annual rainfall in the area 558 to 635 mm occurring in bimodal pattern and more than 70% of annual precipitation falls in the summer months. The vegetation largely comprises of tropical dry thorn scrub and sub-tropical forests. The major trees found in the area include *Acacia modesta, Capparis aphylla*, *Olea ferruginea*, *Ziziphus nummularia* and *Prosopis glandulosa*, whereas shrubs included: *Adhatoda zeylanica, Sageretia theezans, Maytenus royleana,* and *Dodonea viscosa*. The region is rich in dryland biodiversity and supports number animals and bird species of national and global significance. The important mammalian species include Punjab urial (*Ovis vignei punjabensis*), *Indian pangolin* or scaly anteater (*Manis crassicaudata*), and Chinkara Gazelle (*Gazella bennettii*). Among birds, grey and black partridges are found in abundance due to nature of vegetation and topography. The Government of Punjab has established 5 CMPAs in the region mainly for the conservation of Punjab urial, however the CBO established for wildlife conservation lacks capacity and require technical support for sustainably managing wildlife populations. In addition to these 5 CMPAs, another potential area is Kund Forests in District Khushab having good Punjab urial population. Technical viability of this site for conservation of remaining herds of Punjab urial will be assessed during the PPG. Further, socio-economic profile for this region will be developed during the PPG phase. Proposed project sites in Potohar Region of Punjab are listed in the table below:

S.#	Proposed Project Sites	District	No. of Local Institution (WCSDO/VCC)	Area (In Hectares)	Key Wildlife Species
Punjab Province—Proposed CMPAs (To be finalized during the PPG)					

1.	Western Jhelum CBO	Jhelum	To be determined	9,048	Punjab urial, chinkara gazelle, common leopard, wolf, Indian pangolin, Asiatic jackal, red fox yellow-throated marten, chakur partridges, seesee partridges, grey and black partridges
2.	Wildlife Lovers CBO	Jhelum	To be determined	1,200	
3.	Kallar Kahar CBO	Chakwal	To be determined	6,073	
4.	Photohar CBO	Chakwal	To be determined	2,650	
5.	Kalabagh CBO	Mianwali	To be determined	14,000	
Government Managed PAs					
1.	Chumbi Surla (WS)	Chakwal	To be determined	55,945	"

Annex B

GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet Use this Worksheet to compute those indicator values as required in Part I, item F to the extent applicable to your proposed project. Progress in programming against these targets for the project will be aggregated and reported at any time during the replenishment period. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

Core Indicator 1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use	*(Hectares)*
		Hectares (1.1+1.2)

			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			700,000	-	-	-
Indicator 1.1		Terrestrial protected areas newly created				

Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Establishment of 9 new CMPAs			100,000	-	-	-
		Sum	100,000	-	-	-

Indicator 1.2		Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness				

Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score		
				Baseline		Achieved
					Endorsement	MTR	TE
Community Managed PAs, Gilgit-Baltistan						
Kargah	Not yet assigned	VI	25,400			
Jutial (Jutial-Sakwar-Barmas)	"	VI	19,420			
Sai	"	VI	32,600			
Sassi	"	VI	18,600			
Danyore	"	VI	48,300			
Harali	"	VI	40,600			

Sikandarabad-Jaffarabad	"	VI	11,400				
Tangir (Luruk)	"	VI	25,245				
Goharabad/ Thalechi	"	VI	31,100				
Nanga Parbat	"	VI	64,000				
Bunji	"	VI	37,800				
Dashkin-Mushkin-Turbaling-Doyan (DMTD)	"	VI	31,600				
Rupal	"	VI	52,400				
Kalapani	"	VI	65,000				
Skoyo-Karabathang-Basingo (SKB)	"	VI	13,200				
		Sum	516,665				
Government Managed PAs							
Naltar (WS)	6750	IV	27,206				
Chumbi Surla (WS)	6690	IV	55,945				
		Sum	83,151				
		G. Sum	599,816	~600,000	-	-	-

Core Indicator 3	**Area of land restored**					*(Hectares)*
			Hectares (3.2)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE

			1,500	-	-	-
Indicator 3.2	Area of forest and forest land restored					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			1,500	-	-	-
Core Indicator 4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)					(Hectares)
			Hectares (4.1)			
			Expected		Expected	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			1,000	-	-	-
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity					
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			1,000	-	-	-
				-	-	-
Core Indicator 6	Greenhouse gas emission mitigated					
			Tons (6.1+6.2)			
			Entered		Entered	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
	Expected tCO2e (direct)		293,627			

	Expected tCO2e (indirect)		TBD				
Indicator 6.1	Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector						
			Tons				
			Entered		Entered		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR		TE
	Expected tCO2e (direct)		293,627				
	Expected tCO2e (indirect)		TBD				
	Anticipated Year		20				
Indicator 6.2	Emissions avoided						
			Hectares				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
	Expected CO2e (direct)						
	Expected CO2e (indirect)						
	Anticipated Year						
Indicator 6.3	Energy saved						
			MJ				
			Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
Indicator 6.4	Increase in installed renewable energy capacity per technology						
		Technology	Capacity (MW)				

			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Core Indicator 11		**Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment(Number)**				
			Number			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Female	800	-	-	-
		Male	1,200	-	-	-
		Total	**2,000**	-	-	-

Stakeholders' Engagement

Stakeholders	Engagement in the project preparation and implementation
The Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC)	MoCC led the consultation at federal level and coordinated input from the key stakeholders during the meetings on GEF national Steering Committee. The Ministry will also oversee the project preparatory and implementation phases and will insure the inter-provincial coordination. It is a key ministry for policy formulation regarding biodiversity and also acts as the focal ministry for the CBD. The office of the Director Biodiversity at MoCC will be closely involved during the monitoring and implementation of the project.
Ministry of Finance Economic Affairs Division (EAD)	The EAD will support in coordination with the GEF Implementing Agency (UNDP) and provide assurance for co-financing of the project through federal Public Sector Development Program (PSDP and from provincial government.
Ministry of Planning, Development & Reforms (MoPDR)	The MoPDR controls allocation of developments and provide grants for the public sector development projects, including environment and biodiversity. It also monitors the public spending. MoPDR will be the member of project Board and provide funds for co-financing of the project activities.
Zoological Survey of Pakistan (ZSP)	ZSP is an attached department of the MoCC and will be actively engaged during the habitat analysis and annual wildlife surveys.

Provincial Parks and Wildlife Departments of GB, KP and Punjab	The provincial Wildlife Departments have been consulted and they have provided input in preparation of this project concept. They be will be actively involved in the PPG phase and implementation of the project activities on the ground.
Provincial Livestock Departments, GB, KP & Pb	Provincial Livestock Department will be consulted during preparation of the Conservation and Development Plans (CDPs) and introduction grazing management in CMPAs.
Provincial Agriculture Departments, GB, KP & Pb	Provincial Agriculture Depts. will be consulted during preparation of conservancy level Conservation and Development Plans and developing INRM plans.
Local Communities	The primary beneficiary of project will be the local communities. Their CBOs (WCSDOs/ VCCs) have been consulted through the consultative session/meetings held with the office holders of CBOs in Gilgit while developing this PIF. Their participation will be ensured during the PPG Phase for full designing of the project. They will also be fully involved in the implementation of interventions related to wildlife, agro-forestry, pastures and livestock health. Local communities, particularly men, women and children are considered a direct beneficiary of this project.
Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)	The WCS has been actively promoting community-based conservation in GB since 1996. WCS has assisted the Government of GB in creation of 22 CMPAs and establishment around 65 community level governance institutions and have extensive experience as a leading conservation NGO in south Asia. WCS will act as IP under the NGO modality.
WWF-Pakistan	WWFs experience of environmental education and awareness raising will be utilized during the project implementation, wildlife surveys and as member of the DDCs.
Snow Leopard Foundation-(SLF)	The SLF is implementing PSLEP and involved in conservation, research and monitoring of snow leopards in Northern Pakistan. They have also undertaken community related programs for livestock insurance, livestock inoculation, awareness raising and education and community development activities. The project will benefit for their experiences.
IUCN - Pakistan	IUCN was pioneer in implementing community-based conservation initiatives in KP and GB. The expertise of IUCN will be actively utilized in implementation of the project and its initiatives, especially on knowledge generation and policy reforms
Agha Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP)	AKRSP is one of the pioneer organizations for initiating Rural Support Program in GB. Their field offices will help in community mobilization and strengthening local institutions.
Academic Institutions	Professors and students from Karakoram International University, Gilgit, Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar, PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi and Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad will be engaged in wildlife research, especially data collection and habitat assessment studies in the CMPAs

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Consistency and Alignment with National Priorities

The proposed project is consistent and aligned with the national/provincial policies, strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, which is elaborated in the table below:

National Policies, Strategies and Action Plans	Consistency and Alignment
Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Programme (TBTT-P) (2019)	The Government of Pakistan has launched TBTT-P in 2019 for revival of the forestry and wildlife sectors. The objective of the Programme is "to facilitate transition towards environmentally resilient Pakistan by mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation by promoting afforestation, biodiversity conservation and creating enabling environment." The proposed project will contribute to this objective by enhancing forest cover and promoting biodiversity conservation through strengthening local institutions, capacity building, biodiversity assessment, and improving CMPAs.
Clean Green Pakistan Movement (CGP-M) (2018)	The Government of Pakistan launched CGP-M in October 2018 with a vision to drive a nationwide movement by the people of Pakistan for clean and green environment. One of the 5-Pillars of the CGP-M focuses on "tree plantation." The proposed project will contribute to this movement through three concrete steps—1) strengthening local community institutions, 2) building capacities for reforestation of degraded landscapes, and 3) promoting agro-forestry over by planting 1.0 million trees on farmlands.
Draft National Wildlife Policy (2018)	The project is well aligned with the draft National Wildlife Policy, 2019, specifically with its three objectives—1) promote conservation of wildlife, including species, habitats, and protected areas through integrated and participatory approaches, 2) promote intrinsic, ecological, social, cultural and economic values of wildlife, and 3) ensure good governance in all affairs of wildlife conservation. The policy calls for strengthening for habitat protection and conservation of species of national and global significance and encourages conservation and sustainable use of wildlife through provision of economic incentives. The proposed project is in consistence with the national wildlife management priorities set under the draft policy.
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) (2016)	The project components are in line with the strategies of the NBSAP, especially Strategy 3—"local communities will be empowered and their capacity developed so they can act as custodians of PAs and landscapes." The project outcomes are also consistent with actions recommended under the NBSAP, specifically Actions 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12. The most relevant action is Action 8: local communities are empowered and their capacity built for collaborative management of PAs.
KP-Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (KP-BSAP) (2016)	There is considerable biographic variation in the country. In order to address the variation and corresponding challenges, the KP Government has prepared provincial Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (KP-BSAP). The project components 1, 2 and 3 are aligned with the Target 2, 5, 7, 11, 12, and 18 of the KP-BSAP.

Sustainable Dev. Goal - 15 (SDG-15) (2015)	The project will also contribute to achieving a number of SDGs, especially Goal 15—to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, restore degraded forests, and halt biodiversity loss. Specifically, the project outcomes and outputs are aligned with Targets 15.4, 15.5, and 15.9. The project will help achieving Target 15.a and 15.c through increasing capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities.
National Forest Policy (2015)	The proposed project in line with the National Forest Policy (NFP), 2015, which provided an overarching framework for reversing decline of forestry sector in Pakistan. The proposed project components are directly linked with three objectives of the NFP—1) promoting ecological, social and cultural functions of forests through sustainable management and use of forest produce including wood and NTFPs, 2) inter-linking natural forests, protected areas, wetlands and wildlife habitats to reduce fragmentation, 3) facilitating implementation of international conventions and agreements related to forestry, wetlands, biodiversity and climate Change.
Vision 2025 (2013)	Pakistan's Vision 2025-–One Nation-One Vision—developed by the Ministry of Planning and Reforms in 2013 considered climate change as a priority area. It highlights that global warming has caused shifts in biodiversity and there are indications of decline in biodiversity and natural resources. The document sets goals "to promote long term sustainability, conservation and protection of natural resources." The proposed project will focus on this goal by promoting sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity conservation.
National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) (2012)	All four components of proposed projects correspond to a number of policy measures recommended under the NCCP, including expanding PAs for conservation of wildlife and their habitat, and encourage sustainable use of NTFPs, including wild fauna and birds. The NCCP recommends "cross-sectoral integration of biodiversity conservation and encourages involvement of local communities in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity by establishing PAs in all vulnerable ecosystems."
Aichi Biodiversity Targets (2010)	The project will also contribute to Aichi Biodiversity Targets under the Goals B, C and E. Specifically, the project outcomes and outputs are well aligned with Targets 5, 7, 11, 12, and most importantly with Target 18, which emphasis on participation of local communities in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Proposed Project Activities and Targeted Areas

Project Components	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Targeted Project Areas/Sites
Component 1: Enabling policy and governance framework and institutional capacity on CMPA and INRM.	**Outcome 1.1:** Strengthened CMPA and INRM provincial policies on wildlife management and enhanced community governance capacities	**Output 1.1:** Wildlife Management through CMPA policy for Gilgit-Baltistan, KP, and Punjab prepared, and Wildlife Act of GB updated and adopted to strengthen Community-managed PAs and landscape level INRM.	Provincial CMPA policies for GB, Punjab, and KP prepared, while Wildlife Act of GB only will be updated and got approved from GB Government.
		Output 1.2: Thirty-seven (37) existing local governance institutions—Wildlife Conservation and Social Development Organizations (WCSDOs)/Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)], and 15 Conservancy-based Forums strengthened by re-vitalizing their functioning and establishing sectoral committees covering ~600,000 ha of CMPAs in GB.	15 existing CMPAs in GB (see targeted areas names/details at Annex A.
		Output 1.3: Successful governance models replicated/scaled-up to 9 potential areas — 4 in KP, and 5 in Punjab covering ~100,000 ha of mountain landscape.	For names of new targeted sites in Punjab and KP refer to Annex A.
		Output 1.4: Capacity in office & finance management for at least 110 office holders of local governance institutions (WCSDOs/CBOs) enhanced.	All 15 existing and proposed new CMPAs. See names under Annex A.
		Output 1.5: Capacity for participatory learning, resources assessment, and planning [by training at least 170 field staff of the provincial line departments and 200 Community Wildlife Guides (CWGs)] enhanced.	Participants to be selected from all 15 existing and proposed new CMPAs. See names of sites under Annex A.
		Output 1.6: Capacity in INRM [including wildlife management techniques, wildlife-based ecotourism, and agroforestry] for selected community members and field staff of the line departments enhanced.	*Wildlife techniques*: All sites *Ecotourism*: Kargah, Jutial, Sai, Bunji, and Rupal in GB; and Kallar Kahar & Photohar Punjab *Agroforestry*: Participants only from potential sites.

Component 2: Promote effective management of PAs and INRM in the three target landscapes in GB, KP and Punjab	**Outcome 2.1**: Status of critical species and their habitat improved / not deteriorated, as a result of project's focused biodiversity conservation and INRM interventions	**Output 2.1:** Co-management of PAs implemented by signing tripartite (Government, CBOs and conservation NGOs) Agreements and Terms of Partnerships for effective management of CMPAs, including implementation of community-based wildlife patrolling and monitoring system in 15 CPMAs (7 in GB, 5 Punjab and 3 in KP).	Co-management Agreements/ ToPs will be signed with all 24 CMPAs, while wildlife patrolling and monitoring system will be implemented in 15 CMPAs having sustainable trophy hunting activities and where Conservation and Development Funds are to be established.
		Output 2.2: Annual participatory mountain ungulate surveys conducted in selected CMPAs to support their co-management.	All existing and new CMPAs on rotational basis (50% Yr-1 and 50% Yr 2). See Annex A.
		Output 2.3: Recovery plans for endangered Kashmir musk deer and woolly-flying squirrel and threatened Ladakh and Punjab urial prepared and endorsed by relevant authorities.	*Musk deer:* Rupal and Kalapani in GB *Woolly Flying Squirrel*: Sai, Goharabad, and Nanga Parbat in GB. *Ladakh Urial*: Nanga Parbat, Bunji, Danyore and Harali in GB *Punjab urial*: All CMPAs in Punjab
		Output 2.4: Integrated Conservation and Development Plans (CDPs), including livestock grazing management, of existing 15 CMPAs of GB updated and 9 CDPs produced for new CMPAs areas (5 in Punjab and 4 in KP) through use of remote sensing technologies and participatory biodiversity assessment/appraisal of natural resources	See names of existing CMPAs in GB and of new CMPAs of Punjab and KP at Annex A.
		Output 2.5: Reforestation through community involvement by planting 1.5 million saplings of indigenous coniferous/scrub trees in degraded patches of mountain landscape (covering 1,500 ha)	GB: Rupal, Kalapani, Sai and Nanga Parbat Punjab: All proposed sites in Punjab (See Annex A).
		Output 2.6: Harmonized management plans prepared for Naltar WS in GB and Chumbi Surla WS in Punjab and adjacent CMPA	GB: Naltar Wildlife Sanctuary Punjab: Chumbi Surla Wildlife Sanctuary; see Annex A.
Component 3: Improve Livelihood and establish community	**Outcome 3.1:** Improved financial sustainability and new	**Output 3.1:** Community mobilization and engagement strategy developed and implemented for three (3) targeted landscapes (one each for GB, KP, and Pb)	Three separate strategy documents will be development based on local cultural and social norms focusing on targeted areas of GB, Punjab, and KP. (See Annex A

conservation funds for financial sustainability	alternate livelihoods for communities in the conservancies	**Output 3.2:** Fifteen (15) conservancy level Conservation and Development Funds (CDFs) (7 in GB, 5 Punjab and 3 in KP) established and made operational to ensure long term sustainability of CMPAs.	**GB:** Kargah, Jutial, Bunji, DMTD, Sassi, SKB, and Skandrabad **KP**: Kaigah, Utor, and Sher Shal **Punjab**: 5 CMPAs See Annex A for details
		Output 3.3: Potential wildlife-based ecotourism assessed, and model business plans developed for introduction of a new source of livelihoods in at least 5 selected CMPAs across GB & 2 in Punjab.	**GB:** Kargah, Jutial, Sai, Bunji, and Rupal **Punjab**: Kallar Kahar & Photohar
		Output 3.4: Livestock protected against selected contagious diseases which are also susceptible to spread to wildlife species by implementing livestock vaccination schemes in 15 CMPAs in GB, 5 in Punjab, and 4 in KP to limit the risk of disease spill-over to wildlife and human.	GB: Existing CMPAs (TBD PPG) KP: Proposed new sites (TBD PPG) Punjab: 5 CMPAs See details in **Annex A**
		Output 3.5: Promote agroforestry by planting 1.0 million indigenous tree species in the valleys over 1,000 ha to mitigate anthropogonic & climate change impacts on natural forests, wildlife habitats and high pastures	Selected CMPAs in GB and KP. The targeted sites will be finalized during the PPG.
Component 4: Knowledge management, awareness raising, gender mainstreaming, and monitoring & evaluation	**Outcome 4.1:** Knowledge on biodiversity and its values and co-management of PAs by communities documented and disseminated	**Output 4.1:** Lesson learned, best practices and knowledge management (KM) products produced and made available to planners, professionals and local communities through an online repository created and maintained in collaboration with the concerned government departments. This also includes a comprehensive impact assessment study of markhor and Punjab urial trophy-hunting's contribution to biodiversity conservation and local economic development.	At the overall project level.
		Output 4.2: Multi-media outputs produced (websites, social media, advocacy material, videos and conferences/seminars) to create public awareness and disseminate project results and successes stories.	At the overall project level.

		Output 4.3: Participatory monitoring, evaluation and learning strategy incorporating gender mainstreaming developed and implemented to facilitate adaptive project management.	At the overall project level.