

# GEF-8 REQUEST FOR MSP (1-STEP) APPROVAL

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## General Project Information

### Project Information

Project Title:

Strengthening Conservation of Primary Forests through Partnership Enhancement and Coordination of Support

Region:

Global

GEF Project ID:

11495

Country(ies):

Global

Type of Project:

MSP

GEF Agency(ies):

IUCN

GEF Agency Project ID:

Project Executing Entity(s):

FAO

UNFF

Griffiths University

IUCN

Wild Heritage Foundation

Project Executing Type:

GEF Agency

Others

Others

GEF Agency

CSO

GEF Focal Area (s):

Multi Focal Area

Submission Date:

1/30/2024

Type of Trust Fund:

GET

Project Duration (Months):

24

GEF Project Grant: (a)

2,000,000.00

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

180,000.00

Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

0.00

Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)

2,180,000.00

Total Co-financing

1,260,000.00

PPG Amount: (e)

34,599.00

PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)

3,111.00

PPG total amount: (e+f)

37,710.00

Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)

2,217,710.00

Project Tags

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

Project Sector (CCM Only):

AFOLU

Taxonomy:

Focal Areas, Climate Change, Climate Change Mitigation, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Biodiversity, Biomes, Temperate Forests, Tropical Dry Forests, Tropical Rain Forests, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Productive Landscapes, Forest, Amazon, Drylands, Congo, Sustainable Land Management, Land Degradation, Sustainable Forest, Influencing models, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Stakeholders, Communications, Awareness Raising, Strategic Communications, Public Campaigns, Education, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Capacity, Knowledge and Research

Rio Markers

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

### Project Summary

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

Given the irreplaceable roles of primary forests in carbon storage and sequestration, biodiversity, hydrological and other ecosystem services, and livelihoods support, conservation of these forests is fundamental for achieving multiple global goals, including the UNSPF Global Forest Goals and the objectives of the CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD and several SDGs.

Currently, there is insufficient recognition and conservation of primary forests globally, especially tropical primary forests. The lack of understanding and integration of the values and benefits of primary forests in global policy agendas and forest financing strategies has led to their inadequate prioritization, contributing to ongoing deforestation and loss of these vital ecosystems. Lack of coordination and information-sharing mechanisms has further hindered donor engagement and resulted in a funding gap that hampers effective conservation efforts.

The over-arching objective of this project is to strengthen the conservation of tropical primary forests worldwide through increased awareness among government and donor decision-makers and stakeholders of their importance in combatting climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation, leading to increased supportive funding and investments.

This will be accomplished through knowledge packaging and dissemination and capacity development that will raise the visibility of tropical primary forests among stakeholders, policymakers, and the public, transforming how they are perceived and ensuring their inclusion in forest financing strategies, conservation initiatives, and the global policy agenda. The project will also facilitate and stimulate financing for tropical primary forest conservation by establishing robust donor-recipient dialogue and coordination mechanisms and providing information on financing opportunities. The project seeks to enhance the work of the GFFFN, supporting countries in developing forest finance strategies that prioritize intact tropical primary forests. This transformative approach will strengthen financing mechanisms, foster innovative approaches, and mobilize resources towards the conservation of tropical primary forests.

The project aligns with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) in enhancing coordination on global forest issues among relevant international forest-related organizations.

## Project Description Overview

### Project Objective

Given the irreplaceable roles of primary forests in carbon storage and sequestration, biodiversity, hydrological and other ecosystem services, and livelihoods support, conservation of these forests is fundamental for achieving multiple global goals, including the UNSPF Global Forest Goals and the objectives of the CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, and several SDGs. Currently, there is insufficient recognition and conservation of primary forests globally, especially tropical primary forests. The lack of understanding and integration of the values and benefits of primary forests in global policy agendas and forest financing strategies has led to their inadequate prioritization, contributing to ongoing deforestation and loss of these vital ecosystems. Lack of coordination and information-sharing mechanisms has further hindered donor engagement and resulted in a funding gap that hampers effective conservation efforts. The over-arching objective of this project is to strengthen the conservation of tropical primary forests worldwide through increased awareness among government and donor decision-makers and stakeholders of their importance in combatting climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation, leading to increased supportive funding and investments. This will be accomplished through knowledge packaging and dissemination and capacity development that will raise the visibility of tropical primary forests among stakeholders, policymakers, and the public, transforming how they are perceived and ensuring their inclusion in forest financing strategies, conservation initiatives, and the global policy agenda. The project will also facilitate and stimulate financing for tropical primary forest conservation by establishing robust donor-recipient dialogue and coordination mechanisms and providing information on financing opportunities. The project seeks to enhance the work of the GFFFN, supporting countries in developing forest finance strategies that prioritize intact tropical primary forests. This transformative approach will strengthen financing mechanisms, foster innovative approaches, and mobilize resources towards the conservation of tropical primary forests. The project aligns with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) in enhancing coordination on global forest issues among relevant international forest-related organizations.

### Project Components

1. Increasing global recognition and support to primary forests: Raising the profile of primary forests in the global agenda and stimulating financing for primary forest con-servation by establishing robust donor-recipient dialogue and coordination mechanisms.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)

490,000.00

134,200.00

Outcome:

1. Profile of primary forests raised globally and financing for their conservation facilitated, promoted and stimulated.

Output:

1.1 Updated and promoted policy guidance for opportunities for further integration of primary forests into national and multilateral policy (including at UNFF).

1.2. Mapping of donors' financing priorities, challenges, commitments and existing frameworks and instruments related to tropical primary forest conservation.

1.3. Current donor financing frameworks (such as Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership) identified and linkages with them established.

1.4. Financing pathways established and disseminated offering different options for stakeholders, including women, for protecting tropical primary forests and restoring degraded and deforested areas around them.

1.5. Donor dialogues and events organized and convened in conjunction with UNFF and other relevant international meetings.

## 2. From science to reporting and global policy: Advocacy, capacity development and information sharing on the value of primary forests.

Component Type

Trust Fund

Technical Assistance

GET

GEF Project Financing (\$)

Co-financing (\$)

820,000.00

462,300.00

Outcome:

2. Values of primary forests recognized more strongly in global policy arenas and integrated into capacity building and monitoring.

Output:

2.1.1. Awareness campaign and advocacy to raise understanding about the unique values, benefits and irreplaceability of tropical primary forests and inclusion of tropical primary forests in MEAs' agendas.

2.1.2. Enhanced knowledge and capacity to monitor and report on the status of and trends in tropical primary forests.

2.1.3. Global monitoring framework on tropical primary forests to inform global, regional, and national policies and programs.

2.1.4. Consolidation of information on CPF members' work and results toward the conservation of tropical primary forests, as well as on the relevant work of OECMs and other processes, such as Payment for Forest Ecosystem Services (PFES) and REDD+, among others.

2.1.5. Increased knowledge sharing between PFDs of the CFB IP.

### 2.1.6. Enhanced project visibility and stakeholder engagement

## 3. In-country capacity building to promote investments: Enhancing the work of the GFFN in supporting mobilization of resources for conservation of primary forests.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
420,000.00	463,500.00

Outcome:

3. Increased capacity of stakeholders, especially women, to develop and implement national forest financing strategies for primary forest conservation.

Output:

3.1. National experts and other stakeholders, including women, are trained in the development and implementation of forest finance strategies that integrate resources for primary forests conservation.

3.2. Countries supported in the creation or strengthening of enabling conditions for attracting and scaling up public and private sector investment in primary forests conservation.

3.3. Enhanced investments in primary forests conservation by Indigenous people and other major groups, especially women.

### M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
88,350.00	

Outcome:

Output:

### Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1. Increasing global recognition and support to primary forests: Raising the profile of primary forests in the global agenda and stimulating financing for primary forest conservation by establishing robust donor-recipient dialogue and coordination mechanisms.	490,000.00	134,200.00
2. From science to reporting and global policy: Advocacy, capacity development and information sharing on the value of primary forests.	820,000.00	462,300.00
3. In-country capacity building to promote investments: Enhancing the work of the GFFFN in supporting mobilization of resources for conservation of primary forests.	420,000.00	463,500.00
M&E	88,350.00	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,818,350.00</b>	<b>1,060,000.00</b>
Project Management Cost	181,650.00	200,000.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>	<b>2,000,000.00</b>	<b>1,260,000.00</b>

Please provide justification

## PROJECT OUTLINE

### A. PROJECT RATIONALE

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

The development of this project is rooted in the unique and irreplaceable role primary forests play in our global ecosystem. As has been evident, primary forests are not just a collection of trees; they are complex ecosystems that host a vast majority of the world's terrestrial biodiversity, act as significant carbon sinks, and provide a myriad of ecosystem services that are essential for human well-being and survival. Based on data provided by governments to FRA 2020, it is estimated that primary forests worldwide account for 1.11 billion ha. Although the rate of loss of primary forest area has declined substantially since 2010, these critically important ecosystems continue under threat. From 1990 to 2020, 81.3 million ha of primary forest were lost.

As indicated earlier, the over-arching objective of this project is to prioritize the conservation of primary forests by elevating their importance in global discourse, including in MEAs, policies, investment decisions and reporting. The three specific objectives of the project correspond to the project's three components:

- To increase global recognition of and support to tropical primary forests;
- To strengthen capacity development and information sharing on the value of primary forests; and
- To promote mobilization of resources for conservation of primary forests by enhancing the work of the GFFFN.

The project's approach to addressing the threats faced by primary forests is multifaceted, focusing on three key areas of action: (1) raising the visibility of primary forests and their values, including in global policy agendas; (2) monitoring, reporting and sharing information on the status of primary forests; and (3) facilitating and stimulating financing for primary forest conservation and enhancing capacities to develop national forest financing strategies that advance primary forest conservation. These strategic areas of action have been chosen because they provide key levers for transforming beliefs and actions.

By facilitating and stimulating financing, the project addresses the significant funding gap that hampers effective primary forest conservation efforts. Establishing robust donor dialogue and coordination mechanisms and providing information on financing opportunities will work towards focussing and increasing the flow of funds specifically towards primary forest conservation. Raising the visibility of primary forests will address the lack of recognition and understanding of their significant values and benefits. The project will achieve this through capacity development and information sharing which aim to transform perceptions and ensure the specific inclusion of primary forests in forest financing, conservation initiatives, and the global policy agenda. By enhancing the capacity of countries and expert organizations to monitor and report on the status of primary forests, the project addresses the limited capacity and lack of reliable data that hinder effective conservation efforts. The project will promote knowledge sharing and training opportunities, with the aim of strengthening the focussed inclusion of primary forests in conservation efforts in countries with significant areas of these biomes.

#### **a. global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers**

We are confronted with a global crisis comprised of climate change, biodiversity loss, global health challenges, and food insecurity. Human activities, driven by short-term economic gains and the undervaluation of natural capital, have resulted in unprecedented loss of biodiversity and environmental degradation. Forests, covering 30% of the Earth's land area, play a crucial role in providing ecosystem services, supporting biodiversity, and sustaining the livelihoods of millions of people. However, deforestation and habitat degradation continue at alarming rates, threatening carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and critical ecosystem functions. Primary forests, encompassing intact forest landscapes, span various terrains worldwide. Predominantly located in regions including the Amazon, the Congo Basin, and Indonesia, they also appear as fragments within other expansive landscapes. These unique primary forest zones cover approximately a third of all currently forested areas, existing as unparalleled and irreplaceable global treasures that are reservoirs of biodiversity, powerhouses of carbon capture, climate regulators, and providers of essential ecological services that underpin the livelihoods of Indigenous communities and play a pivotal role in human well-being.

##### ***Root causes and barriers***

The most proximate causes of primary forest loss are anthropogenic, including processes such as climate change that are driven in large part by human activities. The common direct drivers include land use change, overexploitation of natural resources, climate change, pollution, and invasive alien species. Behind direct drivers are indirect drivers such as consumption and production habits, human population dynamics and weak governance. These indirect drivers are not always easy to identify. The combined effects of climate change and biodiversity loss will have the greatest impact on the poorest and most vulnerable in the developing world, including girls, women, and marginalised groups. The biodiversity crisis and climate change are interlinked – notably so in primary forests. One in 20 species will be threatened with extinction by even an increase in global temperatures of just 2°C, caused by anthropogenic climate change alone.

Although primary forests are found globally, there often exist some specific threats that differ from region to region. For example, key threats to biodiversity conservation, livelihoods and climate change in the Amazon region are habitat conversion through expansion of pastures and agriculture, and extractive industries, both legal as well as informal mining at the household level, complementing income from agriculture; illegal mining by small groups is expanding in some areas. These threats lead to deforestation and biodiversity loss, as well as water pollution (such as mercury by mining activities), affecting livelihood opportunities and public health, maintaining a structural poverty trap, and boosting carbon emissions exacerbating climate change. The causes are related to national policies in the region that generally prioritize economic development through mining and unsustainable land use such as cattle ranching, poor land use regulations and weak enforcement capacities of environmental authorities and local governments. Globally, the greatest loss of forests in recent years has occurred in countries with high population growth. This demographic trend has led to increases in both the extent and the intensity of shifting cultivation, and to some natural forests slowly being converted to plantation cash crops, contributing to forest loss in the region. The Congo Basin, for example, still contains huge areas of relatively intact biodiverse forest but is changing rapidly. Maintaining its natural forest cover into the future will be challenged by an expected doubling of the population by 2030 and an estimated fivefold population growth by 2100. Ecosystems across South-East Asia are threatened by an array of drivers, each of which increases the probability of extinction of species in a variety of priority hotspots. Deforestation rates in S.E. Asia are some of the highest globally and additionally it has the highest rate of mining in the tropics, the greatest number of hydropower dams under construction, and a consumption of species for traditional medicines that is a threat to biodiversity globally.

***Barrier Analysis:*** Taking these key threats, drivers and root causes into account, the barriers have been grouped together. Clearly, there are differences between each region and even within each region, both nationally and sub-nationally – and this project will focus attention on issues of global significance and those that can and need to be addressed at the international level. However, there are also several consistent barriers that emerge as constraining efforts to conserve these important forests globally. These are outlined below, followed by an examination of how these barriers may be tackled, with the corresponding strategies detailed in the proposed program objective that follows.

### **Barrier 1: Insufficient understanding and recognition of the values of primary forests**

Inadequate understanding of the significance of primary forests and weak institutional frameworks for their protection are consistent barriers globally. Typically, national governments, especially through their agricultural ministries, promote agriculture and/or commercial livestock, often without considering biodiversity impacts – for example in the promotion of commodity crops like coffee or cocoa and/or timber harvesting or logging. This is both in terms of perverse policy incentives and silo approaches in implementation. Primary forests are a complex and vital component of the Earth's ecosystem, embodying numerous biological diversities ranging from pathogens, minuscule plants to giant trees, grasses, insects, and animal species, as well as abiotic resources such as water, minerals and soil. Despite their critical role in maintaining the Earth's health and being a resource for economic growth, employment, food security, and energy, as well as in addressing climate change and other environmental challenges, they are often overlooked or undervalued. This lack of recognition and understanding can lead to unsustainable logging, disturbance from recreational activities, and natural system modifications from fire or its suppression, all of which pose threats to primary forests. Indeed, competing land uses, especially for food production to feed a growing global population, is exacerbating the pressure on remaining standing primary forests, with rich natural assets under increasing and often competing demands. Development activities and economic gains in primary forest biomes have led to significant environmental challenges in all cases. The lack of data and information on primary forests further hinders management, monitoring, assessment, and reporting of progress in global forest goals. This is very often compounded by a lack of capacity to implement or enforce laws and policies that exist to protect biodiversity or situations where laws contradict each other.

### **Barrier 2: Inadequate prioritization of primary forests in global policy agendas**

Primary forests often do not receive the prioritization they deserve in global policy agendas. Despite the international attention paid to deforestation, forest degradation, and improving forest management, primary forests continue to decline rapidly due to ongoing land-use encroachment. Deficiencies in international forest policy can be rectified over coming years but the window of opportunity provided in relevant negotiating forums is short-lived. Since the early 1990s, there has been a move to a UN focus on “all types of forests” (including non-forest ecosystem types). Under this approach, primary forests are treated, by default, as just one of many “types” of forests but are not receiving the special attention they require to maintain their unique ecological conditions and ecosystem services. This generalized approach to defining forests has dominated dialogue within the UNFF and has undermined the ability of the CBD, UNFCCC, post-2015 development agenda and SDG negotiations to explicitly recognize primary forests. The UNFCCC definition of forests, for example, fails to distinguish natural forests from plantations or primary forests from production forests. There is a clear lack of policy specificity and coherence on the pressure and impact on forests from other land uses such as agriculture and mining. Current incentives for forest protection are insignificant compared to other land uses. In addition, demand for products in wealthier, more developed countries can lead to detrimental environmental pressures in resource-rich regions such as the Congo Basin. Ever-increasing development of global commodity chains and consumer demand in Asia has given rise to greatly increased extraction of natural resources in tropical forests. These challenges, coupled with the lack of political will, weak governance, and institutional capacities, result in the inadequate prioritization of primary forests in global policy agendas.

### **Barrier 3: lack of technical, organisation capacities and information-sharing mechanisms**

The lack of coordination and information-sharing mechanisms among the different stakeholders, including donors, recipients and policy makers, is another significant barrier to the conservation of primary forests and has led to fragmented and ineffective efforts in conserving and managing primary forests. Furthermore, the lack of information-sharing mechanisms has hindered the effective dissemination of knowledge and best practices in primary forest conservation. This barrier is further exacerbated by the lack of sufficient, complete, updated, standardized, and comparable data, which hinders management, monitoring, assessment, and reporting of progress on management of primary forests in global forest goals. Crucially, this barrier is further accentuated by the underrepresentation of Indigenous communities, who possess deep-rooted connections and rich traditional ecological knowledge about primary forests. Their sustainable management practices and intimate understanding of these ecosystems are invaluable, yet often overlooked in technical and policy dialogues. The integration of Indigenous perspectives into conservation efforts is not only essential for a holistic approach but also for leveraging their sustainable practices and insights, which have been refined through generations of close interaction with primary forests. By bringing Indigenous knowledge to the forefront of conservation strategies, we can significantly enhance our understanding and sustainable management of these critical ecosystems.

### **Barrier 4: lack of incentives and funding for primary forest conservation**

The funding gap for primary forest conservation is a critical barrier that needs to be addressed and is a common challenge faced by most developing countries as well as a few countries with economies in transition. This funding gap fundamentally hinders the implementation of effective primary forest conservation strategies and measures, thereby posing a significant threat to their protection. According to the Forest Declaration Assessment’s 2022 Finance for Forests assessment, current public finance for forests amounts to less than 1% of the finance needed to meet the global goal of halting and reversing forest loss by 2030. From 2010-20, governments committed USD 25.3 billion of domestic and international public funding to protect and conserve forests — financing committed with a stated forest objective, or under REDD+ strategies. Flows increased between 2010-2020, with a significant period of growth between 2016-19. In 2020, however, finance flows fell by almost half, likely due to countries’ changing budget priorities in the COVID-19 pandemic. However, funding for forests will need to increase by up to 200 times to meet 2030 goals for forests. In addition to these constraints, High Forested Low Deforestation (HFLD) countries in particular, face specific financial difficulties. Despite their critical role in global forest conservation, HFLD countries receive a disproportionately small portion of financing from existing international climate finance mechanisms. These countries are crucial for the global fight against climate change and biodiversity loss, given their substantial forest cover and relatively low rates of deforestation. However, their unique position and contribution often go unrecognized in global

funding strategies, leaving them with inadequate resources to effectively manage and protect their vast forest resources.

## **b. baseline scenario**

The current baseline scenario paints a concerning picture of the future of primary forests and the associated environmental impacts of their destruction, depicting a disheartening trajectory where the ongoing trends of deforestation, habitat degradation, and environmental decline continue unabated, driven largely by unmitigated anthropogenic activities. This scenario is characterized by a range of systemic issues, including large-scale agricultural expansion, mining, and other industrial developments that encroach upon and degrade primary forests. These activities are often propelled by global market demands and exacerbated by local economic pressures, leading to extensive loss of biodiversity and disruption of critical ecosystem services.

Financial constraints are a pivotal aspect of this baseline scenario. The current funding allocated for the conservation and sustainable management of primary forests is grossly insufficient. This lack of financial resources severely limits the ability of countries, especially those in the developing world, to implement effective conservation strategies. The situation is compounded by inadequate policy frameworks and weak enforcement mechanisms, which fail to curb illegal activities or promote sustainable land use practices.

Moreover, the baseline scenario is marked by a significant gap in the capacity for effective monitoring and management of primary forests. There is a lack of comprehensive, reliable data on the state and trends of these forests, which hinders the ability to make informed decisions and formulate appropriate conservation strategies. This limited technical capacity in many regions further exacerbates the challenges of managing these complex ecosystems effectively.

Environmental implications under this scenario are profound. The continued loss of primary forests leads to a decline in global biodiversity, with irreversible consequences for numerous species, including those yet to be discovered. The carbon sequestration capacity of these forests diminishes, exacerbating the impacts of climate change. Additionally, the degradation of primary forests disrupts vital ecosystem services such as water regulation, soil stabilization, and climate modulation, which are essential for human well-being and the sustainability of the planet.

In essence, the baseline scenario represents a path of missed opportunities for conservation and sustainable management of primary forests. It highlights the critical need for a targeted intervention that can reverse these detrimental trends, ensuring the protection and resilience of primary forests for future generations. The scenario underscores the urgency of addressing the complex web of challenges facing primary forests through a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach that aligns with global environmental objectives and sustainable development goals.

The Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) is comprised of sixteen member organizations: CIFOR, CBD, CITES, FAO, GCF, GEF, ITTO, IUCN, IUFRO, UNCCD, UNDP, UNEP, UN DESA, UNFCCC, the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) and the World Bank. The current shared vision of the CPF is that "By 2030 all types of forests and forest landscapes are sustainably managed, their multiple values are fully recognized, the potential of forests and their goods and services is fully unlocked, and the Global Forest Goals, the Sustainable Development Goals and other global forest-related goals, targets and commitments are achieved." Collectively, its member organizations are implementing a wide range of projects and initiatives directed at turning this vision into reality. Significantly, this project seeks to consolidate the efforts of the CPF and its member agencies in their work on primary forests.

A wide range of stakeholders will be engaged in the implementation of this project, including indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, NGOs and the private sector, as well as policymakers at the national level and in relevant multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). To this end, the project will build upon the following GEF projects that promote stakeholder engagement through capacity building in which IUCN is either the lead

Implementing Agency or an Executing Agency in four; in those in which it is not the sole Implementing Agency it will liaise with the World Bank, UNEP, Conservation International and FAO:

- The Inclusive Conservation Initiative (GEF ID 10404)
- The Mesoamerica Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program (GEF ID 11273)
- The Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase 3 (GEF ID 11198)
- The Congo Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program (GEF ID 11241)
- The Guinean Forests - GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program (GEF ID 11142)
- The Indo-Malaya Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program (GEF ID 11102)

### **c. incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, and co-financing**

This initiative will provide a global process and platform for dialogue around primary forest conservation. It will build on the groundwork laid by the GEF-7 Sustainable Forest Management Integrated Program in the Amazon and Congo regions, where projects are just getting underway. Specifically, the first two components of this project will enrich the GEF-8 Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program with vital data on primary forests. This GEF-8 program aims to preserve the world's most crucial tropical forests, thereby maximizing global benefits related to carbon storage and biodiversity. It will address region-specific causes of forest loss and degradation through a multi-faceted approach: enhancing forest governance, supporting comprehensive land-use planning, fortifying protected areas, clarifying land tenure policies, promoting sustainable livelihood alternatives, and leveraging financial incentives like REDD+ and other Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) mechanisms. This program represents the most significant investment in the GEF-8 cycle. Additionally, the research outputs and communication materials generated by this Medium-Sized Project can serve as valuable guidance for, and inputs to, the GEF-8 Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program. This project will also seek to build linkages across the regional programs, which will reinforce the value of the GEF's investments.

Bearing in mind, that this is not a project to be implemented in the field, the five executing partners—Griffiths University, Wildlife Heritage, the UNFF Secretariat, FAO and IUCN will provide substantial co-financing in support of the project's activities, outputs and expected outcomes. The types of co-financing are detailed in the following table, amounting to \$1,260,000.

By aligning with and reinforcing the CPF's initiatives, the project aims to create a more cohesive and unified approach to primary forest conservation. This alignment includes leveraging the knowledge, resources, and networks of CPF members to enhance advocacy campaigns, policy interventions, and capacity-building efforts. The project's focus on information sharing and joint action among CPF members will foster a collaborative environment that amplifies the impact of individual and collective conservation efforts<sup>[12]</sup>.

IUCN, the project's implementing agency, has mobilized funding to support the participation of stakeholders and policymakers from International Model Forest Network Countries (IMFN) from Asia, Africa, and Latin America in this GEF project's global meetings and convenings. The funding from Natural Resources Canada and KfW, the German state-owned development bank, would enable policymakers from Cameroon, Bolivia, China, and Thailand to actively participate in this project's activities. The in-kind contribution from IUCN accounts for volunteer days that IUCN staff will contribute in global convenings, policy analysis and knowledge management towards this project.

## **B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

### **Project description**

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF's policy

requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the PIF guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

Intricate and essential elements of the Earth's ecosystems, forests serve as a rich reservoir of life and natural resources. They are home to an extensive array of biodiversity, from microscopic organisms and tiny plants to towering trees, diverse insect populations, and numerous animal species. This is particularly so for primary forests and IFLs. This proposed project is an ambitious and comprehensive initiative meticulously designed to bolster global attention and activate vital policy and finance levers to support their conservation. The over-arching objective of this project is to strengthen the conservation of primary forests worldwide through increased awareness among government and donor decision-makers and stakeholders of their importance in combatting climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation, leading to increased supportive funding and investments. It aims to accomplish this by elevating the importance of primary forests in global discourse, championing their crucial role in shaping the global forest policy agenda. This also includes ensuring that primary forests are at the forefront of forest financing strategies and investment decisions as well as reporting processes.

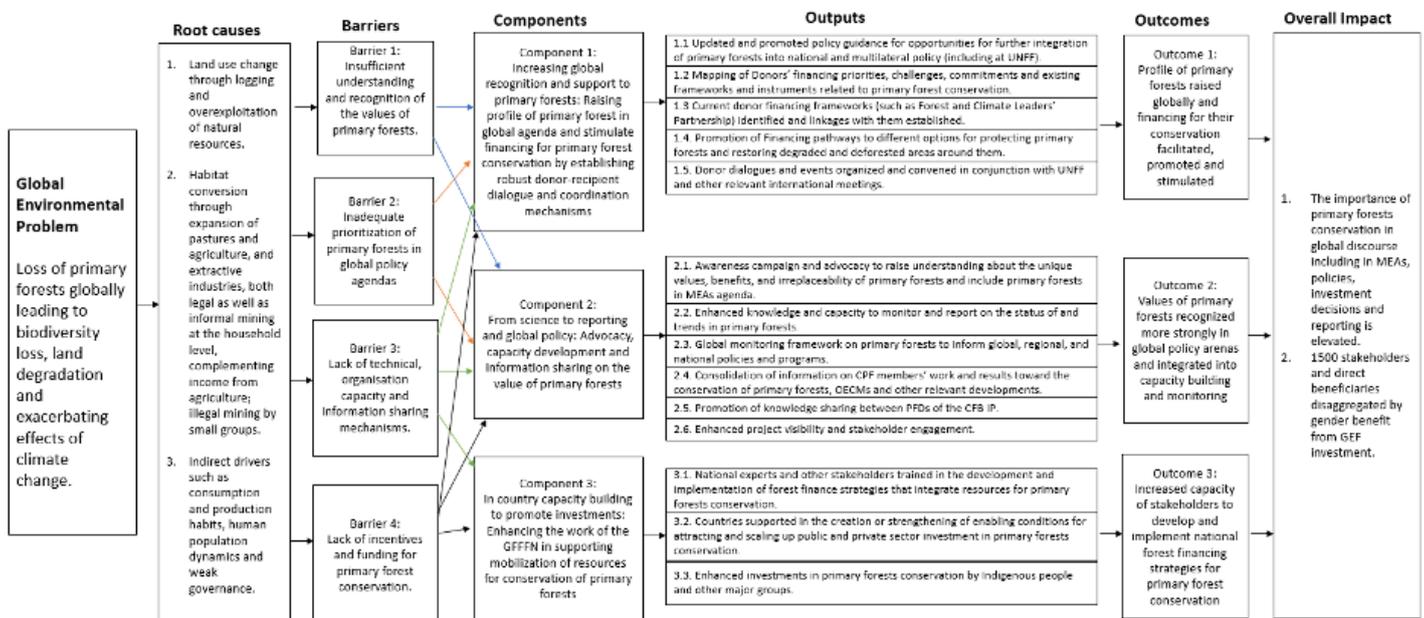
### **proposed alternative scenario with expected outcomes and components**[\[11\]](#)

The alternative scenario proposed by this project outlines a transformative and integrative approach to the conservation and sustainable management of primary forests, directly addressing the pressing challenges outlined above. Central to this project's strategy is the elevation of global recognition and support for the importance of primary forests by enhancing their prominence in global policy agendas and weaving them into national and multilateral policy frameworks. The project aims to stimulate financing for primary forest conservation through a multifaceted approach that includes updating policy guidance, mapping donors' financing priorities, and establishing robust donor dialogue and coordination mechanisms. A vital aspect of this strategy involves promoting diverse financing pathways, emphasizing innovative options for protecting primary forests and restoring the surrounding degraded areas.

In terms of capacity building, the project places a high emphasis on developing and implementing national forest financing strategies in various countries, particularly focusing on training national experts and stakeholders. This includes supporting countries in creating conditions conducive to attracting public and private sector investments in primary forest conservation. The project also underscores the importance of developing and implementing targeted training modules for Indigenous Peoples and other major groups, recognizing their crucial role in forest conservation.

Overall, this comprehensive approach combines financial, policy, advocacy, and capacity-building elements to effectively address the unique challenges facing primary forests. By integrating the work of the CPF and its member agencies, the project not only ensures a harmonized and impactful approach to primary forest conservation but also sets a precedent for a sustainable, scalable, and inclusive model for forest management globally. This scenario envisions a future where primary forests are recognized for their irreplaceable value, adequately financed, and sustainably managed, significantly contributing to the achievement of global environmental goals.

The Theory of Change for this project presents a coherent and interconnected pathway toward the goal of amplifying the value of primary forests in the global policy agenda. This pathway is not a linear progression, but rather a dynamic interplay of activities, outputs, outcomes, and overcoming barriers to collectively drive the project towards its end goal, centred on three key components. The Theory of Change addresses specific barriers that emerge when considering the root causes of primary forest loss: land use change, habitat conversion, and other indirect drivers, namely, insufficient understanding and recognition of the values of primary forests; inadequate prioritization of primary forests in global policy agendas; lack of technical, organization capacity and information sharing mechanisms; and lack of incentives and funding for primary forest conservation. This project addresses these barriers via three components with corresponding outputs, activities and intended outcomes to achieve the desired overall impact. In so doing, this GEF investment elevates the importance of primary forest conservation in global discourse and benefits 1,500 stakeholders and direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender.



Under component 1, global recognition and support of primary forests and stimulating financing is achieved by establishing robust donor-recipient dialogue and coordination mechanisms. These dialogue and coordination mechanisms rely upon updated policy guidance on integrating primary forests into national and multilateral policy and a thorough understanding of, and linkages with, donor interests and frameworks landscapes. Donor-recipient dialogue will create resilient partnerships that will better adapt to future changes. Subsequently, financing for primary forest conservation is facilitated, promoted and stimulated.

Outcome 1: Profile of primary forests raised globally and financing for their conservation facilitated, promoted, and stimulated.

- Output 1.1: Updated and promoted policy guidance for further integration of primary forests into national and multilateral policy (including at UNFF).
  - Activity 1.1.1: Prepare policy recommendations targeting key policy sessions and conventions.
  - Activity 1.1.2: Compile and disseminate analyses on the values of primary forests.
  - Activity 1.1.3: Assess overlap between primary forests, IPLCs, World Heritage, and biodiversity priority areas.
- Output 1.2: Mapping of donors' financing priorities, challenges, commitments, and existing frameworks related to tropical primary forest conservation.
  - Activity 1.2.1: Conduct needs assessment and stakeholder consultations among the major developing countries with primary forests.

- Activity 1.2.2: Conduct a survey and map the existing climate, global and regional financing frameworks to identify their priorities, opportunities, and challenges for financing conservation of primary forests.
- Activity 1.2.3: Coordinate and exchange lessons learned and experiences with existing and emerging initiatives in the area of conservation finance, such as CPIC and Project Finance for Permanence.
- Output 1.3: Current donor financing frameworks identified and linkages with them established.
  - Activity 1.3.1: Conduct surveys of existing climate, global, and regional financing platforms and partnerships.
  - Activity 1.3.2: Coordinate and exchange lessons learned and experiences with conservation finance.
- Output 1.4: Promotion of financing pathways for protecting primary forests and restoring degraded and deforested areas around them.
  - Activity 1.4.1: Desk-top review and development of funding options, including analysis of how to integrate and monetize primary forest values into national accounts using UNSEEA-EA as a reference level.
  - Activity 1.4.2: Case study in 2 High Forest Cover Low Deforestation (HFLD) countries on financing options.
- Output 1.5: Donor dialogues and events organized and convened in conjunction with UNFF and other relevant international meetings.
  - Activity 1.5.1: Organize donor-investment recipient dialogues and events in conjunction with UNFF or other relevant international meetings to match the interests of donors and the needs of countries with significant coverage of primary forests.
  - Activity 1.5.2: Convene dialogue with donors and HFLD countries building on the HFLD Platform, paying particular attention to investment opportunities that support primary forest champions especially among Indigenous Peoples, Women and Youth.
  - Activity 1.5.3: Based on the above, and dialogues (see 3.3.6), identify and prepare options and approaches for potential investment opportunities in primary forest conservation for communication to donors and other investors.

Under component 2, the value of primary forests is recognized in global policy arenas and integrated into capacity building and monitoring. Awareness and advocacy campaigns engage with key stakeholders, including IPLCs, to create enhanced knowledge and monitoring and reporting capacity which is, in turn, used to inform global, regional and national policies and programs. Globally, policy arenas regularly discuss the values of forests overall and oftentimes fail to identify and promote the specific benefits and heightened importance of primary forests. With this project, the values of primary forests will be recognized in global policy arenas and integrated into capacity building and monitoring.

Outcome 2: Values of primary forests are resolutely and firmly recognized in global policy arenas and integrated into capacity building and monitoring.

- Output 2.1: Awareness campaign and advocacy to raise understanding about the unique values, benefits and irreplaceability of tropical primary forests and inclusion of tropical primary forests in MEA's agendas.
  - Activity 2.1.1: Develop multi-media communication products and a major report on primary forests.
  - Activity 2.1.2: Organize workshops for key leaders to integrate primary forests into MEAs.
  - Activity 2.1.3: Work with civil society to promote primary forests in MEAs.
  - Activity 2.1.4: Identify and support IPs and Women as ambassadors for primary forests.
- Output 2.2: Enhanced knowledge and capacity to monitor and report on the status of and trends in tropical primary forests.

- Activity 2.2.1: Develop biome-specific guidance on reporting primary forests status and trends.
- Activity 2.2.2: Develop and test geospatial tools for primary forest area assessment.
- Activity 2.2.3: Organize regional capacity-building workshops.
- Output 2.3: Global monitoring framework on tropical primary forests to inform global, regional and national policies and programs.
  - Activity 2.3.1: Review of current approaches for defining and mapping primary forests
  - Activity 2.3.2: Analysis of Earth System data, together with available regional, national and subnational spatial on forest type, extent and ecological condition; and generating data syntheses and primary forest and related forest condition maps, and other policy relevant information services, for the Amazon and Congo basins
  - Activity 2.3.2: Organize regional workshops for updates on primary forest data in reports.
  - Activity 2.3.3: Publish a brief on the status and trends of primary forests.
- Output 2.4: Consolidation of information on CPF members' work and results towards the conservation of tropical primary forests, OECMs and other relevant developments, such as Payments for Ecosystem Services, REDD+ and others.
  - Activity 2.4.1: Consolidate information on CPF members' efforts in primary forests conservation.
- Output 2.5: Promotion of knowledge sharing between PFDs of the CFB IP.
  - Activity 2.5.1: Organize virtual meetings with all CFB IPs, IAs, EAs, and the project design teams.
  - Activity 2.5.2: Develop a proposal for enhanced linkages, learning, and visibility across the CFB IPs.
- Output 2.6: Enhanced project visibility and stakeholder engagement.
  - Activity 2.6.1: Develop a project brand and an event for COP 30.
  - Activity 2.6.2: Create a knowledge repository webpage.

Under component 3, in-country capacity building promotes investments into primary forest conservation. Forest finance strategies are bolstered by trained national experts and other stakeholders, enabling conditions for attracting public and private investment. Forest finance strategies are also strengthened by regional and national workshops, side events at international forums that present success stories, and training courses and events for stakeholders. Indigenous Peoples and other major groups also benefit from enhanced investments. Linkages between primary forest conservation and peoples' livelihoods are strengthened and empowered. Thus, stakeholders have increased capacity to develop and implement national forest financing strategies.

Outcome 3: Increased capacity of stakeholders, especially women, to develop and implement national forest financing strategies for primary forest conservation.

- Output 3.1: National experts and other stakeholders, including women, trained in the development and implementation of forest finance strategies that integrate resources for primary forests conservation.
  - Activity 3.1.1: Organize regional and national workshops on forest financing strategies.
  - Activity 3.1.2: Support and provide technical assistance in developing national forest financing strategies.
  - Activity 3.1.3: Provide guidance on integrating innovative financing mechanisms.
  - Activity 3.1.4: Organize side events at international forums to present success stories.
- Output 3.2: Countries supported in creating or strengthening of enabling conditions for attracting and scaling up public and private investment in primary forest conservation.
  - Activity 3.2.1: Develop policy and guidelines (toolkits, user guides) on creation of incentives and enabling conditions for attracting both public and private sector financing to primary forests conservation.
  - Activity 3.2.2: -Develop, administer and launch on-line and in-person training courses and events to disseminate the toolkits and user guides to relevant stakeholders.

- Output 3.3: Enhanced investments in primary forests conservation by/for Indigenous People and other major groups, especially women.
  - Activity 3.3.1: Develop training modules addressing capacity gaps in primary forests financing.
  - Activity 3.3.2: Organize workshops for sharing information and validating training modules.
  - Activity 3.3.3: Organize training workshops based on the modules.
  - Activity 3.3.4: Evaluate experiences and adequacy of financing of primary forests conservation, including major groups (notably among Indigenous Peoples, Women, Youth, Business and Industry).
  - Activity 3.3.5: Organize regional dialogues and roundtable meetings for UN Major Groups and philanthropic organizations with interest in financing the conservation of primary forests.
  - Activity 3.3.6: Assess experience with valuation and funding in Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.

### Knowledge Management

Knowledge management and learning activities (KM&L) are key to maintaining institutional memory and ensuring coherent and efficient decision-making. In this project, knowledge management provides the means to collect experiences, lessons and results from previous and ongoing interventions in tropical primary forest conservation in a structured and user-friendly format. Data on national and multilateral policies and programs; donor financing priorities, challenges, commitments and existing frameworks; financing frameworks; the value, benefits and irreplaceability of primary forests; CPF members' work and results; and other relevant data will be collated and shared. Thus, knowledge management will help maximize financing opportunities for primary forests (component 1), improve awareness on the value of primary forests (component 2), and improve in-country capacity building for future investments (component 3).

A new webpage under IUCN will support a culture of learning and act as a repository of all knowledge products from this project in a user-friendly manner that will be sustained beyond the project's lifetime. Project partners, in-country stakeholders and beneficiaries will be encouraged to link with other flagship IUCN tools such as the PANORAMA platform that bring additional attention to promising solutions. Additionally, linkages will be made with the CPF and UNFF websites. Workshops will be advertised, and multimedia materials will be presented, as will knowledge generated and packaged with links to regional IPs.

For further information on the project's knowledge management and learning plan, please see Annex N.

### **Innovation, sustainability, potential for scaling up**

- This project represents an approach to primary forest conservation that is distinguished by its innovative strategies in convening donors, High Forested Low Deforestation (HFLD) countries, major groups, and other stakeholders. This approach goes beyond traditional conservation methods, fostering a collaborative environment where multiple parties can come together to address the challenges facing primary forests. The project focuses on creating platforms

for dialogue and partnership, facilitating the alignment of various interests and resources towards common conservation goals.

The project puts emphasis on policy advocacy at both national and international levels, coupled with the engagement of a wide array of stakeholders. This inclusive approach ensures that the voices and concerns of all relevant parties, especially those directly impacted by forest conservation policies, are heard, and integrated into policy recommendations. Additionally, the project's commitment to utilizing Indigenous knowledge and practices in conservation strategies brings a unique and invaluable perspective to forest management, recognizing the deep connection and expertise of Indigenous and local communities.

Sustainability is achieved through targeted national-level capacity development. By building the capabilities of national governments and local institutions on forest financing, the project ensures that the momentum gained can be sustained beyond its lifespan. This includes training programs, development of monitoring tools, and knowledge sharing initiatives, all geared towards empowering national stakeholders to effectively manage and conserve their primary forests.

The potential for scaling up this project is significant, given its collaborative and inclusive framework. The project sets a precedent for how diverse groups, including governments, international organizations, NGOs, and community representatives, can work together towards a common environmental goal.

The engagement with the GEF-8 Critical Forest Biomes IP further amplifies this potential, allowing the project to disseminate its findings, insights, and policy recommendations to a broader audience. This interaction ensures that the innovative approaches developed by the project can influence forest conservation practices across various geographies and contexts.

Overall, this project is a model initiative in the realm of forest conservation, showcasing how innovative engagement strategies, sustainable capacity-building approaches, and collaborative efforts can lead to impactful and scalable conservation outcomes. Its focus on stakeholder engagement, policy advocacy, and national capacity development positions it as a pioneering and influential effort in global forest conservation.

### **Gender equality and women's empowerment**

This project acknowledges that gender equality and women's empowerment are cross-cutting issues within primary forest conservation, and that primary forest loss impacts men and women differently. Engaging with women, girls and other disadvantaged groups will be crucial to deliver all outcomes.

For component 1, engagement with women and girls will ensure that all updated and promoted policy guidance considers gender equity and thus improves the efficacy of said forest conservation policies and improves local people's livelihoods. By stimulating financing for primary forest conservation, the project will aid in closing gender gaps in access to and management of natural resources and incorporating more women into decision-making.

For component 2, raising awareness of the value of primary forests can be strengthened by highlighting the role primary forests play in local communities' livelihoods, particularly for women and girls. To improve knowledge and monitoring capacity of primary forests, initiatives must engage with local women and girls who oftentimes possess significant traditional knowledge on forests and rely upon its ecosystem services. In turn, such engagement will promote knowledge sharing and improve project visibility.

For component 3, enhancing in-country capacity building effectively and equitably requires engagement with local communities, particularly women and girls. Both public and private investment in primary forest conservations must incorporate key local stakeholders and not only avoid exacerbating or reinforcing inequalities, but rather take

meaningful steps to reduce disparities and to empower women, girls and members of traditionally disadvantaged groups.

IUCN's Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy will further strengthen the project's commitment to realising gender equality and women's rights and empowerment. UNFF, through its Major Groups engagement, will ensure the active participation of women and facilitate the identification and mobilization of women champions. Additionally, EAs will monitor and report the following minimum gender indicators: number of men and women that participated in project activities (e.g., meetings, workshops, consultations); and the number of strategies, plans (e.g., management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations.

### **Private sector engagement**

Engagement with the private sector is crucial to this project's purpose and success and will be incorporated into all appropriate components. Private companies can bring new technologies and funding sources that can improve primary forest conservation initiatives' effectiveness.

Under component 1, to stimulate financing for primary forest conservation, key private sector players will be invited to join meetings and workshops. This engagement will be vital to establish robust donor-recipient dialogue and coordination mechanisms. As private financial flows increase in importance within the conservation sector, the private sector will be one of the stakeholders engaged in capacity-building and information sharing events. Their insight into the conservation financing landscape will be instrumental to mapping donors' financing priorities, challenges, commitments and existing frameworks and instruments. The executing agencies will contribute potential private sector collaborations. Such potential collaborations may include UNFF's major Group focal points on business and industry, and IUCN's ongoing private sector partners.

Under component 2, private sector partners will also facilitate raising awareness of the value of primary forests and their conservation. Growing interest in forests in the private sector can be tailored to focus on primary forests specifically, enhancing the sector's knowledge of primary forests' importance and their trends. Growing interest in REDD+ mechanisms in the private sector will be carefully evaluated and considered when improving understanding about the unique values, benefits, and irreplaceability of primary forests. The project will seek to engage commercial private sector partners as well as small to medium enterprises to capture a wide range of perspectives surrounding primary forests and financing mechanisms.

Under component 3, private sector engagement can facilitate in-country capacity building by mobilizing resources such as funding and technology. Incorporating private sector players in the creation and strengthening of primary forest conservation mechanisms will promote future private sector investments.

### **Institutional Arrangement and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.**

Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this project, including financial management and procurement. If possible, please summarize the flow of funds (diagram), accountabilities for project management and financial reporting (organogram), including audit, and staffing plans. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

#### **A. Execution Arrangements and Partners**

In serving as the GEF Implementing Agency (IA) for this project, IUCN acts as a pivotal link with the GEF. IUCN's role as an IA encompasses designing and overseeing the execution of projects that aim to deliver significant global environmental benefits in line with the priorities of the GEF. The organization is dedicated to developing projects that are globally driven and effectively utilize GEF resources, all while maintaining the agility to capitalize on strategic conservation opportunities.

IUCN's responsibilities include:

- Overall Project Management.
- Facilitating interactions with the GEF.
- Providing technical and financial oversight to the Executing Agencies.
- Monitoring and overseeing the implementation of the project, including review of technical and financial reports, and ensuring compliance with environmental and social safeguards.
- Ensuring adherence to GEF requirements in project management practices.
- Administering GEF funds, approving budget modifications, and work plan adjustments.
- Conducting quality assurance and coordinating external audits.
- Preparing and submitting annual project implementation reports (PIRs) to the GEF Secretariat.

Executing Agencies: IUCN, United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Secretariat, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and Griffith University (in partnership with Wild Heritage Foundation) are the executing agencies of this project.

#### B. Project Management Unit (PMU) and Advisory Committee

Project Management Unit (PMU): The PMU, established by IUCN and based in the IUCN North America office, Washington DC, will be led by a Project Manager. The PMU is tasked with:

- Coordinating and integrating activities across various components and global partners.
- Ensuring efficient communication and collaboration among international stakeholders.
- Managing operational, financial, and administrative aspects of the project.
- Leading monitoring and evaluation efforts to track progress, measure impacts, and adapt strategies as necessary.

Project Advisory Committee: An Advisory Committee will be constituted featuring representatives from the GEF, IUCN, UNFF Secretariat, FAO, Griffith University, Wild Heritage Foundation, and other relevant global stakeholders who can be invited to be part of it. This committee's functions are:

- Providing strategic guidance and insights to the PMU.
- Ensuring that project activities are in line with global environmental priorities and align with the broader goals of GEF.
- Facilitating the exchange of knowledge, best practices, and collaborative learning among global conservation actors.
- Assessing project progress and offering recommendations for enhancing effectiveness and impact.

This institutional arrangement and coordination framework (Figure 2) is tailored to the project's global nature. It is designed to maximize effectiveness, ensure coherent implementation across diverse global contexts, and facilitate a collaborative approach among key global conservation entities, thereby aligning with the project's overarching goals and GEF's strategic objectives.

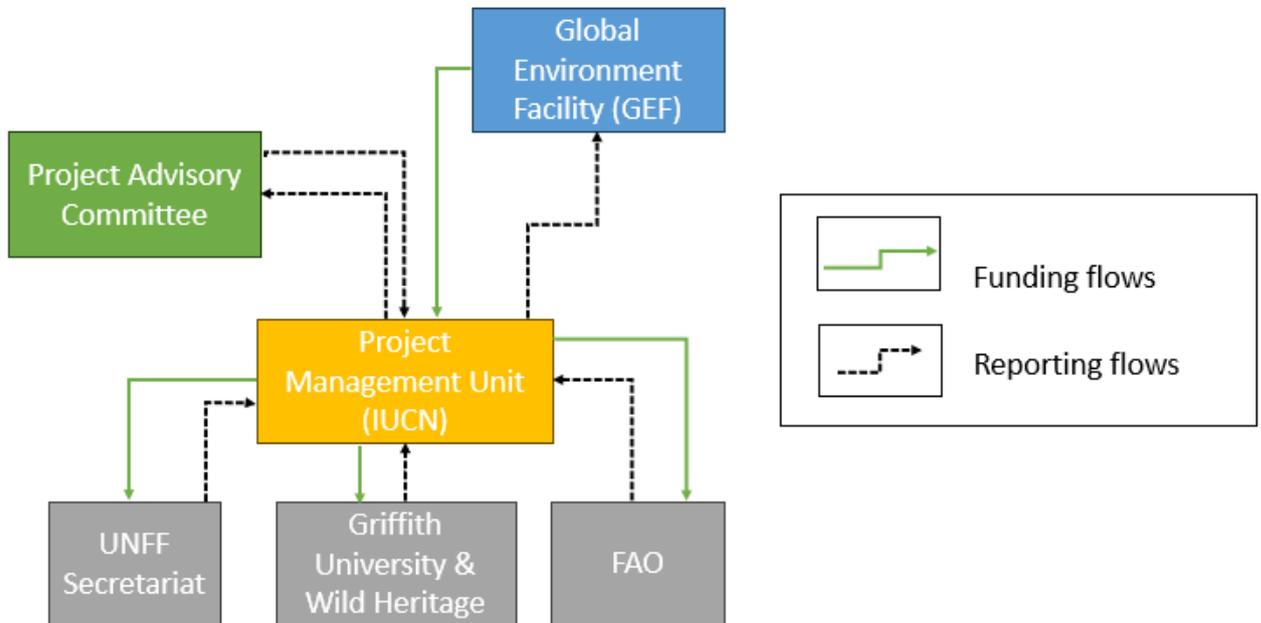


Figure 2: Institutional arrangement and coordination (also provided as Annex)

Will the GEF Agency play an execution role on this project?

Yes

If so, please describe that role here and the justification.

IUCN assumes a very targeted execution role, ensuring that critical linkages to other relevant GEF programs and projects are made and that this project has an established and visible identity. Tasked with liaising across the regional GEF 8 Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Programs, IUCN’s role is instrumental in harmonizing efforts and ensuring seamless collaboration among diverse international programs. This also extends to providing a platform for presentation of the project's comprehensive knowledge and communications materials, vital for sharing progress and insights among a wide array of stakeholders. Additionally, IUCN's responsibility in spearheading project Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) and knowledge management will help ensure the project’s objectives are met effectively and adaptively. Given the project's multifaceted nature involving various executing agencies, IUCN's execution role is not just a strategic choice but a necessity.

Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

**Coordination with other GEF projects and initiatives**

The following GEF projects will be engaged by this project:

Project	Proposed Coordination
Inclusive Conservation Initiative (GEF ID 10404)	The project will coordinate with the co-IAs IUCN and Conservation International to integrate stakeholders in capacity-building activities, workshops, and training modules,

	inviting them to participate in global and regional events relevant to this initiative.
Mesoamerica Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program (GEF ID 11273)	The project will lead IA IUCN will help synchronize activities with the Mesoamerica program, focusing on policy development and conservation strategies, and to facilitate stakeholder participation in key events and workshops.
Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase 3 (GEF ID 11198)	The project will coordinate with the World Bank to discuss collaborative approaches in policy development and forest conservation specific to the Amazon Basin, including stakeholders from this program in IUCN-led events.
Congo Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program (GEF ID 11241)	The project will liaise with UNEP to align conservation efforts and policy initiatives within the Congo Basin, involving key stakeholders in relevant project events and workshops.
Guinean Forests - GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program (GEF ID 11142)	The project will coordinate with Conservation International to explore synergies in policy work and conservation strategies for the Guinean Forests, encouraging stakeholder involvement in project events.
Indo-Malaya Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program (GEF ID 11102)	The project will liaise with the IUCN and FAO teams to coordinate policy and conservation approaches in the Indo-Malaya region, promoting stakeholder participation in events and workshops organized by this project.

The project management unit is situated in IUCN’s North America office in Washington, D.C. The IUCN team working on the GEF-supported Inclusive Conservation Initiative is also located in this office as well as the CI team who are also based in Washington DC, which will reinforce these important linkages and will ensure cross-fertilization of expertise.

## Core Indicators

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

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
<b>Female</b>		750		
<b>Male</b>		750		
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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

The direct beneficiaries of this project are divided into three principal categories: (i) those engaged in the implementation of project activities (80), (ii) participants in capacity-building training and workshops (250) and (iii) in-person and on-line recipients (1,170) of information disseminated on the importance and value of primary forest conservation. At this point in time, it is not possible to estimate the number of indirect beneficiaries of project outcomes, but it is expected to be considerable given the project’s global reach. More exact figures on direct and indirect beneficiaries could be calculated during the project’s implementation and reported via PIRs.

## Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Low	While climate change threatens both the existence of primary forests and their ecosystem services, it poses a very low risk of impacting actual project implementation and outcomes
Environmental and Social	Low	The project's social and environmental impacts are expected to be positive, and any potential negative social impacts would be minimal and swiftly rectified. Particular attention will be paid to ensuring that the project values, and does not undermine, traditional knowledge of primary forests, as well as to developing new financing mechanisms with key stakeholder input. Risk mitigation measures are embedded in components 2 and 3 and corresponding outputs. Traditional knowledge of key stakeholders will be crucial for awareness campaigns, advocacy, and improving monitoring capacity. Additionally, enabling conditions for public and private investment will require extensive collaboration with communities surrounding primary forests
Political and Governance	Low	The project's intention to elevate the importance of primary forest conservation in global discourse might face pushback from countries with extensive primary forest landscapes. Risk mitigation measures are embedded in all component

		activities: The project will utilize a science-based approach to policy campaigns that not only ensure legitimacy, but also consistently engage with key players including IPLCs, women, civil society, donors, and institutions via regional workshops and other collaborative activities. This extensive science-based engagement will ensure buy-in
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Low	Local policies may exacerbate primary forest loss and even contradict the project's purpose. Risk mitigation measures are embedded in component 1: policy guidance will facilitate integration of primary forest conservation into national and multilateral policy, minimizing contradictory strategies. Under component 2, enhanced primary forests visibility will facilitate the identification of such contradictory policies so they can be addressed and rectified.
Technological	Low	To mitigate risks associated with the technical design, the project will conduct detailed planning and regular review sessions, focusing on the adaptability and efficacy of the strategies outlined in Components 1, 2, and 3 to ensure that the project is and continues to be as impactful as possible while working in a changing context. This includes refining monitoring and evaluation methods, aligning project activities with the latest conservation science, and ensuring that technical aspects such as data collection and analysis are robust and accurate.
Financial and Business Model	Low	Increasing inflation and economic uncertainty globally may hinder the

		<p>success of the project’s intent to facilitate new financing mechanisms for primary forest conservation. Risk mitigation measures are embedded under component 1 and its corresponding outputs. Identifying donor financing priorities, challenges, commitments and existing frameworks will instil confidence and promote donor-recipient dialogue. Coupled with increased awareness surrounding the unique benefits and values of primary forests, external macroeconomic factors that may affect the project’s success can be diminished</p>
EXECUTION		
Capacity for Implementation	Low	<p>This project brings together agencies with long established track records for whom tropical primary forests are an institutional priority, as well as academic and civil society organizations that bring specific relevant expertise. All have had long term programs of work relevant to this project</p>
Fiduciary	Low	<p>IUCN is an established GEF Implementing Agency, with the procedures and safeguards required to fulfil this role. Most of the project’s work will be carried out by the Executing Agencies themselves with very few and modest consultancies that will trigger procurement procedures</p>
Stakeholder	Low	<p>The project will have adequate engagements with stakeholders. Project EAs have a long history of working with a wide range of stakeholders, including policy</p>

		makers, practitioners, civil society and the private sector, among others
Other		
Overall Risk Rating	Low	

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

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

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

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

The project's proposed interventions align closely with GEF-8 programming strategies, specifically the Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program and the biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation focal areas. The project will not only generate global environmental benefits, but also help make global food, health, and natural systems more resilient and equitable with an interrelated and interdependent approach. The project will also contribute to the following targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF):

- Target 3: Conserve 30% of Land, Waters and Seas
- Target 8: Minimize the Effects of Climate Change on Biodiversity and Build Resilience
- Target 14: Integrate Biodiversity in Decision-Making at Every Level
- Target 19: Mobilize \$200 billion per year for Biodiversity from All Sources, Including \$30 billion through International Finance
- Target 21: Ensure That Knowledge Is Available and Accessible to Guide Biodiversity Action
- Target 22: Ensure Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice and Information Related to Biodiversity for all

The over-arching objective of the project is to conserve tropical primary forest lands and protect them from further deforestation and degradation while preserving their important ecosystem function in mitigating climate change, thus contributing to the achievement of targets 3 and 8. Activities under project outputs 1.1, 1.5 and 2.1 aim to contribute to targets 14 and 22 by elevating the importance of primary forests in preventing biodiversity loss and combating climate change among policy- and decision-makers at the national and international levels, as well as among stakeholders. The promotion and development of national forest financing strategies under component 3 will support the achievement of target 19. The activities under outputs 2.2 and 2.3 to be implemented by FAO will contribute to target 21 by providing enhanced information on the status of and trends in primary forests.

#### Primary forests and biodiversity

Forests play a fundamental role for biodiversity: they host half of the world's known terrestrial plant and animal species, and they contain 80% of terrestrial biomass. Hence, there is an urgent need for their conservation and to halt the loss of their biodiversity and ecosystem services. Global species extinction rates are up to 1,000 times higher than the average over the past several million years and are accelerating. Around 25% of assessed plant and animal species are threatened by human actions, with a million species facing extinction, many within decades: 1.3 million km<sup>2</sup> of forests were lost between 1990 and 2016, the equivalent of 800 football fields/hour. There has been a 68% decline in global populations of fish, birds, mammals, and reptiles from 1970 to 2016. Biodiversity loss means loss of genetic resources, crop varieties, fungi, and invertebrates as well as entire ecosystems such as forests and wetlands. An Intact Forest Landscape (IFL) is a seamless mosaic of forest and naturally treeless ecosystems with few signs of habitat degradation and a minimum area of 500 km<sup>2</sup>. IFLs are critical for stabilizing terrestrial carbon storage, harbouring biodiversity, regulating hydrological regimes, and providing other ecosystem functions. Although the remaining IFLs comprise only 20% of tropical forest area, they account for 40% of the total aboveground tropical forest carbon.

Biodiversity loss is also a development issue. Around 300 million of the world's poorest people depend almost entirely on forests for their subsistence and survival, including 60 million Indigenous Peoples. A further one billion people depend on them for their livelihood. Over half of the world's GDP (\$44 trillion of economic value generation) is moderately or highly dependent on nature and its services, and 80% of the needs of the poor derive from biological resources. More than 70% of the world's poor live in rural areas and depend directly on biodiverse ecosystems for their subsistence. More than 3 billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity, while over 1.6 billion people rely on forests and non-timber products for their livelihoods. Habitat degradation and the loss of biodiversity are threatening the livelihoods of more than 1 billion people living in dry and sub-humid lands. The impact of environmental degradation and subsequent loss of biodiversity is most severe for people living in poverty, notably the rural poor and Indigenous groups. High-biodiversity areas supply over half of the planet's ecosystem services – such as food, drinking water, temperature and rainfall moderation – on which the poor depend. IFLs are also home to millions of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) whose livelihoods, culture and traditional stewardship is tightly intertwined with the ecosystem. Among these, the Amazon, Congo Basin and primary forests in Indonesia are critical for biodiversity and carbon storage and provide livelihoods and subsistence to communities that rely on forests and agriculture for their survival. Beyond the large intact biomes, some regions are also home to smaller patches of primary forests that are vital as biodiversity refugia and can serve as cornerstones for ecological restoration efforts in fragmented landscapes.

By increasing global recognition and support of primary forests and their conservation, the project will contribute to maintaining the integrity of critical tropical forests for biodiversity benefits. Primary forests act as biodiversity refuges and are critical, particularly in fragmented landscapes. Under [component 1](#) and [component 2](#), increased global recognition will be coupled with new financing opportunities that will in turn facilitate primary forest conservation, knowledge management, prevent primary forest degradation and facilitate future restoration initiatives. Improved capacity building and monitoring under [component 2](#) will strengthen the management of existing forests for better biodiversity protection outcomes and facilitate future public and private investments. Enhanced stakeholder engagement will improve both information sharing and management of ecosystem service flows directly reliant on biodiversity and preventing land degradation.

The project will integrate environmental, social and economic objectives surrounding primary forests, contributing to the implementation of the international development agenda related to financial incentives to conserve and restore critical forests.

### **Primary forests and climate change**

In the tropics, primary forests, IFLs, and forests with high ecological integrity, store more carbon than any other forests. It is estimated that forest ecosystems absorb up to a third of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, 84% in old and primary forests. Between 2002 and 2022, the world witnessed a loss of 72.5Mha of primary forests,

constituting 16% of the total tree cover loss during this period. Almost two-thirds of this loss was concentrated in just three nations: Brazil, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Indonesia. Approximately 56% of this depletion was attributed to large-scale agricultural, mining, and industrial activities, while shifting agriculture accounted for another 40%. While 12-22% of primary forests, including intact landscapes, enjoy protection status, the rest are exposed to potential harm. These unprotected expanses exist in a policy void, often overlooked by international entities, making their conservation challenging. Moreover, the preservation of these forests is intrinsically linked to the land-use practices in their vicinity.

In addition, the continuing role of primary forests as a carbon sink is not guaranteed due to climate change and deforestation. Primary forest ecosystems have a biomass carbon stock estimated to be 247 gigatons of carbon (Gt C) (193 Gt C stored aboveground and 54 Gt C stored belowground in roots), with almost half in Latin America (49%), and the rest divided between sub-Saharan Africa (25%) and Southeast Asia (26%). It is evident that the goals of the Paris Agreement will not be met without fully functioning primary forests, which represents the largest blocks of tropical forests in the world. Forest carbon stocks are often considered the principal mitigation value of IFLs. However, recent research has shown that intact forests are removing carbon from the atmosphere in far greater quantities than previously expected. When such forests are cleared, not only is their carbon stock released but also their future role as carbon sinks is lost. In 2022, deforestation in these regions resulted in the emission of 2.7 Gt of carbon dioxide, mirroring the annual fossil fuel emissions of India (see Figure 1). Between 2002 and 2022, the world witnessed a loss of 72.5Mha of primary forests, constituting 16% of the total tree cover loss during this period. Forests also play a crucial role in climate change adaptation efforts. They act as a food safety net during climate shocks, reduce risks from disasters like coastal flooding, and help regulate water flows and microclimates. Improving the health of these forest ecosystems and introducing sustainable management practices will increase the resilience of human and natural systems to the impacts of climate change.

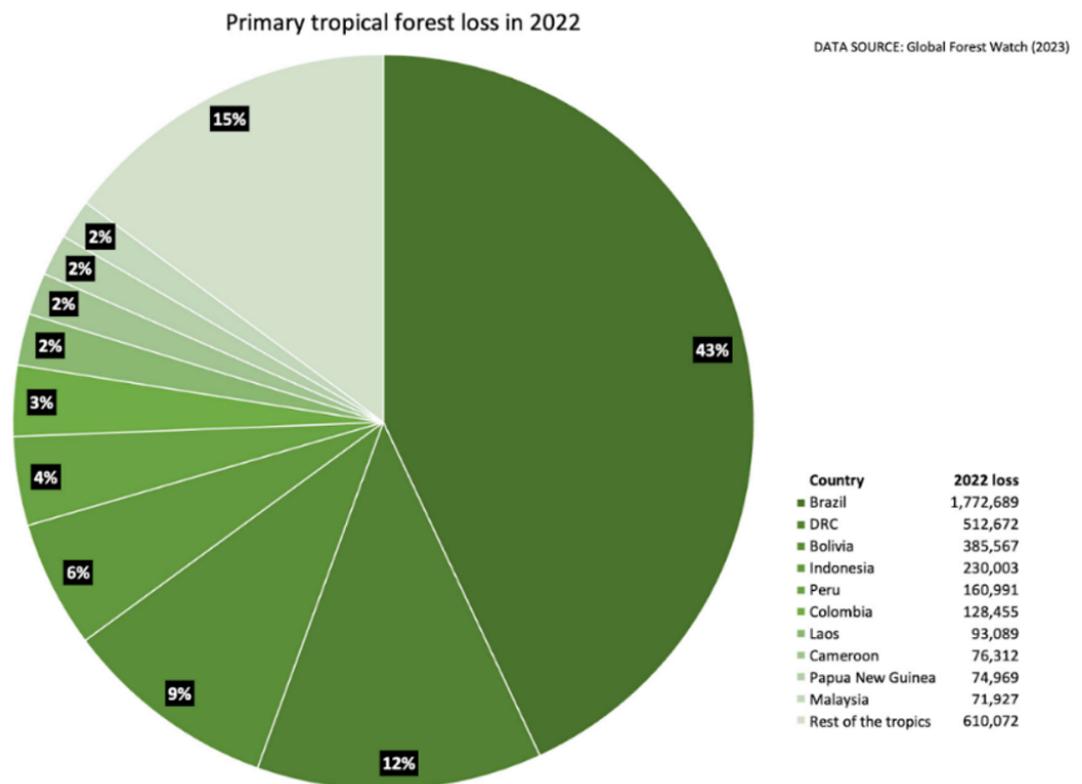


Figure 1: Primary tropical forest loss in 2022 (ha) (also provided as Annex I)

Currently, insufficient understanding and recognition of the values of primary forests, inadequate prioritization in global policy agendas, lack of technical, organization capacity and information sharing mechanisms, and lack of incentives and funding for primary forest conservation all restrict the protection of primary forests. The project's components and activities, in alignment with the GEF-8 programming strategies, will maximize the climate change mitigation potential of primary forests. Increased financing under component 1, for instance, will help safeguard globally significant carbon stocks and sinks. Under component 2, global monitoring of primary forests will improve the knowledge landscape surrounding the climate change mitigation benefits of primary forests, in turn informing global, regional, and national policies and programs. Under component 3, the project will increase the capacity of stakeholders to develop and implement forest financing strategies, creating future opportunities for climate change mitigation via primary forests.

### **Primary forests and land degradation**

Forests and tree cover combat land degradation. Logging of primary forests drives land degradation with forests being cleared and over-exploited, often for short-term gain and to the detriment of local communities. Without tree or plant cover, erosion occurs, and land gets swept away into rivers. After trees are removed, they are often replaced by agricultural plants that cannot retain the soil and this continues the pattern of land degradation, including from plants such as palm oil, soybean or coffee if their soils are not properly managed. As a result, degraded ecosystems are losing their ability to provide basic services, from the provision of food, water, and energy to the regulation of climate and disease. The agricultural producers, large and small, then move on to clear more forest that leads to continuing loss of soil.

Global warming and rising human demands on the planet's finite resources are worsening conditions. Higher temperatures, altered rainfall patterns, soil erosion, biodiversity loss and water scarcity are undermining the ability of entire regions to sustain human populations.

The scale of the problem is global: an estimated 20% of the Earth's vegetated surface shows persistent declining trends or stress on productivity, mainly due to poor management practices and intensive use. Between 2013 and 2019, it was estimated that at least 69% of tropical forest clearance for agriculture was conducted in violation of national laws or regulations (32 million hectares, or an area the size of Norway). The unlawful clearing of these forests, primarily for cattle, palm oil, soy, and pulp plantations, is fuelled by short-sighted national development priorities, a lack of regulatory enforcement, global trade incentives and, ultimately, consumer demand in developed countries.

Through increased global recognition and support of primary forests and their conservation, the project will also contribute to reducing and reversing land degradation. Primary forests are critical for preventing soil erosion leading to land degradation and protecting the provision of freshwater resources, particularly in fragmented landscapes. Under component 1 and component 2, increased global recognition will be coupled with new financing opportunities that will in turn facilitate primary forest conservation, knowledge management, prevent primary forest degradation and facilitate future initiatives for reducing and reversing land degradation. Improved capacity building and monitoring under component 2 will strengthen the management of existing forests for better protection against land degradation and facilitate future public and private investments. Enhanced stakeholder engagement will improve information sharing and management of ecosystem service flows directly reliant on conserving primary forests and preventing land degradation.

The project will integrate environmental, social and economic objectives surrounding primary forests, contributing to the implementation of the international development agenda related to financial incentives to conserve and restore critical forests and prevent land degradation.

## D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

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

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

Yes

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

Yes

If the project expects to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment, please indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

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

Improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or

Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

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

Yes

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

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

Yes

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

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

### **Private Sector**

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

**Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks**

We confirm that we have provided information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program, including risk screenings/ assessments and, if applicable, management plans or other measures to address identified risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex E).

No

Please provide overall Project/Program Risk Classification

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
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**E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

**Knowledge management**

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described during Project Preparation in the Project Description and that these activities have been budgeted.

Yes

**Benefits**

Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate and these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environmental benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF, SCCF). This section identifies the direct beneficiaries from the project.

The project is global and will not be operating on the ground in countries. Consequently, the benefits it will generate will be manifested over the medium- to long-term as policy changes for prioritizing funding of primary forest conservation and capacity-building in forest financing of primary forest conservation goes into effect.

**ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES**

**GEF Financing Table**

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional / Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
IUCN	GET	Global	Biodiversity	BD Global/Re	Grant	666,667.00	60,000.00	726,667.00

				gional Set-Aside				
IUCN	GET	Global	Climate Change	CC Global/Regional Set-Aside	Grant	666,666.00	60,000.00	726,666.00
IUCN	GET	Global	Land Degradation	LD Global/Regional Set-Aside	Grant	666,667.00	60,000.00	726,667.00
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>						<b>2,000,000.00</b>	<b>180,000.00</b>	<b>2,180,000.00</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

34599

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

3111

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/Regional / Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
IUCN	GET	Global	Land Degradation	LD Global/Regional Set-Aside	11,533.00	1,037.00	12,570.00
IUCN	GET	Global	Biodiversity	BD Global/Regional Set-Aside	11,533.00	1,037.00	12,570.00
IUCN	GET	Global	Climate Change	CC Global/Regional Set-Aside	11,533.00	1,037.00	12,570.00
<b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b>					<b>34,599.00</b>	<b>3,111.00</b>	<b>37,710.00</b>

Please provide justification

### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>					<b>0.00</b>

### Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CCM-1-4	GET	666,666.00	420,000.00
BD-1-1	GET	666,667.00	420,000.00
LD-1	GET	666,667.00	420,000.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>		<b>2,000,000.00</b>	<b>1,260,000.00</b>

### Confirmed Co-financing for the project, by name and type

Please include evidence for each co-financing source for this project in the tab of the portal

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	IUCN - Natural Resources Canada	Grant	Investment mobilized	200,000.00
GEF Agency	IUCN	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	80,000.00
Others	Griffiths University	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	90,000.00
Others	Griffiths University	Grant	Investment mobilized	124,000.00
Others	Griffiths University	Grant	Investment mobilized	66,000.00

GEF Agency	FAO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	70,000.00
Civil Society Organization	UNFF	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	90,000.00
Civil Society Organization	Wild Heritage	Grant	Investment mobilized	150,000.00
Civil Society Organization	Wild Heritage	In-kind	Investment mobilized	100,000.00
Civil Society Organization	Wild Heritage	Grant	Investment mobilized	150,000.00
Civil Society Organization	Wild Heritage	Grant	Investment mobilized	40,000.00
Donor Agency	IUCN-KfW	Grant	Investment mobilized	100,000.00
<b>Total Co-financing (\$)</b>				<b>1,260,000.00</b>

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

Griffiths University: \$124k investment mobilized via Government of Australia, and \$66k investment mobilized via Blue Carbon Ltd.

Wild Heritage: \$150k mobilized via Waterloo Foundation; \$100k mobilized via Rockefeller Brothers Fund; \$150k mobilized via Climate and Land Use Alliance; \$40k mobilized via Patagonia.

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator		Joshua Schneck	6502699903	joshua.schneck@iucn.org

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

Name of GEF OFP	Position	Ministry	Date (Month, day, year)

## ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Please indicate the page number in the Project Document where the project results and M&E frameworks can be found. Please also paste below the Project Results Framework from the Agency document.

Expected Outputs	Project Baseline	End of Project Target	Indicator	Means of Verification
Component 1: Increasing global recognition and support to primary forests				
1.1. Updated and promoted policy guidance for opportunities for further integration of primary forests into national and multilateral policy (including at UNFF).	To be developed	At least 3 policy guidance updated and promoted	Number of policy guidance documents updated and promoted	Policy documents, dissemination records
1.2. Mapping of Donors' financing priorities, challenges, commitments and existing frameworks and instruments related to primary forest conservation.	The donors mapping hasn't been conducted	Comprehensive mapping completed	Completion of mapping document	Report on donor's priorities, challenges and existing frameworks, PIRs
1.3. Current donor financing frameworks (such as Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership) identified and linkages with them established.	To be identified	Comprehensive assessment completed	Number of key financing frameworks identified	Documentation of developed pathways, reports
1.4. Promotion of financing pathways to different options for protecting primary forests and restoring degraded and deforested areas around them.	Donor mapping has not been conducted	Two financing pathways developed	Number of new financing pathways established	Documentation of developed pathways, reports
1.5. Donor dialogues and events organized and convened in conjunction with UNFF and other relevant international meetings.	To be determined	Two donor dialogues and events organized	Number of donor dialogue events organized	Event agendas, attendance records, meeting reports
Component 2: Advocacy, capacity development and information sharing on the value of primary forests				
2.1. Awareness campaign and advocacy to raise understanding about the unique values, benefits, and irreplaceability of primary forests and include primary forests in MEAs agenda.			Number of multi-media communications products, 1 major report, 1 workshop, 1 civil society coalition	Awareness campaign assessment report

2.2. Enhanced knowledge and capacity to monitor and report on the status of and trends in primary forests.		At least 2 regional workshops organized with minimum 40% women participants	Increased capacity in monitoring primary forests	
2.3. Global monitoring framework on primary forests to inform global, regional, and national policies and programs.		Earth analysis system data consolidated, forest map conditions of the Amazon and Congo Basins developed;	Functioning earth analysis system, forest maps	Earth analysis system, forest maps, PIRs
2.4. Consolidation of information on CPF members' work and results toward the conservation of primary forests, OECMs and other relevant developments, such as Payment for Ecosystem Services, REDD+ and others		Information on CPF members' work consolidated	Members' work is consolidated by the CPF Secretariat and presented at UNFF and other international forums	UNFF agenda, reports, PIRs
2.5. Promotion of knowledge sharing between PFDs of the CFB IP		One proposal developed to enhance coordination between regional CFB IPs	Proposal detailing pathways for increased collaboration between the regional CFB IPs	Proposal, meeting minutes, list of participants
2.6. Enhanced project visibility and stakeholder engagement		One project website	Project website	Project website
<b>Component 3: In-country capacity building to promote investments</b>				
3.1. National experts and other stakeholders, especially women, are trained in the development and implementation of forest finance strategies that integrate resources for primary forests conservation.		1000 beneficiaries trained of which at least 40% are women	Increased capacity of national experts and other stakeholders, including women, on forest financing strategies	List of participants, training reports, with specific data on women
3.2. Countries supported in the creation or strengthening of enabling conditions for attracting and scaling up public and private sector investment in primary forests conservation.		At least 2 countries supported	Country led proposals are submitted for investment in primary forests conservation	Proposals, meeting minutes

3.3. Enhanced investments in primary forests conservation for Indigenous Peoples and other major groups including women.		At least 1 training and 1 regional dialogue organized	Number of training and dialogue	Training agenda, testimonials, dialogue reports and participant lists, PIRs
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#### ANNEX D: STATUS OF UTILIZATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
Stakeholder engagement and travel	11,599.00	11,599.00	
Development support_Consultant	20,000.00	20,000.00	
Internal administration support	3,000.00	3,000.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,599.00</b>	<b>34,599.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

#### ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES

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

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

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

Attach agency safeguard screening/assessment report(s), including ratings of risk types and overall project/program risk classification as well as any management plans or measures to address identified risks and impacts.

Title

IUCN ESMS Screening and Clearance Report\_SCOPE

#### ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

## Annex G

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)						Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity
		Component 1	Component 2	Component 3	Sub-Total	M&E	PMC		(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
		Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3					
<b>Grants/ Sub-grants</b>									
<b>Sub-contract to executing partner/ entity</b>	Partners Engagement (for activities 1.2.1, 1.22, 2.14, 2.4.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2)	40,000	40,000	65,000				145,000	UNFF Secretariat
<b>Contractual Services – Individual</b>	IT support		30,000					30,000	Griffith University
<b>Contractual Services – Company</b>	Publications		30,000					30,000	Griffith University
<b>Contractual Services – Company</b>	Development of multi-media communication products		50,000					50,000	UNFF Secretariat
<b>International Consultants</b>	Int'l consultant 1: O1 -Finance Case Studies / O3 Analysis of Earth Systems data, spatial data and data syntheses	20,000		70,000				90,000	Griffith University
	Int'l consultant 2: O1 -Finance Case Studies	20,000						20,000	Griffith University
	Int'l consultant 3 (Activities 1.5.3, 3.1.2, 3.3.1,3.3.4)	30,000		40,000				70,000	UNFF Secretariat
	Int'l consultant 4 (Geospatial tool development and capacity development)		60,000					60,000	FAO
	Int'l consultant 5 (Biome-specific guidance and capacity development)		20,000					20,000	FAO
	Int'l consultant 6 (Geospatial support, documentation and capacity development)		30,000					30,000	FAO
	Int'l consultant 7 (Biome-specific guidance development , geospatial support and capacity development)		20,000					20,000	FAO
	Int'l consultant 8 (final project evaluation)						25000	25,000	IUCN
<b>Local Consultants</b>									
<b>Salary and benefits / Staff costs</b>	Global Project Manager					35000	140,500	175,500	IUCN
	Senior Officer	230,000	160,000	70,000				460,000	Griffith University

	Project Associate (PMC, Knowledge management, inception workshop)		80000			10000	41,150	131150	IUCN
<b>Trainings, Workshops, Meetings</b>	Meetings and workshop (Activities 1.2.3, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 3.1.1, 3.1.3, 3.1.4, 3.2.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.5)	70,000		115,000				185,000	UNFF Secretariat
	Regional capacity development workshop, Asia		30,000					30,000	FAO
	Regional capacity development workshop, Latin America		30,000					30,000	FAO
	Regional reporting workshop, Asia		30,000					30,000	FAO
	Regional reporting workshop, Latin America		30,000					30,000	FAO
	Project closing seminar						18350		18,350
<b>Travel</b>	Project related travel for workshops and meetings		70,000					70,000	Griffith University
	Project related travel for workshops and meetings	60,000	20,000	55,000				135,000	UNFF Secretariat
	Project related travel for workshops and meetings		60,000					60,000	FAO
	Project related travel for workshops and meetings		25,000					25,000	IUCN
<b>Other Operating Costs</b>	<b>Interpretation/translation/conference services</b>	20,000	5,000	5,000				30,000	UNFF Secretariat
<b>Grand Total</b>		490000	820000	420000		88350	181650	<b>2000000</b>	

[1] In exceptional cases where GEF Agency receives funds for execution, Terms of Reference for specific activities are reviewed by GEF Secretariat