GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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General Project Information

Project Title	
Integrated Landscape Management for Biodiversity Conservation in the Caatinga - Conecta Caatinga	
Region	GEF Project ID
Brazil	11565
Country(ies)	Type of Project
Brazil	FSP
GEF Agency(ies):	GEF Agency ID
Funbio	
Executing Partner	Executing Partner Type
Unselected CSO	CSO
GEF Focal Area (s)	Submission Date
Biodiversity	3/20/2024
Project Sector (CCM Only)	
Taxonomy	
Climate Change Mitigation, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Mainstreaming, Biodiversity, Biomes, Forest, Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Civil Society, Stakeholders, Type of Engagement, Gender results areas, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Drylands, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Productive Landscapes, Tropical Dry Forests, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Livelihoods, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Drought Mitigation, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Sustainable Agriculture, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Sustainable Fire Management, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Livelihoods, Local Communities, Participation, Community Based Organization, Women groups, Access to benefits and services, Awareness Raising	
Type of Trust Fund	Project Duration (Months)
GET	60
GEF Project Grant: (a)	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)
5,504,588.00	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)
495,412.00	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Total Co-financing
6,000,000.00	17,000,000.00
PPG Amount: (e)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)
64,000.00	5,740.00
PPG total amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)

69,740.00	6,069,740.00

Project Tags

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

Project Summary

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

The project aims to address environmental degradation and loss of biodiversity in the Caatinga, an exclusively Brazilian biome and considered the most biodiverse semi-arid region in the world, which faces significant challenges, such as deforestation, fires, desertification, wind and solar farms quick expansion and unsustainable use of resources.

Caating is also a unique Brazilian biome with high rate of endemism where conservation and sustainable use are globally important, its also a biome where land use change with deforestation and degradation increases GHG emissions.

Around 80% of its original ecosystems have been altered, negatively affecting biodiversity and the 27 million people who live in the Caatinga area. The low coverage and low level of implementation of protected areas worsen the situation. This project will be implemented in close cooperation with Project ARCA, approved in the first round of the GBFF.

The project's main objective is to promote integrated landscape management in the Caatinga through actions that encourage the conservation of biodiversity and natural resources, connecting public and private areas, the recovery of vegetation and water bodies, training and communication. The project has four components that seek to strengthen socio-environmental governance, promote the conservation and collaborative management of ecosystems, stimulate the development of a low-carbon socio-bioeconomy, and encourage innovation in public management and sustainability policies.

The expected results are ecosystem conservation and connectivity in 500,000 hectares, sustainable land use practices, and the implementation of innovative public policies for managing the Caatinga, contributing to territory connectivity, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and combating desertification. Carbon emissions mitigation will be calculated during the PPG phase, they are related to land use change towards more sustainable production that keeps natural vegetation and to integrated fire management. The project will be executed by a NGO with coordination done by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change with

substantial stakeholders involvement, including local communities, women, young people, governments, the private sector, and research institutions. The number of impacted people will reach 14 thousand.

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

The project objective is to improve biodiversity conservation, diminish GHG emissions and improve climate change adaptation through sustainable management of areas outside PAs in the Caatinga (drylands) biome, connecting well conserved areas.

Project Components

1. Territorial socio-environmental governance

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
840,000.00	700,000.00

Outcome:

1.1 Local territorial forums include conservation aspects

1.2 Effective participation of states, municipalities and civil society in territorial governance with women and youth participation

Output:

1.1.1 Support the creation of ## new local environmental governance forums with active participation of youth and women

1.2.1 Training of community members and social leaderships in environmental and institutional management, laws, public policies and sustainable practices (50% youth and women)

1.2.2 Support for community participation in environmental-related local forums

1.2.3 Support for the inclusion of actors related to the project in Bioeconomy discussion bodies (National Commission, Technical Chambers, regional Bioeconomy/Sociobioeconomy committee)

1.2.4 Support for the participation of community leaders on PAs management councils in the region

2. Collaborative Ecosystem Conservation and Management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
1,700,000.00	9,000,000.00

Outcome:

2.1 Faster adoption of sustainable and low carbon management

2.2 Improved fire management capacities for local communities

2.3 Sustainable income generation enhanced at the community level

Target:
500,000 hectares under better environmental management

leading to the establishment and maintenance of ecological corridors between PAs and other forest fragments

Output:

2.1.1 Sustainable use practices trainings in communities held with special focus on women

2.1.2 Rural extension/training of trainers with environmentally sustainable and low carbon management practices.

2.1.3 Support the creation of ## new private Protected Areas (RPPNs);

2.1.4 Support the recognition of OECMs in the region;

2.1.5. Community organizations are empowered to provide local support for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use

2.2.1 Training and support of community firefighting brigades;

2.2.2 Development of Community sustainable forest management plans for the responsible use of firewood

2.3.1 Encourage economically viable alternatives for sustainable practices in agriculture, such as agroforestry systems and integrated livestock farming

2.3.2 Survey of possibilities and barriers for innovation in production chains, diagnosis and traceability of compliance in access and benefit sharing

3. Innovation in Public Management and Sustainability Policies

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
2,100,000.00	5,500,000.00

Outcome:

3.1 Updates and enhance regulatory and policy environment that incentivize the adoption of sustainable practices

Output:

3.1.1 Detailed gap analysis and areas for improvement of the regulations and policies regarding environment conservation and climate change in Caatinga

3.1.2 Existing regulations are revised to update and enhance adoption of sustainable practices in the Caatinga

3.1.3 New regulation addressing policy tools/protocols regarding PES and Energy production in the Caatinga are drafted

3.1.4 Regulatory studies and regulation for the legal recognition of OECMs in Caatinga/Brazil are drafted

4. Knowledge, communication and project management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
500,000.00	1,000,000.00

Outcome:

4.1 Knowledge and information about better practices reach local and national stakeholders, including the ones regarding improved regulatory tools

Output:

4.1.1 Lessons learned and good practices are captured and documented

4.1.2 Lessons learned and good practices are disseminated locally

4.1.3 A strategy for adapting and replicating lessons learned nationally and are used to inform public policies

4.1.4 Project adaptative management in place

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
102,465.00	

Outcome:

Effective implementation of the project, with adjustments based on evidence.

Output:

Regular progress reports;

Mid-term review

Final evaluation

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
1. Territorial socio-environmental governance	840,000.00	700,000.00
2. Collaborative Ecosystem Conservation and Management	1,700,000.00	9,000,000.00
3. Innovation in Public Management and Sustainability Policies	2,100,000.00	5,500,000.00
4. Knowledge, communication and project management	500,000.00	1,000,000.00
M&E	102,465.00	
Subtotal	**5,242,465.00**	**16,200,000.00**
Project Management Cost	262,123.00	800,000.00
Total Project Cost ($)	**5,504,588.00**	**17,000,000.00**

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

Arid regions cover more than 40% of the earth's surface and are home to more than two billion people, and are the scene of critical dilemmas about how to balance development with conservation, facing problems such as water scarcity, soil degradation, desertification, and impacts on food security and livelihoods[1][1].

The Caatinga is an exclusively Brazilian biome, which occupies around 11% of the country's territory (844,453 Km²), and is the main ecosystem/biome of the northeast region, extending over nine states - five of which have more than 50% of their territory in the biome: Bahia, Pernambuco, Paraíba, Rio Grande do Norte and Ceará. The most recent data indicates a great wealth of environments and species, with 932 plant species, 178 mammal species, 591 bird species, 177 reptile species, 79 amphibian species, 241 fish species and 221 bees. Caatinga is home to 327 endemic species of fauna and 323 of flora[2][2]. It is the most biodiverse semi-arid biome in the world.

Around 27 million people live in the original Caatinga area, and a large part of this population is vulnerable and needs the resources of its biodiversity to survive. Historically, 80% of the original ecosystem have already been altered in a process of occupation that began in colonial times. Most degradation came through deforestation and burning of native firewood, which is exploited illegally and unsustainably for domestic and industrial purposes, deforestation was accelerated in recent years as in all Brazilian biomes, a trend that's been reversed in 2023. Overgrazing and conversion of natural areas to animal husbandry and agriculture are also drivers of environmental degradation in the region. Another driver of degradation is the fast installation of solar and wind farms to produce energy, although it is positive for climate change and the energetic transition, it is fragmenting habitats, interfering with local fauna and flora and altering the wind regime and soil insolation, which can affect ecological and rural production processes. This is also causing real estate speculation in rural areas for the installation of these projects and the social and psychological impact of shading and the constant noise emitted by wind generators. In addition to the visual impact and loss of arable land, there are reports of contamination and erosion due to the intense use of heavy machinery and inadequate soil management in the installation areas. These projects, although beneficial in terms of generating renewable energy, often fail to ensure equitable benefits for local communities that suffer from their negative impacts.

Because of those, deforestation in the biome reaches around 46% of the biome's area, according to data from the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MMA). The Mapbiomas Information System indicates that the total native vegetation of the Caatinga (i.e. the sum of the areas occupied by savannah, grassland and forest) occupied 63% of the biome in 2020, accounting for 9.8% of Brazil's native vegetation.

Caatinga has less than 10% of the biome is covered by protected areas, of which 2.36% correspond to full protection PAs (such as Parks, Biological Reserves and Ecological Stations), which are the most restrictive to human intervention, and 6.67% to Sustainable Use areas.

Since 2009, Brazil has expanded its federal Protected Areas (PAs) in the biome, with the highlight being the creation of the Serra do Teixeira National Park in 2023 – by the current federal govern, as well as previous ones such as the São Francisco River Natural Monument, the Boqueirão da Onça National Park and the expansion

of the Confusões National Park, increasing the protected area of the biome to around 7.5%. According to data from the National Register of Protected Areas, there are 252 protected areas in the Caatinga, of which 14 are municipal, 113 state and 125 federal, 29% are Full Protection and 71% Sustainable Use. The Caatinga Protected Areas project - ARCA (GEF ID 15509) was presented to the GEF in the first round of the GBFF and will specifically deal with expanding these areas and improving their management effectiveness. The ARCA project and the project presented here will be highly complementary, with the this project focusing on actions outside and between protected areas.

The conservation of the Caatinga is also closely linked to the fight against desertification, a process of environmental degradation that occurs in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas. In Brazil, 62% of the areas susceptible to desertification are in zones originally occupied by the Caatinga, many of which have already been substantially altered. In 2023, for the first time, a study by the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) and the National Center for Natural Disaster Monitoring and Alerts (CEMADEN) identified characteristics of an arid climate in the biome, as well as an increase in the area of semi-arid climate in the country. According to data from Mapbiomas, between 1995 and 2020 there was a decrease of 8.27% (-79,346 ha) in the area of water in the biome (https://brasil.mapbiomas.org/2021/10/06/desmatamento-queimadas-e-retracao-da-superficie-da-agua-aumentam-o-risco-de-desertificacao-da-caatinga/). According to the study, the Caatinga has become drier in the last 36 years. In addition to the reduction in total water area, there was also a 40% drop in natural water between 1985 and 2020. This category, which includes free-flowing streams, accounted for less than a third (27.48%) of the Caatinga's water surface in 2020. Most of it was retained in hydroelectric dams (42.69%) or reservoirs (29.61%). In the mapped historical series, the smallest extent of water surface (629,483 hectares) was recorded as recently as 2017. The average water surface mapped over the 36 years analyzed is 922,000 hectares. The shrinkage in water surface area occurred at the same time as the loss of 10% of natural areas (-5.9 million hectares). All the hydrographic regions of the Caatinga saw a reduction in natural vegetation cover between 1985-2020.

Those unsustainable uses of the land did not make most of the population wealthier. On the other hand, these same resources, if conserved and explored sustainably, can boost the region's development. Corroborating this situation in Brazil, the report 'Strategic Country Cluster Assessment: GEF Support to Dryland Countries - Volume 1: Main Report', prepared by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office for the 66th GEF Council Meeting indicates that: 'Working at the nexus of environment and socioeconomic development is even more crucial in drylands than in many other developing regions'.

In conclusion the Caatinga biome is unique and is deteriorating its landscape mainly because of:

- Conversion of natural areas for animal husbandry (goat and sheep)

- Deforestation to produce firewood
- Forest fires
- Wind and solar farms quick expansion

There are barriers to solve these issues in the biome that are organized in the table below.

Drivers of degradation	**Barriers to address the issue**
Conversion of natural areas for animal husbandry (goat and sheep)	Lack of knowledge or restricted access to sustainable management techniques
	Cultural resistance to changes in forms of production
	High costs associated with the transition to sustainable practices/ Economic difficulties in implementing changes or transition in production practices and land use
	Lack of access to technologies on sustainable practices.
	Incipience of incentives and financial mechanisms to support sustainable production
	Limitation of the conditions for mobilization of associations, cooperatives and rural unions representing rural producers.
	Local economic dependence on traditional activities
Deforestation to produce firewood	Absence of regulatory instruments guiding Forest Management in the Caatinga (in preparation).
	Reduced offer of employment of rural labor and income generation opportunities
	Insufficiency of practical measures for the conservation and management of priority areas of the biome and recognition of other conserved areas (OECMs).
	Limitation of the conditions for mobilization of associations representing traditional peoples and communities.
	Dependence of local communities on firewood as an energy resource.

	Lack of affordable and sustainable energy alternatives.
	Illegal logging is often cheaper than sustainably managed logging.
Forest fires	Lack of knowledge and awareness about the risks and negative impacts resulting from fires.
	Insufficient training of rural producers in the adoption and management of fire in agriculture.
	Little dissemination of sustainable rural practices beside producer associations and cooperatives.
	Adoption of traditional and financially less costly agricultural practices that depend on the use of fire.
	Insufficient supervision and control from environmental agencies.
	Lack of training and training of firefighters to combat fire and fires in natural areas.
	Lack of measures to adapt lifestyles to climate change.
Wind and solar farms quick expansion	Conflicts for land use between the installation of energy generation parks, traditional production practices and the maintenance of natural ecosystems and agroecosystems.
	Environmental and social impacts have not yet been satisfactorily disclosed, little evaluated and little mitigated.
	Lack of adequate regulation on the distance and location of energy facilities in relation to rural human settlements.
	Insufficiency of practical measures for the conservation and management of priority areas, creation of protected areas and recognition of other conserved areas (OECMs).
	Limitation of the conditions for mobilization of associations representing traditional peoples and communities

Although the drivers are different, some of the barriers that prevent addressing them are similar, indicating that corrective actions can have multiple benefits towards a more sustainable management of the Caatinga.

Organizing the barriers in similar topics help to see this:

- Barrier 1 - Limitation of the conditions for mobilization of associations representing traditional peoples and communities and participation in territorial governance forums, leading to “business-as-usual” predominance in discussions.

- Barrier 2 - Lack of knowledge, training in sustainable management practices, including usage of fire and climate change which is exacerbated by cultural barriers to adopt other forms of production.

- Barrier 3 - Costs to transition to sustainable practices and usage is high, including the use of sustainable managed firewood and the adoption of sustainable energy alternatives.

- Barrier 4 - Lack of regulatory instruments guiding Forest Management in the Caatinga and lack or weak regulatory/good practices measures for the installation of wind and solar farms.

- Barrier 5 - Insufficient supervision and control from environmental agencies and lack of training of firefighters to combat fire and fires in natural areas.

- Barrier 6 - Insufficiency of practical measures for the conservation and management of priority areas, creation of protected areas and recognition of other conserved areas (OECMs).

Caatinga and Livelihoods

Local livelihoods in the Caatinga are deeply intertwined with the biome’s natural resources. Many communities rely on traditional practices such as agriculture, livestock herding, and the collection of non-timber forest products. These practices, while essential for subsistence, can sometimes exacerbate environmental degradation if not managed sustainably. Promoting sustainable livelihoods involves integrating conservation efforts with economic activities. For example, agroforestry systems that combine crop cultivation with the planting of native tree species can enhance soil fertility, improve water retention, and provide habitat for wildlife. Such practices not only bolster biodiversity but also support farmers by diversifying their sources of income and reducing their vulnerability to climate variability.

When communities see direct benefits from preserving their natural environment, they are more likely to engage in practices that support biodiversity resilience. Therefore, to improve natural conditions in the Caatinga, adopting integrated approaches that address environmental and socio-economic factors is essential.

Caatinga and Climate Change

The Caatinga biome faces significant climate risks. Increased temperatures and prolonged droughts threaten the region's biodiversity, affecting the native flora and fauna that have adapted to its specific environmental conditions. Key species may be vulnerable to both the intensification of droughts and heat waves that can lead to soil erosion and habitat degradation. As water availability decreases, local communities reliant on traditional agriculture may experience food insecurity and economic challenges, further straining their livelihoods.

Moreover, climate change can alter the delicate balance of the Caatinga's ecosystems. The predicted increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events poses additional threats to the region's unique biodiversity. Invasive species may become more prevalent as native plants struggle to cope with shifting climatic conditions, leading to a decline in ecosystem health and resilience. The socio-economic impacts of these ecological changes can also exacerbate migration pressures, as communities seek more stable environments. Addressing these climate risks requires comprehensive strategies that incorporate sustainable land management, conservation efforts, and community engagement to safeguard the future of the Caatinga biome and its inhabitants.

Climate change screening for the project area shows that the area already has a temperature increase of 0.29°C from the historical mean and increasing temperatures in all scenarios from 2020 to the end of the century, with temperature reaching more than 1.5°C as soon as the 2040-2059 in the worst scenario and at least 1.02°C in the best.

	Temperature increase			
	2020-2039	2040-2059	2060-2079	2080-2099
SSP1 2.6	0.61°C	0.91°C	1.11°C	1.02°C
SSP2 4.5	0.65°C	1.20°C	1.76°C	1.98°C
SSP3 7.0	0.63°C	1.39°C	2.27°C	3.09°C
SSP4 8.5	0.78°C	1.71°C	2.84°C	4.11°C
Projected Average Mean Surface Air Temperature Anomaly for 2020-2099 (Annual) in project area; (Ref. Period: 1995-2014), Multi-Model Ensemble – World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal				

Regarding precipitation, a key aspect for drylands, all scenarios shows a decrease in precipitation even in the next years towards 2039 and the decrease only gets more steep by the end of the century with extreme results in the worst scenarios.

	Precipitation % change			
	2020-2039	2040-2059	2060-2079	2080-2099
SSP1 2.6	-5,81%	-7.06%	-9.35%	-7.77%
SSP2 4.5	-8.89%	-10.52%	-11.24%	-12.08
SSP3 7.0	-8.19%	-11.12%	-13.23%	-17.92%
SSP4 8.5	-9.52%	-11.61%	-14.73%	-19.06%
Projected Precipitation Percent Change Anomaly for 2020-2099 (Annual) in project area; (Ref. Period: 1995-2014), Multi-Model Ensemble – World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal				

These scenarios predictions make it clear that the region unique biodiversity risks being stressed by changing environmental conditions in the next decades and strategies to mitigate these risks are necessary.

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[1] Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation: GEF Support to Dryland Countries - Volume 1: Main Report', prepared by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office for the 66th GEF Council Meeting

[2] https://ispn.org.br/biomas/caatinga/fauna-e-flora-da-caatinga/

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[1] Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation: GEF Support to Dryland Countries - Volume 1: Main Report', prepared by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office for the 66th GEF Council Meeting

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

The project was developed based on the current strategy, instruments and policies actually under construction in Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's (MMA), on Landscapes Connection National Program – The Conecta Program (2018), which is still up to date, considering the dynamics of the biome's degradation vectors over the last 5 years and the recommendations of the report 'Strategic Country Grouping Assessment: GEF Support for Dryland Countries' specifically:

- The need for integrated and context-sensitive approaches to address socio-environmental and socio-economic challenges in dry areas.
- The fact that the Caatinga biome is historically underserved by public environmental policiesThe importance of improving policy coherence at all levels of governance, especially sub-national and local, to ensure the effective and sustainable implementation of environmental policies. The need to balance and mitigate trade-offs between the environment and socio-economic development, with special attention to the distributional impacts of these decisions, especially in pastoral areas.
- Improvement in monitoring and evaluation systems, with an emphasis on demonstrating biophysical changes associated with land management indicators

The intricate relationship between biodiversity resilience and local livelihoods offers a promising pathway to improving natural conditions and fostering sustainable development as the resilience of the Caatinga's biodiversity is inherently linked to the health of the ecosystem and the communities that depend on it.

Against the business-as-usual scenario, the project Integrated Landscape Management for Biodiversity Conservation and Mitigating Climate Change in the Caatinga (Conecta Caatinga) seeks to address these different aspects through actions linked to 4 components that are articulated, emphasizing the importance of an integrated approach that involves biodiversity conservation, sustainable management of natural resources, and the engagement of local communities and stakeholders. The project will address 5 of the identified barriers, while other will be influenced positively influenced by this project and the GBFF ARCA project.

The project will be developed in the territories that connect the following PAs:

- State Park Serra do Areal
- Environmental Protection Area do Boqueirão da Onça (ARCA supported)
- National Park Boqueirão da Onça (ARCA supported)
- Environmental Protection Area Lago de Sobradinho (ARCA supported)
- Environmental Protection Area Dunas e Veredas do Baixo Médio São Francisco (ARCA supported)
- National Park Serra das Confusões (ARCA supported)

New areas will be created by the ARCA Project, recently submitted for endorsement through the GBFF, this will likely create some new areas for this project to connect or create corridors. Funbio is the project executor for the ARCA project (WWF-US is the implementing agency) and will help coordinate the two projects in the region.

During the PPG phase a detailed spatial planning activity will be undertaken to support project activities. This kind of planning has used several different tools in Brazil, many times to support GEF projects. This planning exercise will use current data on endangered species, climate change impacts, forest cover, protected areas and hidrological data and will be done with the participation of experts on their fields.

COMPONENTS

The components are structured in a cross-cutting manner based on four thematic axes that aim to address the biome's main challenges.

- Component 1 - Territorial Socio-environmental Governance

This component aims to strengthen local governance capacity through the formation and strengthening of management councils, watershed committees, community associations and other forms of collective organization (barrier 1). This is an important step to achieve sustainable landscape management and important for long term sustainability of the project. In Caatinga this is especially important because the multiple uses of the landscape and the high vulnerability of its population, which difficult their participation in governance, this is even more acute with women and youth participation.

The project will work with communities in the area of the project in governance, participation and in awareness about sustainable practices and climate change impacts, linking the deteriorating aspect of traditional practices to weakening resilience capacity. This is a key subject to engage women, who are often responsible to health and the care of children and the elderly, and so, women participation will be fostered by the project both as main actors of engagement but also as one of the main vulnerable group impacted by nature degradation. This work will also impact the capacity for dissemination of sustainable practices, awareness about fires prevention, climate change and adaptation (barrier 2).

The activities include empowering local and traditional communities, indigenous peoples and other social actors to actively participate in decision-making and the implementation of policies and practices related to the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Project Outcomes and outputs in Component 1:

Outcome 1.1 - Local territorial forums include conservation aspects

Output: 1.1.1 Support the creation of new local environmental governance forums with active participation of youth and women – the project will support the creation (or re-activation if there are dormant forums) and initial support (meetings and training) for local governance forums to address biodiversity conservation and sustainable landscape management.

Outcome 1.2 Effective participation of states, municipalities and civil society in territorial governance with women and youth participation

Output: 1.2.1 Training of community members and social leaderships in environmental and institutional management, laws, public policies and sustainable practices (50% youth and women) – these trainings will enhance the capacity of local stakeholders to be more effective in the discussions in the local forums,

empowering them to voice their concerns and participate in the solutions for the environmental issues they want to address. This output will give special attention for the participation of women and the youth.

Output: 1.2.2 Support for community participation in environmental-related local forums – having supported the creation or re-activation of local forums and supported the empowerment of local stakeholders, the project will give support for the participation in the forums itself, including measures for effective women participation (ex. childcare during the meetings)

Output: 1.2.3 Support for the inclusion of actors related to the project in Bioeconomy discussion bodies (National Commission, Technical Chambers, regional Bioeconomy/Sociobioeconomy committee) – the project will identify leaders among the local communities and support their participation in regional or national discussions regarding bioeconomy which are often focused in the Amazon and Cerrado and much less in the Caatinga biome.

Output: 1.2.4 Support for the participation of community leaders on PAs management councils in the region – one of the grievances identified during stakeholders consultation, and that have been seen before in other projects, is a gap between PA managers (usually government staff) and local communities, which many times lead to less or no collaboration between the protected areas and the communities in its surroundings. Many times the PAs don't have a working council, but the ARCA project will support the work of councils in all its supported PAs, removing this barrier, and this project will support the participation of local communities, already trained in conservation aspects and participating in other local forums to engage and participate in PA councils.

The expected goal of this component is a more inclusive environmental-capable governance regarding landscape management. This is also important because these forums are one of the ways to influence political will, which in turn influence public policies and budgets, potentially paving the way for more domestic resources mobilization. If the environmental aspects of Caatinga, and the people most vulnerable to the deteriorating impacts of business-as-usual scenario, does not brought up the issues in these forums, local and regional officials have less incentive to act on the matter.

- Component 2 - Collaborative Ecosystem Conservation and Management

This component aims to build the capacity of the various actors involved in integrated landscape management in the Caatinga for management, conservation of terrestrial and aquatics ecosystems, included the natural regeneration of vegetation and physical management of streams, directly addressing barrier 2 and partially

barrier 6. To address barrier 2 the project will support trainings, training materials (physical and online) in sustainable management practices, including fire prevention and integrated agro-forestry productions. The focus will be groups and communities in the areas between protected areas, in order to support the establishments and maintenance of ecological corridors, this will include activities to foster the creation of private protected areas (RPPN) and adequate management in those areas, which addresses barrier 6. OECMs to be used in Brazil needs regulation, which will be focused on component 3 (regulation), in time to be included as a tool to be implemented in this component. Finally, the activities proposed in the component increase resilience against climate impact and mitigate emissions by lowering forest fires and burning, but also by recovering degraded land. The climate mitigation benefit will be calculated in the project preparation phase using the Ex-Act tool from FAO.

Beyond the project target areas, and addressing knowledge management and dissemination, the sustainable management practices will be disseminated in different ways: using the territorial forums supported in component 1; online availability and in coordination other projects (ex. ARCA project, Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands project, Wildlife Territories Project, Floresta Viva project, to name a few under Funbio implementation or execution).

This component is especially important for gender integration, as women play roles in production that are often neglected or not valued. Nevertheless, women are stewards of food security and family health, which is directly linked to climate change adaptation. During the project preparation phase special attention will be taken to include and value women work in project activities and trainings.

There are many activities under this component that will be tailored to each areas/communities and will be detailed in the project preparation phase with the support of the spatial planning exercise. There are different areas in the region with specific land usage possibilities. To name some promising for the project: Agroextractivist Settlements (PAE); Sustainable Development Settlements (PDS); Forestry Settlement (PAF) and; De-centralized Sustainable Settlement (PDAS). The total area with improved sustainable management supported by the project will be 500,000 hectares.

Project Outcomes in Component 2:

Outcome 2.1 Faster adoption of sustainable and low carbon management

Output 2.1.1 Sustainable use practices trainings in communities held with special focus on women and youth – the project will support trainings to help communities to implement better and sustainable practices, this was one of the demands made by local communities during the stakeholder consultations.

Output 2.1.2 Rural extension/training of trainers with environmentally sustainable and low carbon management practices – the project will also support capacity building within rural extension organizations to know and

teach better practices for the Caatinga biome that could be disseminated in the project area but also in other parts of the biome.

Output 2.1.3 Support the creation of new private Protected Areas (RPPNs) – Land owners can create private protected areas in Brazil and many times they are part of mosaics of protected areas. In the case of this project it is still difficult to estimate the area of new RPPNs in the region, but they are one tool to be used and the project will foster its adoption by land owners by creating awareness and communication products to ease doubts and explain the process to create and get recognition as a RPPN.

Output 2.1.4 Support identification of priorities areas and the recognition of OECMs in the region – another tool to be used are OECMs, which currently lacks regulation in Brazil and the project will address this barrier in Component 3. After this the project will support the recognition of OECMs in the project areas, which may be the first official OECMs in Brazil.

Output 2.1.5. Community organizations are empowered to provide local support for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use – these organizations are important centers for practices dissemination, discussions about communal land management and general land governance in the region. They are also important to empower local communities in the face of other stakeholders. The project will support capacity building of these organizations in themes related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use.

Outcome 2.2 Improved fire and firewood management capacities for organizations and local communities

Output 2.2.1 Training and support of community firefighting brigades – wildfires are increasing in frequency and size in Brazil, and Caatinga is no different in this aspect. Fire brigades are getting more common in Brazil and the project will support training for communities to safely address wildfires, helping local professional fire departments.

Output 2.2.2 Development of Community sustainable forest management plans for the responsible use of firewood – local communities are used to use fire in fields and firewood for energy and usually not sustainably. Forest management plans are important tools to create awareness, collective commitments and monitoring to implement sustainable practices for firewood management.

Outcome 2.3 Sustainable income generation enhanced at the community level

Output 2.3.1 Encourage economically viable alternatives for sustainable practices in agriculture, such as agroforestry systems and integrated livestock farming – one demand that was made during the stakeholder consultation was the need to increase economic gains linked to sustainable practices, this output will explore income generation with this vision.

Output 2.3.2 Survey of possibilities and barriers for innovation in production chains, diagnosis and traceability of compliance in access and benefit sharing – this output will explore different possibilities for the area for innovation in income generation with sustainable practices.

The expected goals of this component is a faster adoption of sustainable and low carbon land management with income generation leading to the establishment and maintenance of ecological corridors between PAs and other forest fragments. It is important that these results are linked to improving the quality of life of local communities to ensure long term sustainability of the activities. This component will also provide most of the knowledge that will be shared within the biome, reaching and impacting more than the project sites, this will be further explored in component 4.

In relation to the ARCA project, there is a positive feedback loop when the Protected Areas, who provide many essential environmental services locally, benefit from sustainable practices being adopted in its buffer areas and connecting remaining forest fragments and other PAs, creating a bigger mosaic. This is especially important regarding climate change and enabling biodiversity more area for adapting, migrating and escaping in extreme events (in the case of a forest fire for example).

- Component 3 - Innovation in Public Management and Sustainability Policies

This outcome aims to promote public policies regarding the Caatinga and addresses barrier 4 and barriers 3 and 6 partially. For barrier 4 the project will support the strengthening of regulatory tools for the installation of new solar and wind farms. During the project preparation phase this will be detailed to define what would be the most effective way to achieve this goal, it could be the elaboration of specific licensing tools for wind and solar[1][3], strengthening regulatory bodies or processes, or a mix of some tools to be adapted to this situation.

For barrier 3 the component will explore payment to environmental services, carbon and biodiversity credits as tools to increase income related to the adoption of sustainable practices, which would have the same effect as reducing the costs for adoption of these practices. Those would also be a subject of great interest for local stakeholders to be debated in the forums supported by component 1.

For barrier 6, the legal definition for the recognition of OECMs would include a new tool for conservation planning, and a tool that could be especially important in the Caatinga biome and to make part of ecological corridors.

Project Outcomes in Component 3:

Outcome 3.1 Updates and enhance regulatory and policy environment that incentivize the adoption of sustainable practices

Output 3.1.1 Detailed gap analysis and areas for improvement of the regulations and policies regarding environment conservation and climate change in Caatinga – this first output will pave the way for better policies and regulations

Output 3.1.2 Existing regulations are revised to update and enhance adoption of sustainable practices in the Caatinga – in many cases regulations are based in other biomes or have a national reach without taking into account Caatinga uniqueness, this output will build after the output 3.1.1 to enhance existing regulations.

Output 3.1.3 New regulation addressing policy tools/protocols regarding PES and Energy production in the Caatinga are drafted – this output is similar to the last one, but will draft new regulations or policy tools to address gaps identified in output 3.1.1.

Output 3.1.4 Regulatory studies and regulation for the legal recognition of OECMs in Caatinga/Brazil are drafted – OECMs need to be regulated in Brazil to start to be used. This output will draft this regulation. In component 2 the OECMs will be recognized after this draft leads to a formal legal tool.

The expected outcome of this component is a better regulatory and policy environment that incentivize the adoption of sustainable practices and produces new tools to be used in planning, energy development and connectivity. All the component activities have deep resonance in vulnerable communities and, as such, have important links with gender equality. Those new policies and tools would also be potential issues to be discussed in territorial governance forums, as the ones that will be supported in component 1. It´s important to note that, although, the activities will be focusing the Caatinga biome, much of the developments may be used in other biomes as well, for example, OECM recognition may have some specific technical requirements for Caatinga, but the overall legal status and protocols for the recognition of these areas may be national. Although the project will not fund the additional work needed to expand beyond the Caatinga biome, the developments in this component will be subject to be organized in knowledge products and disseminate in the knowledge management activities of the project, potentially expanding the project impact to the entire country.

- Component 4 – Knowledge, communication and project management

The last component will act on the communication, management and dissemination of knowledge generated in the project, especially knowledge related to the implementation of sustainable practices developed in component

2 and 3. The project will provide access to information and scientific knowledge on conservation, recovery and sustainable production in integrated Caatinga landscapes. This includes carrying out technical studies, developing databases and geographic information systems, information and knowledge integrated management as well as disseminating information and good practices through training, workshops and educational materials. Regarding component 3 the project will compile the information for the new or improved regulatory tools that may be used in other biomes or in the entire country. The aim is to provide stakeholders, local and national govern with the tools and knowledge they need to make informed decisions and implement effective conservation and sustainable development actions in the region and may used the lessons learned to expand beyond the Caatinga biome.

Project management and communication will also be in this component, to coordinate all the activities, coordinate with other projects and host the project steering committee.

Project Outcomes in Component 4:

Outcome 4.1 Knowledge and information about better practices reach local and national stakeholders, including the ones regarding improved regulatory tools

Output 4.1.1 Lessons learned and good practices are captured and documented – Caatinga is the least biome in Brazil receiving funding for projects. This leads to less lessons learned from previous projects. The project will actively capture and document good practices from local communities.

Output 4.1.2 Lessons learned and good practices are disseminated locally – with the results of output 4.1.1 the project will disseminate knowledge locally in forums and with communication products.

Output 4.1.3 A strategy for adapting and replicating lessons learned nationally and are used to inform public policies – the project will work on a strategy to disseminate the lessons learned nationally and to inform decision makers on potential new policies based on this knowledge.

Output 4.1.4 Project adaptative management in place – the project will have a monitoring plan prepared to monitor results and the processes of implementation, making it possible to have an active adaptative management in place.

The outcome of this component is to provide knowledge and information to stakeholders and have an effective project implementation.

Gender Considerations

Gender inequality still permeates all fields of Brazilian society. The condition of women in Brazil has triggered many discussions, policies, and actions--as well as the implementation of public policies due to the marked inequality in relation to men. These policies and actions include sexual and reproductive rights, violence of all

kinds, affective relations, insertion in the labor market, participation in political and power spaces, ethnic-racial, identities, and perceptions of the body, among other agendas to guarantee of rights and citizenship of women, given that gender-related power relations have determined and perpetuated inequalities between men and women, in all social, political, and economic spheres.

Historically, while men assumed activities linked to the productive order, women were confined to the reproductive sphere, care practices, and reproduction of life conditions of people through domestic chores, food preparation, attention to cleaning and hygiene of the domestic environment, having their labor less valued and/or not remunerated.

According to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), in 2022 in Brazil, due to the condition of motherhood, women dedicated almost twice as much time to caregiving and/or domestic chores compared to men (21.3 hours versus 11.7 hours). In the Northeast Region which includes the Caatinga biome, women dedicated more hours to these activities (23.5 hours), which was also the region with the greatest inequality in relation to men. Climate change exacerbates these inequalities as climatic vulnerability affect biodiversity and thus food and nutritional security, a responsibility and sphere that falls predominantly on to women.

In this context, a process of information, communication, and education is necessary so that the degrading extractivist model present in the Caatinga biome can be transformed into a sustainable model based on conservation and appropriate participatory management of the local ecosystem. For this, women's political participation is foundational, both in the domestic space (as they are closer to the education of children), in the training and sensitization of children, adolescents, and young adults, and in community relations by occupying leadership spaces.

In general the following actions are included in all GEF projects implemented by Funbio:

a. Guaranteed participation of women and youth in trainings, including some women exclusive trainings

b. Participation in project governance and support for women participation in local governance forums

c. Engagement with women focused local NGOs, especially regarding sustainable production

d. Specific trainings and materials to decrease gender-based violence

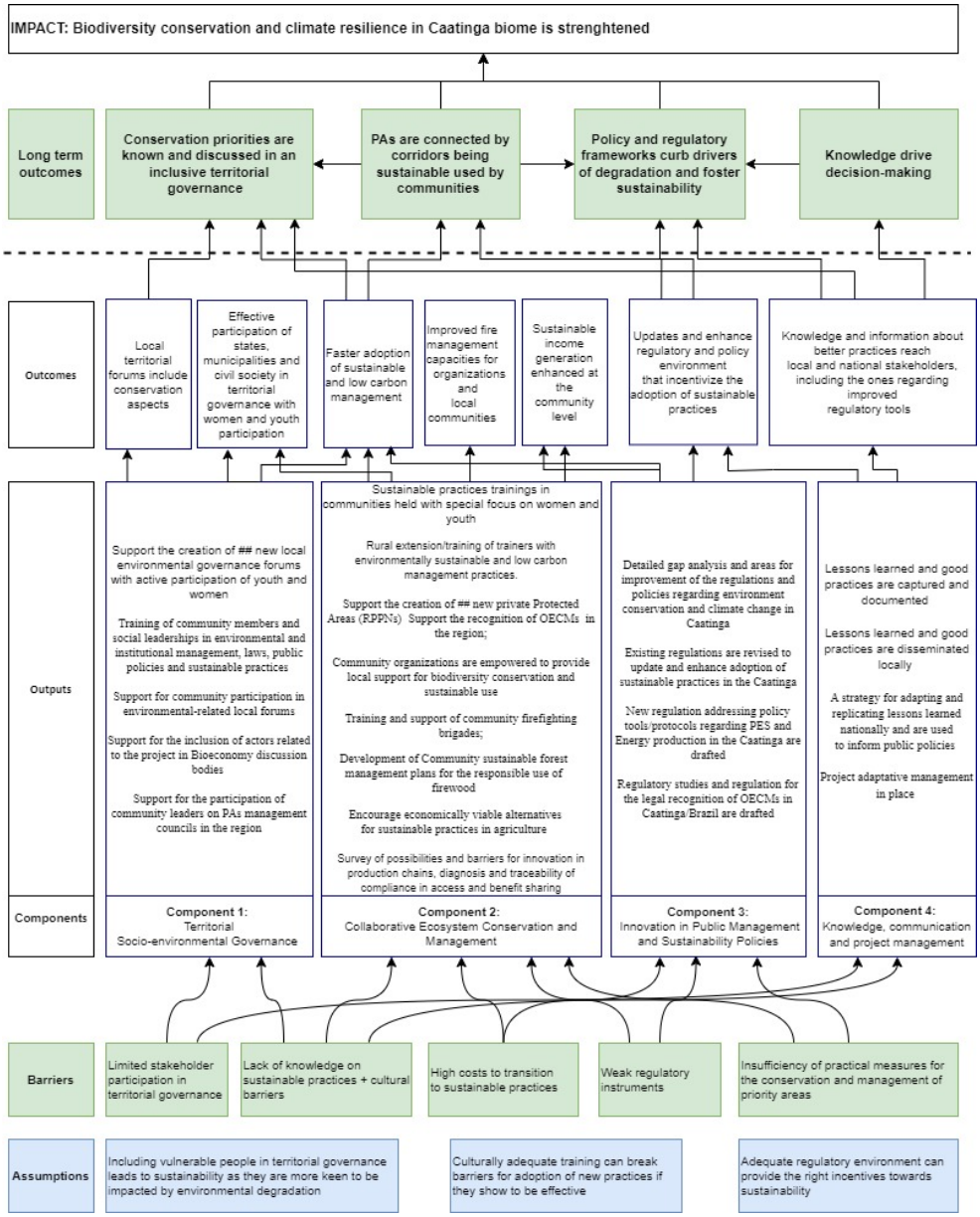
Besides women, youth seems as a key group to work in the project as they are showing great interest in environmental issues in general and also in the region and are readily engaged with the subject. This also addresses one of the concerns from communities voiced during project stakeholder consultations about the internal migration of youth to large cities. For the long term sustainability, scale up and replicability of the project, youth will be focused as well.

During the project PPG a gender assessment and action plan will be developed.

THEORY OF CHANGE

The project's theory of change is based on the premise that integrating biodiversity conservation, the sustainable management of natural resources, and the social and economic inclusion of local communities can result in significant and lasting environmental benefits.

Below is a proposal of topics that summarizes the Theory of Change



In order to deal with the barrier of limited stakeholder participation in territorial governance, which leads to traditional peoples and communities not voicing their concerns, which strengthens the continuity of 'business-as-usual' predominance in local development discussions, the project Component 1 will work to empower these communities. The project will foster the creation of new environmental governance forums or re-activate existing dormant forums. In tandem with the forums, training community leaders with strong participation of women and youth is paramount for the long-term effectiveness of these forums. In addition, it is important to include Caatinga stakeholders in bioeconomy discussion bodies in Brazil, as Caatinga is often neglected in these discussions, keeping the biome on the side for policies and programs. Finally, the ARCA project will support the PA councils in the area of the project, which in many cases don't have a strong participation of communities, and the Conecta Project will support the participation of the trained leaders, both reinforcing each other. This work will result in more inclusive and effective local forums discussing environmental issues, which also decreases risks associated with political antagonism in the area.

To tackle the barrier of the lack of knowledge, cultural barriers, and high costs to implement sustainable practices, the project will invest in training and training materials for communities and rural extension agencies alongside the capacity building of grassroots organizations and the capacity to prevent and manage wildfires, which is a threat to production and livelihoods. The project will also support income generation with sustainable practices. Those outputs will also help decrease the costs for adopting sustainable practices, thus permitting a faster adoption of these practices, less wildfire risks, and better income for communities, creating a positive environment for sustainable practices being preferred from the business-as-usual. The success of these results also facilitates the inclusion of environmental aspects in the territorial forums. This will directly lead to the long-term outcome of sustainably managed areas between PAs (which are being supported by the ARCA project) working as corridors and strong buffer zones for the PAs, which in turn serve as great environment services providers essential for the sustainability of the areas outside PAs, showcasing the complementarity of the two projects.

Regarding the barrier to the weak regulatory framework, the project will revise regulatory tools to be adapted to the Caatinga biome and new policy tools to tackle areas where there is a lack of regulations, specifically regarding OECMs, energy production, and PES, but others may be identified during project implementation. These updated and new regulatory tools will support the adoption of sustainable practices across the biome. It's important to note that the Brazilian government is negotiating a specific project to fund PES in the Caatinga, in part because of the ARCA and Conecta projects showing the commitment of the government and the synergy between initiatives; this would greatly benefit from this updated regulatory environment.

The last barrier to deal with is the lack of practical measures for conservation and priority areas. The project, as one of the few projects implemented in the Caatinga, aims to capture lessons learned and disseminate them throughout the biome. This will allow the project's impact to reach other areas and also allow for adaptative management of the project.

These outputs and outcomes complement the ARCA project and create the conditions for a larger area to have effective PAs and effective areas outside the PAs being sustainable managed to achieve important biodiversity results, it is also important to note that a focus on communities empowerment have the potential to have lasting results with potential to scale-up and replication in the future.

Long term resilience

The project establishes long-term resilience through an integrated approach that strengthens governance, diversifies economies and promotes biodiversity conservation. By promoting economic diversification, the project reduces dependence on unsustainable practices, preparing communities to adapt to economic and

environmental changes. This effort is complemented by improving local and regional governance capacity and increasing qualified participation in decision-making processes, ensuring that communities are involved in decisions that affect their lives and respond proactively to local challenges. The inclusion of women and youth in the local governance forums also strengthens resilience.

The conservation of biodiversity and the implementation of sustainable forest management practices ensure the maintenance of ecosystem services, which are essential for ecological resilience. These practices are reinforced by adaptation to climate change, increasing the resilience of communities and local ecosystems in the face of extreme events such as desertification. The promotion of sustainable production practices, together with the formation and development of innovative public policies for integrated landscape management and territorial governance, also strengthens the project's resilience. These actions improve local communities' quality of life while ensuring that sustainable practices' economic and environmental benefits are shared equitably.

[1] ICMBio PRIM for solar and wind installation could be used – this is a tool created by ICMBio and promoted in the Pro-Species project.

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

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

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

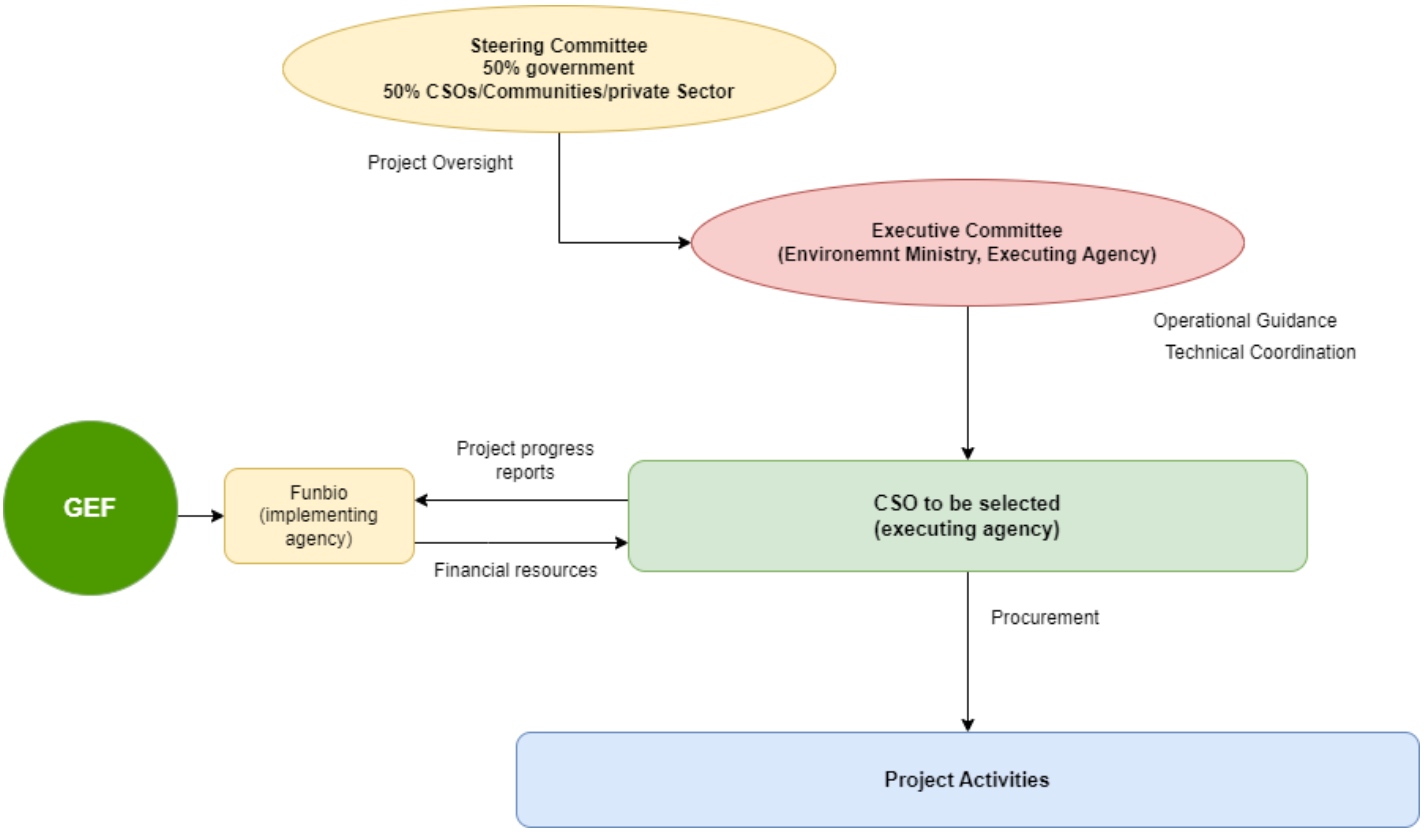
Institutional arrangements

The project will be coordinated by the Environment Ministry with an execution agency that will be selected during the preparation phase. As always with Funbio implementation, the executing agency will be a CSO as this provides the strongest arrangement for both efficient execution and resilience against eventual government changes. Although there is not a selected CSO at the PIF stage, there are potential organizations to execute the project with experience in the Caatinga.

Funbio will monitor the operational aspects of the project, verifying processes, outputs and outcomes, social and environmental outcomes, including environmental and social safeguards, and the executing CSO’s procurement and fiduciary compliance.

Within the scope of Funbio, there will be monitoring by the GEF Agency team, who will report directly to the Executive Secretary on the progress of the project. Funbio's Deliberative Council is in charge of supervising all the institution's operations.

Although this project and the ARCA project will work in close coordination, it is not a single operation. This is in part because Funbio considers there is a potential conflict of interest in being implementer and executer, and in ARCA project Funbio will be the executing agency due the extensive experience with protected areas in this role.



This project will be coordinate with the GEF/GBFF Caatinga Protected Areas (ARCA), working in the same areas. While ARCA focus on PA consolidation and management, this project focus outside of PAs, to integrate sustainable land management and create ecological corridors between the PAs. The ARCA project will be implemented by WWF-US and executed by Funbio, while this project will be implemented by Funbio and a CSO will be selected to execute it. In that manner, Funbio will be well positioned to coordinate the projects to a more effective result. An interesting development is a negotiation taking place at the moment between MMA and a new potential source of funds for a project to support payment for environmental services in the Caatinga region which is using the existence of ARCA and Conecta projects to showcase the region.

Regarding other projects and initiatives, Brazil has developed a framework of policies and programs that aim at environmental sustainability and education, integrating society in a collaborative effort to conserve and responsibly use natural resources. The project is anchored in the interconnection between various federal laws and programs, reflecting an integrated approach to facing contemporary environmental challenges in the Caatinga.

These elements and the links with this project are detailed below:

• Law 9795/99, which establishes the National Environmental Education Policy, and the National Environmental Education Program (Pronea) establish foundations for awareness and continuous training in environmental issues. These efforts are complemented by the Treaty on Environmental Education for Sustainable Societies and Global Responsibility, which promotes educational practices that integrate communities in the process of sustainable development.

• National and Territorial Action Plans, together with the Strategic National Action Plan on Biodiversity (NBSAP) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), guide actions to conserve biodiversity and use natural resources sustainably. The implementation of these plans in the Caatinga will be important to achieve conservation and sustainable use objectives established nationally and internationally.

• By integrating the National Landscape Connectivity Program (Conecta) and the NBSAP, the project strengthens ecological corridors, promoting the protection and management of biodiversity. This effort is complemented by adherence to practices recommended in the National Native Vegetation Plan (Planaveg) and in the National Action Program to Combat Desertification, where restoration and sustainable management activities combat environmental degradation and mitigate the effects of drought.

• Internationally, the project will also contribute significantly to global conservation and sustainability efforts by aligning with several important international conventions, including:

o Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): through the promotion of biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of biological resources in the Caatinga.

o United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): Contributing to the mitigation of climate change and increasing climate resilience through sustainable soil and vegetation management practices.

o United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD): working to prevent and mitigate desertification in vulnerable areas, implementing management techniques that promote water retention in the soil.

• Currently, SBio, within the scope of its Forestry Department, has been leading debates within Conama, for regulations that will establish technical parameters for Sustainable Forest Management Plans in the Caatinga.

• The National Policy for Combating Desertification and Mitigation of the Effects of Droughts, together with the National River Basin Revitalization Program, are integrated into the management of water resources and the fight against desertification. These programs will support the integrated management of water resources and

ensure the resilience of communities affected by droughts and other extreme climate events with their expertise. The project supports Brazil's efforts to meet its climate goals (Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)) and biodiversity, integrating actions that help mitigate and adapt to climate change.

• Additionally, the Law on Payment for Environmental Services (Law 14,119/2021) and the Law on Access to Biodiversity (Law 13,123/2015) present significant advances in encouraging environmental conservation through market mechanisms. These laws provide the framework for the Caatinga's ecosystem services to be recognized and remunerated, promoting conservation while generating economic benefits for local communities.

The project is directly linked to a series of initiatives and projects developed by the different MMA secretariats/departments, such as:

• GEF PROVEG - Project "União pela Restauração - Enabling large-scale restoration through national policy in Brazil (GEF-PROVEG)" which aims to support the fulfillment of Brazil's restoration commitments. This challenge has been led through an innovative and transformational process in several key ministries, with strong support from civil society to ensure execution, planning, and best techniques for large-scale vegetation recovery to achieve expected goals and global environmental benefits. (GEBs) agreed.

• GEF Terrestre - the GEF-Terrestre Project is a Federal Government project, which aims to promote the conservation of biodiversity in the Caatinga, Pampa and Pantanal, aligned with the principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Change of Climate (UNFCCC). The strategy involves consolidating the area covered by Conservation Units (CUs), improving the management effectiveness of UCs, recovering degraded areas, protecting threatened species and engaging local communities.

By collaborating with initiatives such as GEF Terrestre, GEF PROVEG and river basin revitalization programs, the project not only maximizes the efficiency of environmental interventions, but also guarantees integrated management that encompasses multiple conservation and sustainable development objectives, reinforcing the commitment to the conservation of the Caatinga and the well-being of the communities that depend on it.

In this way, we consider that the project, through its components and activities, is aligned and will contribute significantly to existing initiatives, both regional, national and international, reinforcing the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable management of natural resources in the Caatinga.

The project is directly linked to a series of initiatives developed by the different secretariats/departments of the MMA, such as:

• Cooperation with the National Training Program for Managers and Counselors - PNC: The project integrates the updating and improvement of the program, also integrating the Socio-Environmental Education and Cooperation Centers implemented by the Environmental Education Department of the MMA.

• Involvement of the Environmental Education Centers of IBAMAs Superintendencies: This collaboration aims to strengthen the State Interinstitutional Environmental Education Commissions (CIEAs), improving coordination with States and Municipalities in the implementation of environmental and sustainable education policies and practices.

Among the main units involved are the Department of Environmental Education (DEA), the Department of Biodiversity Conservation (DCBIO), and the Department of Policies to Combat Desertification (DPCD). These departments work closely with the National Secretariat for Biodiversity, Forests and Animal Rights, which encompasses the Department of Forests, the Department of Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, and the Department of Protected Areas.

Furthermore, the National Bioeconomy Secretariat, particularly through the Department of Genetic Heritage and the Department of Policies to Stimulate the Bioeconomy, will be essential stakeholders in integrating public policies for biodiversity conservation and sustainable economic development. Finally, the National Bioeconomy Plan is an initiative that highlights the intersection between economic development and sustainability, pointing to the innovative use of biodiversity as a matrix for economic growth while ensuring the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.

The Extraordinary Secretariat for Deforestation Control and Territorial Environmental Planning and the National Secretariat for Climate Change will also be important in coordinating actions to combat climate change and managing policies to reduce deforestation and promote a more sustainable use of the territory.

This joint effort is complemented by the participation of collegiate bodies and linked entities (ICMBio and Florestal Service), which will offer technical and administrative support, ensuring that the policies implemented are based on solid scientific data and proven environmental management practices.

The integration of these different teams from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change will enable each secretariat/department to contribute its specific expertise to face the complex and interconnected environmental challenges of the Caatinga.

Core Indicators

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
500000	0	0	0

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
500,000.00			

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

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

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

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

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	7,000			
Male	7,000			
Total	**14,000**	**0**	0	**0**

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

Considering the area of project intervention, 500,000 hectares was established as a viable target for the project timeframe. For example, the need for restoration based on legal issues of private lands in the biome has an estimated total of 310,000 hectares of liabilities for recovery, of which 200,000 ha refer to Permanent Protection Areas liabilities and 110,000 ha are associated with legal reserves. Although the project will not fund restoration in private areas, foster the practice and accelerate its adoption can

have important results for maintenance of ecological corridors. During project preparation this number will be detailed, which will make it possible to calculate Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated and estimate PA creation (RPPNs). The area of OECM is still too early to estimate, therefore core indicator 4.5 will be defined during the PPG phase.

For the number of people benefiting, we are using as a reference the number of people involved (directly and indirectly) in other projects in the rural area (between UCs) of the Caatinga. The project considers 20 municipalities targeted, totaling around 500 families, around 2000 people directly benefitted. Indirect benefits should reach 3,500 families, around 14 thousand people. These numbers will be refined during the preparation phase.

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Moderate	Project climate screening showed that the region is already facing 0.29°C mean temperature increase in comparison with historical data and the climate scenarios predictions make it clear that the region unique biodiversity risks being stressed by changing environmental conditions in the next decades and strategies to mitigate these risks are necessary. All the SSP scenarios show more erratic weather behavior and a higher risk of droughts and extreme events which will also impact community livelihoods. The project will include climate change awareness in its trainings and support for local forums to discuss local climate impacts and to support improved practices for climate mitigation and adaptation. This can have an impact on the implementation of actions in the area, particularly at the initial stages of the project. However, as the project progresses, the resilience of the targeted areas also increases
Environmental and Social	Moderate	The project recognizes social vulnerability in the biome and addresses the issue by combining environmental conservation with sustainable production practices, which increases social support for the project.
Political and Governance	Moderate	The project is well aligned with the work of the Ministry of the Environment and other initiatives in the biome. There is no indication of political antagonism at the federal and regional level, but there may be at local level from business-as-usual advcates. The project support for more forums and the inclusion of environmental aspects at these forums and the empowerment of communities should impove this potential antagonism.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	The MMA coordinates many different initiatives in Brazil and coordination of one more project may poses some difficulty for staffing or allocating time for project activities, which would impact the project. One way to mitigate this is a joint coordination between this project and the ARCA project, which would also be beneficial for the coordination between both projects. This topic will

		be addressed during the final preparation of the project with the environment ministry and initial discussions about this coordination was well received.
Technological	Low	There is no technological challenge in project design.
Financial and Business Model	Low	Despite the external volatility of the economy in recent years (COVID, foreigned wars), the Brazilian economy has been reacting well to these stresses and demonstrates a known path in the coming years. No significant changes are expected in either inflation or exchange rates. Furthermore, the economy related to sustainable production has been growing and there is a clear bias towards ensuring food security on the part of the government, reducing risks related to supporting the bioeconomy in the region.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Moderate	The MMA coordinates many different initiatives in Brazil and coordination of one more project may poses some difficulty for staffing or allocating time for project activities, which would impact the project. One way to mitigate this is a joint coordination between this project and the ARCA project, which would also be beneficial for the coordination between both projects. This topic will be addressed during the final preparation of the project with the environment ministry and initial discussions about this coordination was well received.
Fiduciary	Low	The project does not yet have a defined executor, but there are some organizations active in the caatinga with a good track record capabilities to have a good execution performance in the region, some have already worked with Funbio before. During project preparation the search for the best-suited executor will be carried out.
Stakeholder	Low	The PIF mainly involved engagement between government institutions, although it is based on the Conecta Program which was widely discussed in society. Local consultations will be conducted during the final project preparation phase. The project will also leverage the coordination established within the scope of the ARCA project since many stakeholders are the same. However, the experience of Funbio and MMA suggests that overall there will be sufficient support and interest in participating in the project.
Other		
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	The risks related to project implementation are known, with some points of attention that will be monitored during project execution

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

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

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

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

Brazil signed the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1992 and Congress ratified it in 1994. Since the early 1990's, the Brazilian Federal Government has developed strategies, policies, plans and programs aimed at conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. These include guidelines for the implementation of the National Biodiversity Policy (Decree nº 4.339, 22 August 2002), establishment of goals and guidelines for the National Biological Diversity Program (Decree n° 4703, 21 May 2003; PRONABIO), the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (2017), the Project for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Brazilian Biodiversity (PROBIO), and the establishment of the National Commission on Biodiversity (CONABIO) and national biodiversity targets (CONABIO Resolution nº 3, 21 December 2006). The components of the project are aligned with these policies, considering that sustainable land management is a well-known tool for biodiversity conservation.

The project has the potential to contribute to achieving national target 2, 4, 5, 7, 11, 14, 15 and 18 within the scope of the CBD. The project also contributes directly to the NBSAP Strategic Objective C.

The project is aligned with the GEF8 strategy, specifically with objective 1 of the biodiversity focal area: “To improve conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of natural ecosystems” by presenting an intervention to connect areas of high biodiversity (protected areas) to other PAs and forest fragments. For this to be done in the caatinga, it is necessary to expand the sustainable use of biodiversity in the corridors that need to be established for this connection, in addition to the restoration of degraded areas. For this objective to be achieved, the project will make use of a series of instruments that promote conservation, including the legal definition of OECMs in Brazil and the beginning of their recognition.

Nature conservation in Brazil's Caatinga biome is crucial for advancing the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) goals, particularly in terms of climate resilience, carbon storage, and sustainable development. The project focuses on sustainable land management and will help mitigate carbon emissions, reduce soil erosion, and maintain water cycles—contributing to the UNFCCC's objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change. Additionally, by preserving Caatinga's natural resources, conservation efforts support the sustainable livelihoods of traditional people and rural populations, aligning with the UNFCCC's broader goals of promoting sustainable, climate-resilient

development. Protecting the Caatinga thus plays a dual role in fostering biodiversity and enhancing the region's ability to withstand and adapt to the ongoing impacts of climate change.

The project also aligns closely with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) goals, as both aim to promote sustainable land management in drylands. UNCCD's framework emphasizes the restoration of degraded land, water conservation, and community-based resource management to achieve its goals, which are also well aligned with the project outputs and outcomes. By implementing UNCCD-aligned practices, conservation efforts in the Caatinga can promote biodiversity, enhance soil quality, increase resilience to droughts, and ultimately support both environmental health and the socioeconomic well-being of communities dependent on these fragile landscapes.

In addition, in the recent CBC COP16 held in Cali, Colombia, a decision to seek synergies between the conventions by creating a working group was taken and both ARCA and Conecta were used as examples of the synergies by the Brazilian government.

In relation to the Kunming-Montreal goals, the project contributes to the goals:

Target	Primary Links
1	The project foster participatory governance and the integration of biodiversity in spatial planning
3	The project will foster conservation in private lands by the creation of new RPPNs in the region. It´s difficult to estimate how much will be created, but this will be monitored during project implementation.
7	Th project will reduce local pollution by reducing the usage of firewood as fuel
9	The project component supporting bioeconomy has the aim to benefit people through sustainable practices, and this includes the management of wild species
14	The project aims to create and support local forums of environmental governance
22	The project foster and ensures participation in local foruns
	Secondary Links

2	The project will foster degraded lands restoration, especially in private areas by helping overcome barriers for the action of private actors
5	The project will support sustainable use of natural resources, changing from the business as usual model that is unsustainable
8	The project will support activities in a corridor between protected areas, creating ways for biodiversity conservation and resilience in a scenario of climate impacts
11	The project foster nature-based solutions as the sustainable practices are going to increase income at the same time as increasing resilience against climate change and mitigate emissions
13	The Project foster benefit sharing by focusing in the local communities as stewards of conservation in the region.
21	Component 4 of the Project will increase the access to information and data about Caatinga conservation
23	Gender is integrated in the local participation foruns and the bioeconomy component

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: Yes

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector:

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

Stakeholders

The project stakeholders are the communities in Caatinga living in areas where connectivity of PAs should take place. A more detailed assessment will be undertaken during the project preparation phase, however, most of the stakeholders identified in the ARCA Project will be the same on this project, with the difference that communities are a more important stakeholder in this project. Specifically, ARCA project will ensure participation of local communities, indigenous people, govern agencies and surrounding populations in decision-making processes in the surroundings of the protected areas, while this project will extend it to the same groups but also producers and land owners.

The ARCA stakeholder assessment provided valuable information on how to engage these communities and what are their concerns and, since the ARCA project will start sooner than this project, further assessments and consultations will take place together with ARCA stakeholder engagement plan to fill any gaps that ARCA assessment don't fill because is a different project. Communities consulted are aware of this project and have already anticipated important issues. Quilombola community leadership have reported real state pressure in their communal lands and a awareness about their cultural heritage being at risk and linking this to their traditional way of living and a desire to promote cultural tourism as a means to keep their traditions and also enhance their livelihoods. Since their traditional ways can be sustainable if they have the right training and support, this may be a way forward to support sustainable and cultural tourism in component 2 of the project.
Small farmers were also consulted and showed a significant awareness about the changing environment they can already perceive, they reported difficulty to access technical assistance, particularly for women, and funding. They also report pressure from deforestation, land disputes water access, logging, hunting, and youth migration seeking opportunities elsewhere. These reports are aligned with the project assessment of the region and there are activities planned to increase land governance, technical assistance (specially for women) and funding to implement sustainable practices, also pointing tourism as a possibility. The need for fire management and local fire brigades were also raised as needs. Finally, they don't have no contact with the close protected areas councils (a target for the ARCA project) and the support for their participation is well regarded. Those consultations corroborate the project strategy and planned activities. It's important to note that these communities show strong suspicion of any future support because of past experiences with government agencies that didn't deliver what was promised. This highlights the cautionary approach to not create expectations too early in the PIF process as it can take time for the PIF to be approved, the following CEO Endorsement, first disbursement and then activities they will perceive as actually helping them. Funbio has learned this lesson from past projects, especially from the Kayapo Fund (not GEF funded) and tries to adjust the expectations of communities.

Other stakeholders are federal government institutions like Ibama, ICMBIo, Brazilian Forest Service and the Environment Ministry. States and local governments will also participate, especially in component 1.

The PIF was developed based on the Conecta program, created with the active participation of civil society, and received broad discussion and publicity. The PIF was specifically discussed with the MMA, ICMBio, and states such as Bahia and Pernambuco. The proposed activities are highly aligned with social demands presented by movements in the region and the request of NGOs for concrete actions in the Caatinga, which is the biome that receives the least resources from multilateral or bilateral projects in Brazil.

The project steering committee will have 50% participation of civil society, but the number of the members are not defined yet.

Project Stakeholders Consulted at PIF stage	Type of stakeholder	Consulted in

Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change	Federal Government	Since March 2024
Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio):	Federal Government	16-17 of March and 28 of June 2024
Bahia State Secretariat for the Environment (SEMA)	State Government	24-26 of March 2024
Bahia Institute of the Environment and Water Resources (INEMA)	State Government	24-26 of March 2024
Caatinga Association	NGO	24-26 of March 2024
Center for Advisory and Support to Workers and Alternative Non-governmental Institutions (CAATINGA)	NGO	24-26 of March 2024
Central da Caatinga	Community Based Organizations	24-26 of March 2024
Quilombola Communities	Community Based Organizations	24-26 of March 2024
National Institute of the Semiarid (INSA):	Academia	24-26 of March 2024

The project did not consider private sector as stakeholders because the engagement is not related to their business, but an incentive to perpetuate conservation in their lands (RPPNs).

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

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

No

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

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

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

Yes

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant($)	Agency Fee($)	Total GEF Financing ($)
Funbio	GET	Brazil	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	5,504,588.00	495,412.00	6,000,000.00
Total GEF Resources ($)						**5,504,588.00**	**495,412.00**	**6,000,000.00**

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount ($)

64000

PPG Agency Fee ($)

5740

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	PPG($)	Agency Fee($)	Total PPG Funding($)
Funbio	GET	Brazil	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	64,000.00	5,740.00	69,740.00
Total PPG Amount ($)						**64,000.00**	**5,740.00**	**69,740.00**

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total($)

		Regional/ Global			
Funbio	GET	Brazil	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	2,694,971.00
Funbio	GET	Brazil	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	3,374,769.00
Total GEF Resources					**6,069,740.00**

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Co-financing($)
BD-1-5	GET	5,504,588.00	17000000
Total Project Cost		**5,504,588.00**	**17,000,000.00**

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
Recipient Country Government	Environment Ministry	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	10000000
Recipient Country Government	Environment Ministry	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	7000000
Total Co-financing				**17,000,000.00**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The estimated counterparts for the project are all from the Brazilian government at the PIF stage. However, these resources are a mix of sources such as legal obligations, other projects, the federal budget, and possibly states. This detailed definition will be carried out during the project preparation phase. Funbio may also have counterparts for the project, but at the time of presentation of the PIF, it cannot be guaranteed as new resources are still being negotiated.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

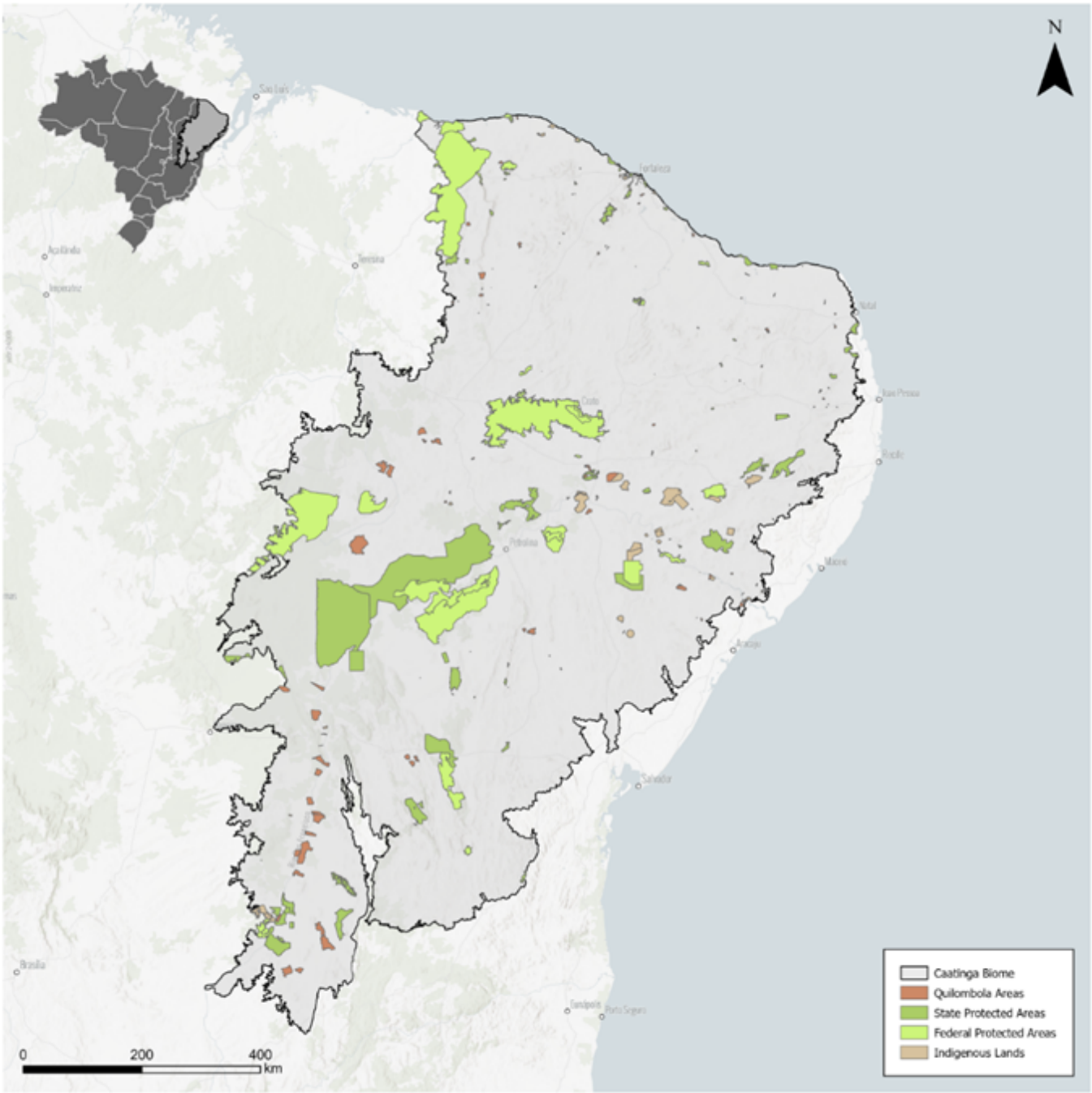
GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Fabio Leite	3/19/2024	Fabio Leite	+5521996310309	fabio.leite@funbio.org.br

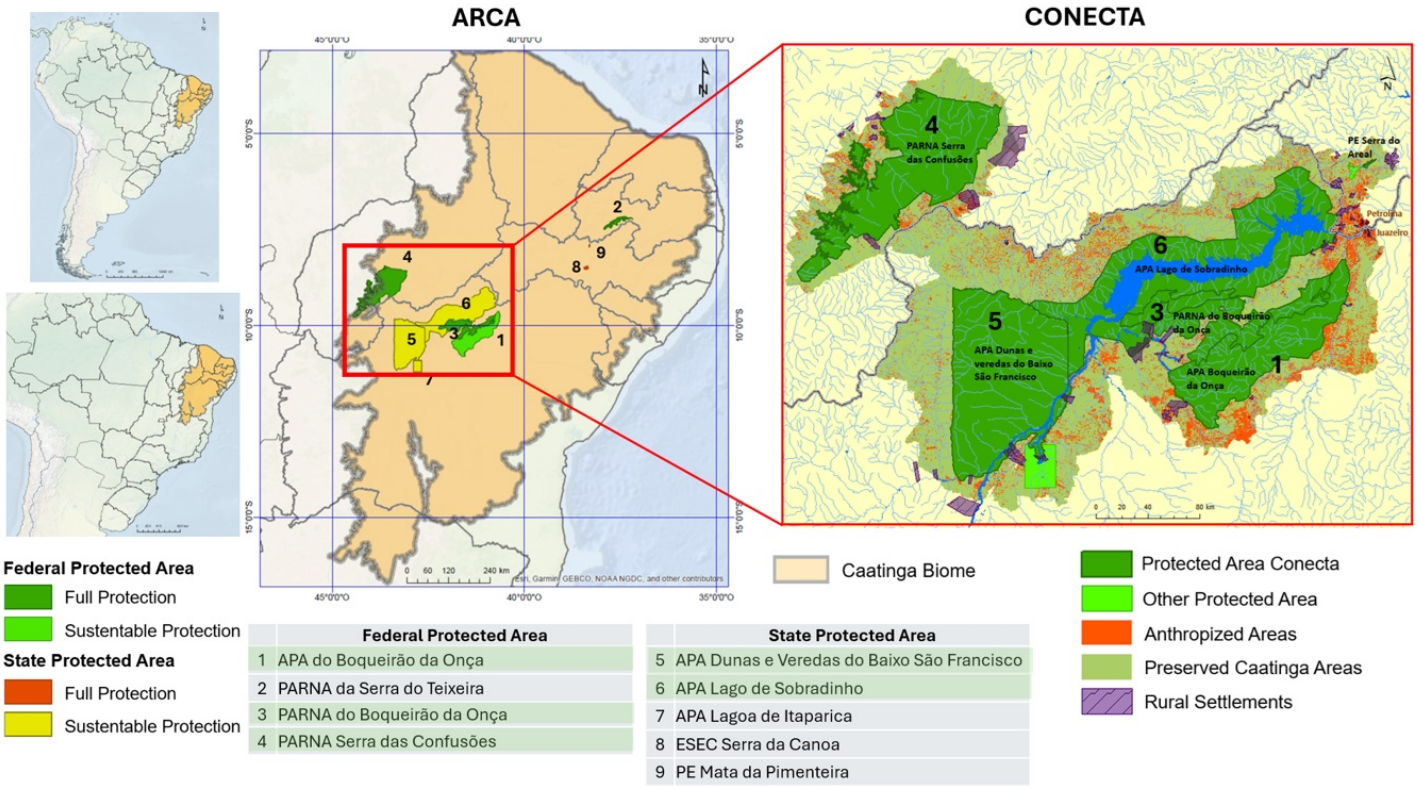
Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Lívia Farias Ferreira de Oliveira	General Coordinator for Sustainable Finance	Ministry of Finance	3/18/2024
Lívia Farias Ferreira de Oliveira	General Coordinator for Sustainable Finance	Ministry of Finance	4/19/2024

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

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





	Federal Protected Area
1	APA do Boqueirão da Onça
2	PARNA da Serra do Teixeira
3	PARNA do Boqueirão da Onça
4	PARNA Serra das Confusões

	State Protected Area
5	APA Dunas e Veredas do Baixo São Francisco
6	APA Lago de Sobradinho
7	APA Lagoa de Itaparica
8	ESEC Serra da Canoa
9	PE Mata da Pimenteira

ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

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

Title

Note on ESS classification

PIF-Stage ESS assessment

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

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

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
[X] Focal Areas/ Theme			
	[X] Biodiversity		
		[X] Protected Areas and Landscapes	

			Productive Seascapes
			☐ Productive Landscapes
			Coastal and Marine Protected Areas
			Community Based Natural Resource anagement
			☒ Community Based Natural Resource Management
			☒ Terrestrial Protected Areas
		Species	
			Livestock Wild Relatives
			Threatened Species
			Plant Genetic Resources
			Wildlife for Sustainable Development
			Animal Genetic Resources
			Illegal Wildlife Trade
			Invasive Alien Species (IAS)
			Crop Wild Relatives
		Supplementary Protocol to the CBD	
			Access to Genetic Resources Benefit Sharing
			Biosafety
		☒ Financial and Accounting	
			☒ Payment for Ecosystem Services
			Conservation Finance
			Conservation Trust Funds
			Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting
		Mainstreaming	
			☐ Agriculture & agrobiodiversity
			☐ Certification (National Standards)
			☐ Tourism

			☐ Certification (International Standards)
			☐ Infrastructure
			☐ Fisheries
			☐ Extractive Industries (oil, gas, mining)
			☐ Forestry (Including HCVF and REDD+)
		☒ **Biomes**	
			☐ Mangroves
			☐ Sea Grasses
			☒ Tropical Dry Forests
			☐ Paramo
			☐ Rivers
			☐ Lakes
			☐ Coral Reefs
			☐ Temperate Forests
			☐ Tropical Rain Forests
			☐ Grasslands
			☐ Wetlands
			☐ Desert
	☒ **Forest**		
		☒ **Forest**	
			☐ Amazon
			☐ Congo
			☒ Drylands
		☒ Forest and Landscape Restoration	
			☐ REDD/REDD+
	International Waters		

		☐ Fisheries	
		☐ Ship	
		☐ Freshwater	
			☐ Aquifer
			☐ Lake Basin
			☐ River Basin
		☐ Pollution	
			☐ Persistent toxic substances
			☐ Plastics
			☐ Nutrient pollution from wastewater
			☐ Nutrient pollution from all sectors except Wastewater
		☐ Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Plan preparation	
		☐ Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction	
		☐ Strategic Action Plan Implementation	
		☐ Coastal	
		☐ Biomes	
			☐ Polar Ecosystems
			☐ Coral Reefs
			☐ Mangrove
			☐ Seagrasses
			☐ Constructed Wetlands
		☐ Marine Protected Area	
		☐ Aquaculture	
		☐ Learning	
		☐ SIDS : Small Island Dev States	
		☐ Large Marine Ecosystems	
	☒ **Climate Change**		

		☐ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	
			☐ Enabling Activities
			☐ Paris Agreement
			☐ Nationally Determined Contribution
			☐ Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency
		☒ Climate Change Adaptation	
			☐ Private Sector
			☒ Community-based Adaptation
			☐ Livelihoods
			☐ Disaster Risk Management
			☐ Least Developed Countries
			☐ Adaptation Tech Transfer
			☐ Sea-level rise
			☐ Climate information
			☐ National Adaptation Plan
			☐ National Adaptation Plan
			☐ Innovation
			☐ Climate Finance
			☐ Small Island Developing States
			☐ National Adaptation Programme of Action
			☒ Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			☐ Complementarity
			☒ Climate Resilience
			☐ Mainstreaming Adaptation
		☒ Climate Change Mitigation	
			☒ Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land
			☐ Sustainable Urban Systems and Transport
			Energy Efficiency

	☐ **Land Degradation**		
		☐ Land Degradation Neutrality	
			☐ Land Cover and Land cover change
		☐	☐ Land Productivity
			☐ Carbon stocks above or below ground
		☒ Sustainable Land Management	
			☐ Ecosystem Approach
			☒ Sustainable Fire Management
			☒ Income Generating Activities
			☐ Sustainable Forest
			☒ Drought Mitigation
			☐ Sustainable Pasture Management
			☐ Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach
			☒ Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands
			☐ Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques
			☒ Community-Based Natural Resource Management
			☒ Sustainable Livelihoods
			☐ Sustainable Agriculture
		☐ Food Security	
	☒ **Sustainable Development Goals**		
	☐ **Chemicals and Waste**		
		☐ Open Burning	
		☐ Eco-Efficiency	
		☐ Waste Management	
			☐ e-Waste
			☐ Industrial Waste
			☐ Hazardous Waste Management

		☐ Emissions	
		☐ Pesticides	
			☐ DDT - Other
			☐ DDT - Vector Management
		☐ Ozone	
		☐ Persistent Organic Pollutants	
			☐ Polychlorinated Biphenyls
			☐ Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants
			☐ New Persistent Organic Pollutants
		☐ Disposal	
		☐ Sound Management of chemicals and Waste	
		☐ Plastics	
		☐ Best Available Technology / Best Environmental Practices	
		☐ Green Chemistry	
		☐ Industrial Emissions	
		☐ Mercury	
			☐ Cement
			☐ Artisanal and Scale Gold Mining
			☐ Coal Fired Power Plants
			☐ Non-Ferrous Metals Production
			☐ Coal Fired Industrial Boilers
☒ **Influencing models**			
	☐ **Transform policy and regulatory environments**		
	☐ **Transform policy and regulatory environments**		
	☐ **Strengthen institutional**		

	capacity and decision-making		
	[x] Convene multi-stakeholder alliances		
	[x] Demonstrate innovative approaches		
[x] Stakeholders			
	[ ] Private Sector		
		[ ] SMEs	
		[ ] Financial intermediaries and Market facilitators	
		[ ] Capital providers	
		[x] Individuals/Entrepreneurs	
		[ ] Large corporations	
		[ ] Non-Grant Pilot	
		[ ] Project Reflow	
	[x] Type of Engagement		
		[ ] Partnership	
		[x] Participation	
		[x] Consultation	
		[ ] Information Dissemination	
	[x] Civil Society		
		[x] Community Based Organization	
		[ ] Non-Governmental Organization	
		[ ] Trade Unions and Workers Unions	
		[ ] Academia	
	[ ] Communications		
		[ ] Awareness Raising	
		[ ] Strategic Communications	

		☐ Education	
		☐ Behavior Change	
		☐ Public Campaigns	
	☐ **Indigenous Peoples**		
	☐ **Beneficiaries**		
	☒ **Local Communities**		
☒ **Gender Equality**			
	☒ **Gender Mainstreaming**		
		☒ Women groups	
		☒ Sex-disaggregated indicators	
		☐ Gender-sensitive indicators	
		☐ Beneficiaries	
	☒ **Gender results areas**		
		☒ Capacity development	
		☐ Access and control over natural resources	
		☒ Awareness raising	
		☐ Access to benefits and services	
		☒ Participation and leadership	
		☒ Knowledge generation and exchange	
	☐ Food Security in Sub-Sahara Africa		
		☐ Small and Medium Enterprises	
		☐ Integrated Land and Water Management	
		☐ Diversified Farming	
		☐ Crop Genetic Diversity	
		☐ Gender Dimensions	
		☐ Land and Soil Health	
		☐ Multi-stakeholder Platforms	

		☐ Food Value Chains	
		☐ Resilience to climate and shocks	
		☐ Sustainable Production Systems	
		☐ Agroecosystems	
		☐ Smallholder Farming	
	☐ Food Systems, Land Use and		
		☐ Restoration	
		☐ Integrated Landscapes	
		☐ Sustainable Food Systems	
		☐ Food Value Chains	
		☐ Sustainable Commodity Production	
		☐ Comprehensive Land Use Planning	
		☐ Smallholder Farming	
		☐ Landscape Restoration	
		☐ Deforestation-free Sourcing	
	☐ **Sustainable Cities**		
		☐ Transport and Mobility	
		☐ Integrated urban planning	
		☐ Green space	
		☐ Urban sustainability framework	
		☐ Buildings	
		☐ Global Platform for Sustainable Cities	
		☐ Urban Food Systems	
		☐ Energy efficiency	
		☐ Urban Resilience	
		☐ Municipal Financing	
		☐ Municipal waste management	

		☐ Urban Biodiversity	
	☐ **Commodity Supply Chains**		
		☐ Deforestion-free Sourcing	
		☐ Adaptive Management	
		☐ Sustainable Commodities Production	
		☐ High Conservation Value Forests	
		☐ Financial Screening Tools	
		☐ Oil Palm Supply Chain	
		☐ Beef Supply Chain	
		☐ Soybean Supply Chain	
		☐ High Carbon Stocks Forests	
		☐ Smallholder Farmers	
☐ **Capacity, Knowledge and Research**			
	☐ **Enabling Activities**		
	☐ **Learning**		
		☐ Adaptive Management	
		☐ Indicators to Measure Change	
		☐ Theory of Change	
	☒ **Knowledge Generation**		
		☐ Professional Development	
		☐ Master Classes	
		☒ Training	
		☐ Workshop	
		☐ Course	
		☐ Seminar	
	☐ **Innovation**		

	☐ **Capacity Development**		
	☐ **Knowledge Exchange**		
		☐ Twinning	
		☐ Conference	
		☐ Field Visit	
		☐ Exhibit	
		☐ Peer-to-Peer	
		☐ North-South	
		☐ South-South	
	☐ **Targeted Research**		