

**GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO CHILD  
ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL**

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## General Child Project Information

Child Project Title <b>Managing the Human Tiger Interface In Nepal</b>	
Region <b>Nepal</b>	GEF Project ID <b>11157</b>
Country(ies) <b>Nepal</b>	Type of Project <b>FSP</b>
GEF Agency(ies) <b>WWF-US</b>	GEF Agency Project ID
Project Executing Entity(s) <b>Ministry of Forests and Environment/Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation</b>	Project Executing Type <b>Government</b>
GEF Focal Area (s) <b>Multi Focal Area</b>	Submission Date <b>2/9/2025</b>
Type of Trust Fund <b>GET</b>	Project Duration (Months) <b>60</b>
GEF Project Grant: (a) <b>4,498,318.00</b>	Agency Fee(s) Grant: (b) <b>404,848.00</b>
PPG Amount: (c) <b>150,000.00</b>	PPG Agency Fee(s): (d) <b>13,500.00</b>
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d) <b>5066666</b>	Total Co-financing <b>8,089,798.00</b>

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Rio Markers

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

### Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, to offer a snapshot of what is being proposed. The summary should include: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? ii) as a child project under a program, explain how the description fits in the broader context of the specific program; (iii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

Nepal has more than doubled its tiger population, from 121 in 2009 to 355 in 2023. However, population growth, economic and infrastructure development cause fragmentation and loss of habitats and expanding

human-wildlife interface. Human-Tiger Conflict (HTC) is increasing, especially in protected area (PA) buffer zones, impacting communities and their attitudes towards wildlife. Key barriers to improved human-wildlife coexistence (HWCx) are: (1) insufficient enabling environment to support HWCx at scale; (2) lack of comprehensive HWC management, relief payment shortcomings and limited livelihood options in tiger landscapes; (3) suboptimal tiger habitat management within PAs; and (4) lack of systematic knowledge management. The project aims to advance HWCx in key tiger-bearing PAs in Nepal by building consensus and capacity for coexistence, reducing impacts of HTC, and improving habitats for tigers. It aims to achieve the following outcomes: Integrated policy and planning framework for HWC management and coexistence (1.1); Stakeholder capacity increased for HTC prevention and situation management (1.2); HTC impacts reduced through stakeholder engagement, behavior change and rapid relief and response (2.1); Buffer Zone communities empowered, with livelihood options that reduce dependence on forest resources (2.2); Strengthened HTC response and delivery of relief informed by monitoring and piloting interventions (2.3); Critical habitats in conflict hotspots functioning through science-based management and restoration (3.1); and Knowledge exchange enables replication and scaling up best practices (4.1). The project will deliver global environmental benefits for the tiger and other wildlife and wellbeing benefits for 121,000 people. It will contribute towards global outcomes of the GEF-8 GWP on HWC management and HWCx, including improved management of 388,969 ha of terrestrial PAs, and restoration of 3,350 ha of grasslands and 20 ha of wetlands

## Child Project Description Overview

### Project Objective

To advance human-wildlife coexistence in key tiger-bearing protected area landscapes in Nepal by building consensus, collaboration and capacity for coexistence, reducing the impacts of human-tiger conflict, and improving the condition and connectivity of key habitats for tigers.

### Project Components

#### 1. Strengthen enabling conditions for Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
291,297.00	596,705.00

Outcome:

1.1: Integrated policy and planning framework for HWC management and coexistence established

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1.2: Stakeholders' capacity increased and training provided on Human-Tiger Conflict (HTC) prevention and situation management

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Output:

1.1.1: National level integrated HWC management / coexistence strategy and action plan developed and implemented

1.1.2: HWC management / coexistence integrated across key sectors in the next five-year plan of municipalities adjoining NPs (for municipalities in HWC hotspots)

1.2.1: Improved capacity and resources of frontline staff and key stakeholders in HTC prevention and situation management

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## 2. Human wildlife coexistence approaches and livelihood support

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,522,706.00	3,056,759.00

Outcome:

2.1: HTC impacts reduced through strengthened engagement and social behavior change for affected stakeholders

2.2: Buffer Zone communities are empowered and provided with livelihood options that reduce their dependence on forest resources and exposure to HTC

2.3: Strengthened human-tiger conflict response and delivery of relief informed by monitoring and piloting interventions

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Output:

2.1.1: Social behavior change (SBC) measures for HTC affected communities reduce exposure to HTC risks and increase empathy for wildlife conservation

2.2.1: Enhanced capacity of HWC impacted communities to diversify livelihood strategies

2.3.1: Improved HWC relief mechanisms applied for enhanced efficiency and transparency

2.3.2: Delivery of HWC curative measures piloted through insurance scheme mechanisms in one BZUC in one of the HWC hotspot PAs

2.3.3: Monitoring of HTC and problem tigers to inform HTC management

2.3.4: Piloting of early warning system based on real time camera trapping and text message alert system to prevent HTC occurring

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### 3. Habitat management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,087,498.00	3,363,013.00

Outcome:

3.1 Critical habitats in conflict hotspots are effectively functioning and resilient through science-based management and restoration under changing climate conditions

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Output:

3.1.1: Grassland habitat quality and connectivity restored through piloting the Government of Nepal's Habitat Management Guidelines in clusters connecting core areas of contiguous PAs

3.1.2: Wetland habitats created and restored to meet critical needs of wildlife in two clusters through wetland creation and restoration piloting the Government of Nepal's Habitat Management guidelines

3.1.3: Monitoring and knowledge sharing for scientific habitat management and restoration

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### 4. Coordination and Knowledge Exchange

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
137,602.00	247,464.00

Outcome:

4.1: Knowledge generation, exchange and learning enable replication and scaling up of best practices

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Output:

4.1.1: Project lessons and experiences on HWCx and HTC are documented and shared effectively at national, regional and global levels

4.1.2: Knowledge management and engagement in the GWP Knowledge Platform

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### M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
245,077.00	440,748.00

Outcome:

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## ME1: Adaptive Monitoring and Management

Output:

Monitoring and evaluation data contributes to efficient decision making and to adaptive project management

### Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1. Strengthen enabling conditions for Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) management	291,297.00	596,705.00
2. Human wildlife coexistence approaches and livelihood support	1,522,706.00	3,056,759.00
3. Habitat management	2,087,498.00	3,363,013.00
4. Coordination and Knowledge Exchange	137,602.00	247,464.00
M&E	245,077.00	440,748.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>4,284,180.00</b>	<b>7,704,689.00</b>
Project Management Cost	214,138.00	385,109.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>	<b>4,498,318.00</b>	<b>8,089,798.00</b>

Please provide Justification

### CHILD PROJECT OUTLINE

#### A. PROJECT RATIONALE

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. Since this is a child project under a program, please include an explanation of how the context fits within the specific program agenda. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

Nepal has achieved unparalleled success in tiger conservation over the last twenty years or so, being the first country to meet its pledge at the St Petersburg Tiger Summit in 2010 of doubling its tiger population. In fact, the wild tiger population in Nepal has increased almost three times - from 121 in 2009 to 355 in 2023<sup>[1]</sup> with tiger densities also increasing significantly at some sites between 2018 and 2022. Key reasons for this conservation success story include the establishment of new protected areas coupled with effective control of

poaching and illegal wildlife trade – supported by sustained efforts in landscape conservation and partnerships between government, communities and conservation NGOs[2]<sup>2</sup>.

## Environmental Problem

The Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) where the project is located is among the most important regions on earth for its biodiversity, where the world's tallest grasslands and adjacent riverine forests support the world's highest densities of tigers, as well as greater one-horned rhinoceros, Asian elephant, leopard and other wildlife. The TAL is Nepal's first conservation landscape, representing a paradigm shift in conservation beyond single species and protected areas to connected landscapes, local communities and integrated conservation approaches to benefit people, nature and wildlife. These efforts have enabled a remarkable recovery in tiger numbers, however increased interface with human populations means that Human-Tiger Conflict (HTC) is now a major issue, especially in the buffer zones of protected areas (PAs), negatively impacting communities and adversely affecting their attitudes towards wildlife. HTC is framed within the wider context of Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) that causes losses to crops, livestock and income of affected communities. Drivers of HWC include habitat loss and degradation and reduction in prey species as human populations expand and croplands advance around forest fringes, increasing the human-wildlife interface. This is exacerbated by linear infrastructure development that fragments habitats and obstructs wildlife movement, while climate change intensifies stresses on habitats and wildlife through heatwaves, periodic drought, more unpredictable and heavy rains, *inter alia*.

*Human-Tiger Conflict is increasing:* The Tiger Conservation Action Plan notes that HTC is a significant and increasing concern for tiger conservation in Nepal. With the dramatic increase in tiger numbers over the years combined with other factors including increased human-tiger interface in PA buffer zone and corridor areas, the fragmentation of habitats and reduced prey base, the frequency of HTC has escalated in key tiger landscapes (namely Chitwan-Parsa NP complex, Bardia-Banke NP complex and Shuklaphanta NP) to the extent that it could jeopardize the outstanding success of tiger conservation efforts to date. HTC events may be manifested as attacks by tigers on livestock or people, or as people harming tigers. From 1994 until 2007, 12 fatal tiger attacks on people were reported compared to 62 fatalities between 2019-2022.[3]<sup>3</sup> in and near Bardia and Chitwan National Parks, respectively. Such attacks often result in the capture, killing or relocation of the individual tiger involved - since 1979, 34 tigers from these Parks have been killed due to HTC. As such, HTC represents a major threat to local people as well as to the continuing success of tiger conservation programs[4]<sup>4</sup>. Over the past five fiscal years (2019/20-2023/24), a total of 97 human casualties have been reported due to tiger attacks, of which 54 were fatal. Human deaths from tiger attacks account for approximately 39% of all wildlife-related human fatalities across tiger-bearing protected areas and their surrounding habitats. Additionally, tiger-related incidents have led to the loss of about 1,116 livestock, representing roughly 15% of all livestock losses due to wildlife in these areas.

Several studies have noted that conflict-causing tigers are typically different from the source population. Tigers without fixed territories (dispersing young or old, evicted individuals), and those physically impaired in hunting prey are more likely to engage in conflicts with humans[5]<sup>5</sup>. A common feature of the human-tiger

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conflict analyses was the behavior that caused people to be most at risk from tiger attacks – open grazing, collecting grasses or fodder for livestock[6]<sup>6</sup> or forest products such as ferns and firewood.

Other large wildlife species such as the Greater one-horned rhino, Asian elephant, leopard and sloth bear are also responsible for significant HWC impacts in and around the protected areas of the TAL. For example, the population of one-horned rhinos in Nepal has been increasing, with a 16.6% increase from 2015 to 2021 from 645 to 752 animals[7]<sup>7</sup>; while Asian elephants have increased from around 50 animals in 1990 to 227 in 2020 and are responsible for significant conflict[8]<sup>8</sup>. Other species such as wild boar and macaques are implicated in crop-raiding.

**Diverse threats** face the ecosystems and wildlife of the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL), of which the most significant include: grassland and wetland habitat loss and degradation, unregulated grazing, forest fires, severe floods, habitat fragmentation and obstruction of wildlife movements caused by linear infrastructure development, poaching and illegal wildlife trade, the spread of invasive alien species, and zoonotic disease transmission.

## Future Narratives

**The main drivers of the environmental problem that this project seeks to address are as follows:**

*In-migration and population growth in the TAL:* The tiger's range in Asia occupies some of the most densely populated regions on earth: in 2020, the estimated population in tiger landscapes was some 47 million rising to over 130 million when adding the population living within 10km of these tiger landscapes. The figures for Nepal are 1,648,094 people within the tiger landscapes and 5,530,416 living within 10 km in 2020, representing an estimated human population density of 209.8 persons/km<sup>2</sup> in tiger landscapes – the highest of any tiger range country. Further, the estimated rate of human population change between 2015 and 2020 within the tiger landscapes in Nepal was +27.03%, with a projected rural population change of +1.6% over the period 2022-2034[9]<sup>9</sup>. In the case of the TAL, malaria eradication enabled a great influx of migrants from the hills, resulting in forest loss for settlements and agricultural lands – an in-migration that continues today, driven by better livelihood opportunities in the lowlands. According to the Population Census 2021, the Terai now hosts 15,634,006 people, 53.61% of Nepal's population of 29,164,578. Bhaktapur, Rupanedhi, Chitwan, Banke and Jhapa topped the list of districts with highest population growth[10]<sup>10</sup>. While much of the Terai is productive agricultural land, there are many impoverished and marginalized people that lack land and food security. Marginalized people are more at risk of HWC as they tend to occupy more remote areas, depend more on extensive agricultural practices, open grazing and natural resources such as forest products, and may lack access to government support.

*Infrastructure development:* The Terai is of strategic importance for development, lying between the population centers of northern India and the mountain ranges that dominate much of Nepal, with transportation routes leading northwards into China. The Terai's flat and fertile land is suitable for both agricultural and industrial development and there are major infrastructure development schemes underway and planned to increase transport connectivity. Agricultural development is supported by major irrigation schemes such as the Sikta and Rani Jamara Irrigation schemes involving major canal networks carved through

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forest and developed land. Such infrastructure development has largely failed to consider alternative routes that avoided or reduced impacts on environmentally sensitive areas such as PAs, BZs or Corridors, or to include mitigation of impacts on wildlife. Many roads have been developed or are proposed to pass inside PAs and corridors (e.g. East-West Highway, Hulaki Highway). These fragment habitats obstruct wildlife movements, increase road accidents involving wildlife and increase access to forest areas with related risks of fire-setting, encroachment and poaching.

Climate change: The impacts of climate change on the communities and natural environment in the TAL are already significant. Increasing climate variability is predicted to result in more extreme weather events including prolonged droughts and increased flooding. Water stress can threaten tigers and prey species during dry conditions and can escalate into conflicts between animals. The risk of forest fires is also exacerbated under warmer conditions and prolonged droughts. Closer contact at watering holes can increase zoonotic disease transmission between wildlife, livestock and people. Flash floods can have major impacts on wildlife – for instance 2017 floods killed about 1,200 animals including spotted deer, barking deer and blue bull in Chitwan National Park alone<sup>[11]</sup><sup>11</sup>. However, these floods can also have longer lasting effects through shifting river courses, burying grazing lawns under sand depositions and filling watering holes with mud<sup>[12]</sup><sup>12</sup>. Problematic invasive alien plants are likely to invade additional areas in future due to climate change<sup>[13]</sup><sup>13</sup>.

**The project design** focuses on the human-tiger interface in the buffer zones of key tiger-bearing protected areas in Nepal's Terai Arc Landscape, seeking to effectively reduce the impact of human wildlife conflict and particularly human tiger conflict on the communities living in this sensitive region. Three future scenarios have been taken into account that consider varying trends in the key drivers that have been briefly described above, that will influence the human-wildlife interface in this region over the medium to long term. The project's interventions should be largely robust and its outcomes sustainable in the face of such future uncertainties, resulting in reduced HWC impacts and improved human-wildlife coexistence. However, the project's impact is likely to be greater in the Narrative 1 scenario of incremental changes in the key drivers than in the Narrative 3 scenario, under which HWC/HTC will be at its most intense with a much larger human-wildlife interface zone plus more critical HWC/HTC events occurring in addition to the steady increase in HWC/HTC.

### **Narrative 1: Incremental increases in human population, infrastructure development and climate change impacts**

With a lower level of population growth and infrastructure development in the TAL, the pressure on ecosystems supporting wildlife remains significant but can largely be reined in by the current landscape conservation approach, including ongoing protection of PA Core Zones, Buffer Zones and Corridors that allow wildlife movement between parks and other blocks of natural habitat including the Churia Hills and national and community forest areas in the Terai. Infrastructure (roads, railways, irrigation canals, etc.) development makes further inroads and results in further fragmentation – although this may not yet have critical impacts on wildlife populations and smart green infrastructure solutions mitigate it to an extent. Climate change

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continues with periodic heatwaves exacerbating seasonal dry conditions accompanied by regular grassland and forest fires. It also causes flooding in the monsoon season as a result of heavy rain episodes and flash flooding that impacts floodplain communities, silts up wetlands and occasionally causes loss of wildlife. The widespread rice farming suffers occasional water shortages and local flooding impacts while most farms remain productive. Grazing wildlife including tiger prey in grasslands and wetlands are impacted by continued spread of invasive vegetation. Wildlife populations remain largely stable under strong protection while HWC/HTC steadily intensifies in the interface zone.

### **Narrative 2: Incremental increases in human population and infrastructure development, with higher level of climate change impacts**

As for Narrative 1, with a lower level of population growth and infrastructure development in the TAL, the anthropogenic pressure on the ecosystems supporting wildlife remains significant but is largely reined in by the current landscape conservation approach. Infrastructure development causes further fragmentation of habitats – although this may not yet have critical impacts on wildlife populations. However, Nepal is highly vulnerable to climate change impacts, and a higher level means stronger extremes of heat in the dry season, with increased frequency, scale and intensity of grassland and forest fires that may have long term impacts on both habitats and wildlife populations. Extreme heatwaves and prolonged dry spells will result in crop losses and hardship for local communities. Rapid climate change will also cause extreme flooding in the monsoon season through heavier rain episodes and flash flooding that can devastate floodplain communities, erode riverbanks, cause landslides, destroy wetlands and result in significant loss of wildlife and conservation infrastructure. Social impacts such as the migration of people from the hills to the TAL may be accelerated by climate change as water sources in the mid-hills' region dry up[14]<sup>14</sup>. Furthermore, increased river volumes caused by shifting precipitation patterns have had serious repercussions. Shifting river channels damage not just the natural environment, but also human settlements, roads, bridges, and agricultural fields, putting the Terai's infrastructure at risk. Droughts have caused crop failures, forcing some farmers to quit. Once-predictable seasonal cycles in the area are no longer reliable, and the uncertainty has a direct influence on the lives of Terai inhabitants. Agriculture, a key component of the region's economy, is severely impacted, making planning and resource management more difficult. This unpredictability, along with the threat of climate change, casts a pall over the Terai people's quality of life and capacity to continue their livelihoods[15]<sup>15</sup>. Grazing wildlife including tiger prey in grasslands and wetlands are impacted by the rapid spread of invasive vegetation. Both human and wildlife populations are increasingly stressed by the extreme events, which may displace wildlife into surrounding farmlands and villages causing more critical HWC/HTC events in addition to the steady increase in HWC/HTC in the interface zone, requiring wildlife rescue efforts.

### **Narrative 3: Rapid increase in human population and infrastructure development, with higher level of climate change impacts**

In this scenario, population growth in the TAL increases rapidly with increased migration from the hills for the thriving agricultural economy in the lowlands, resulting in increased urbanization around existing population centers and intensification of population density and land uses outside the protected areas, as well as

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increased encroachment along riparian corridors and forest fringes and less space for wildlife outside protected areas, impacting the potential for coexistence and wildlife movement. Rapid infrastructure development will result in significant loss and fragmentation of habitats, interrupting critical wildlife corridors and effectively isolating the PAs of the TAL from each other, the Churia Hills and PAs across the Indian border. Infrastructure is also likely to cut through existing PAs, impacting habitats and wildlife populations, increasing access for poaching and resulting in greater frequency of fires. As for Narrative 2, rapid climate change will cause severe impacts on this vulnerable region, including extreme heatwaves and periodic droughts accompanied by water shortages and increased prevalence of grassland and forest fires. Extreme flooding will have locally devastating impacts on floodplain communities, croplands, habitats and wildlife populations. With higher human population densities and increased development, tolerance for wildlife is likely to decline and HWC/HTC will increase substantially as wildlife populations are increasingly confined to disconnected areas, where they will be unable to grow beyond carrying capacity limits. Combined with increased stress from extreme weather events that displace wildlife into surrounding farmlands and villages, HWC/HTC will be at its most intense - with a much larger human-wildlife interface zone plus more critical HWC/HTC events occurring in addition to the steady increase in HWC/HTC.

The project's approach of strengthening the enabling conditions, directly working with affected communities to relieve HWC/HTC impacts through applying and scaling up tested resilient solutions, enabling increased support through the municipalities, as well as strengthening capacity for grassland and habitat restoration and management in the targeted PAs will work across all three future scenarios, though with a differing level of impact depending on the scenario.

**The proposed project** aims to advance human-wildlife coexistence in key tiger-bearing protected area landscapes in Nepal by building consensus and capacity for coexistence, reducing the impacts of human-tiger conflict, and improving the condition and connectivity of key habitats for tigers.

This is a timely intervention, in that there is a strong baseline in place, and while HWC/HTC is having serious impacts it has yet to turn public opinion against conservation – so there is a window of opportunity to upscale HWC management efforts, reduce the risks to communities living around the National Parks, and build support for human-wildlife coexistence across a broad stakeholder base. As the tiger population continues to expand, HTC risk reduction measures will become even more important to protect communities, their livestock – and the tigers from retaliatory killings and control measures. Therefore, this project focuses on improving habitat conditions to retain prey species and tigers inside the NP Core Zones, strengthening and upscaling HWC management in the NP Buffer Zones where the communities are on the “front line” and suffer the greatest impacts, and bringing local partners to the table in order to achieve transformative changes through a more integrated response and significantly greater government resources through the municipalities. The project's approach strongly emphasizes social behavior change and livelihood approaches that will reduce the exposure of community members to HTC, coupled with early warning system pilots based on experience in India, and tested solutions such as solar electric fences and predator-proof pens – taking account of lessons from previous projects and partner organizations such as NTNC and ZSL (see **Annex 9** Lessons Learned).

Maintaining the habitat connectivity for tigers to disperse from their breeding areas inside National Park Core Zones, through corridors to other parks in Nepal and India, and across the Churia Hills is a critical part of the equation, and this has been the subject of the GEF-6 ILaM project working with DoFS. As the current project is led by DNPWC, its focus is on the habitat quality and connectivity within the NP Core Zones and linking them with the Corridors to minimize wildlife intrusions into community lands in the Buffer Zones. Fragmentation of important wildlife habitats by linear infrastructure such as roads, railways and irrigation canals is a major issue in the TAL, affecting the survival and dispersal of large animals. While this issue will be considered in the policy coherence and planning context of the current project, the ADB GEF-8 GRID Project in Nepal (GEF ID 11470) will address it directly.

## Baseline Scenario

The baseline for this project is extensive, as the TAL has been recognized as a global priority for biodiversity conservation for several decades and continues to be supported by the national government, community-based natural resource management, significant CSO programs and ODA including large GEF and USAID projects.

### *Component 1 Baseline*

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) is the leading organization for the overall management of 20 protected areas established in Nepal with the goal to conserve wildlife and outstanding landscapes of ecological importance for the well-being of the people. The primary objective of the DNPWC is to conserve the country's major representative ecosystems, unique natural and cultural heritage and give protection to the valuable and endangered wildlife species. It encourages scientific research for the conservation of genetic diversity. The DNPWC has divisions and sections dedicated to achieving the objectives:

- Planning and Management Division: Planning Section, Management Section, M&E Section
- Research and Communication/Outreach Division: Ecology Section, Conservation Education Section, IT Section
- Under the Management of Director General: Administrative Section, Financial Administration Section, Wildlife Crime Control Section.

In coordination with DNPWC, each protected area is directly responsible for mitigating and managing HWC at the site level. Protected areas are required to collaborate with all relevant stakeholders to address HWC issues within the park and its buffer zones. At the park level, there is no dedicated unit solely focused on HWC. Instead, park authorities are involved in overall conservation and protection efforts. Their responsibilities include planning and implementing regular activities within and around the protected areas, managing buffer zones, conducting research and monitoring, enforcing laws, and other related tasks.

The parks are heavily underfunded. For example, the Management Plan for Bardia National Park estimates NPR 400 million (c. \$3 million) for park management in a year whereas they receive NPR 60 million (c.\$450,000). This clearly shows the finance gap for protected area management. The annual budget for buffer zone management that is invested in local livelihoods, education and campaigns and coordination with stakeholders is directly dependent on the revenue generated by the respective parks through royalties, fees and tourism. This means that if a national park does not generate high revenues, BZ management will be significantly underfunded. While there is little financial assistance from other government agencies at present, support from external donor projects and NGOs such as WWF-Nepal, NTNC and ZSL helps to support key conservation actions.

The regulatory, policy and planning framework for wildlife conservation in Nepal has been progressively strengthened and is relatively complete. This includes: the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (NPWC) Act 1973; National Forest Policy, 2018; National Environment Policy, 2019; National Climate Change Policy, 2019; Wildlife Habitat Management Procedure, 2023; Nepal Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2014-2020) (now being updated); and the Tiger Conservation Action Plan (2023-2032).

In terms of the implementation of the Tiger Conservation Action Plan, each of the three tiers of government has an important role to play. At the federal level, the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE), DNPWC,

and DoFSC are responsible for planning, budgeting, and monitoring and evaluation of the action plan. Under the purview of DNPWC, it is the onus of the tiger-bearing PA offices to execute the plan. The DoFSC and the Division Forest Offices (DFOs), governed by the provincial line ministries, are equally responsible for implementing the plan outside the protected areas. The action plan also recognizes the importance of engaging other government agencies and NGOs at all three levels. The government's annual budget for DNPWC and DoFSC is the major source of funding for implementing the action plan. Likewise, the provincial and local governments co-finance some of the activities. Ongoing support from long-term conservation partners like WWF Nepal; Zoological Society of London (ZSL), Nepal; and National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) and other existing and new partners play key roles in supporting its implementation both financially and technically.

In the case of HWC management, the Wildlife Damage Relief Guideline (2009) was last revised in 2023 to cover an extended range of species and increased payments. PPG consultations indicate that further improvements can be made, including streamlining the relief claim and distribution process, further review of partial relief vs full compensation for losses, and further extension of the species list to ensure coverage of community losses is fair.

Other gaps in the current policy, planning and coordination framework include: revision of Insurance Policy for the damage and casualties caused by wildlife; Park-specific HWC management plans that acknowledge the types and nature of local conflict; site-specific habitat management guidelines to specifically address conflict hotspot areas; and a coordination mechanism among three tiers of government for HWC management as the DNPWC under the federal MoFE manages the protected areas through the local park offices, the relevant provincial ministry responsible for forests responds to conflict through the respective Division Forest Office whereas the local municipalities invest in HWCx through their annual budgets. As the National Parks and their Buffer Zones are under the mandate of DNPWC according to the NPWC Act, the roles of the Municipalities in supporting communities in the Buffer Zones has been relatively low-key and while coordinated with the park authorities, their full potential to participate in addressing HWC has not yet been realized.

The proactive extension of the protected area system to cover additional important habitats for the tiger was a key part of the government's strategy to double the tiger population. In 2010, the GoN declared a new PA: Banke National Park (NP) in Lumbini Province, contiguous with Bardia NP. This landscape was further extended in the same year to add 180 km<sup>2</sup> to the existing buffer zone of Bardia NP. In 2016, Parsa Wildlife Reserve (contiguous with Chitwan NP) was extended by 138 km<sup>2</sup> to include the Halkhoria daha, a renowned wetland. Both Parsa and Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserves were upgraded to National Park status in 2017.

### *Component 2 Baseline*

Recognizing that the landscape conservation approach is needed to secure sufficient habitat for species with large home ranges such as the tiger and Asian elephant, Nepal ushered in a new conservation era by establishing the transboundary Terai Arc Landscape (TAL) which encompasses five tiger-bearing protected areas. The TAL Strategic Plan (2015-2025) aims to connect the protected areas of Nepal and India to manage Nepal's tigers as viable metapopulations through nine mutually beneficial biological corridors.

In 1996, the fourth amendment of Nepal's NPWC Act, 1973 introduced provisions to direct 30 - 50% of PAs' revenue back to the buffer zone communities to address their development priorities. This financial support has transformed the previous gap in relations between the park and people towards a more harmonious relationship. Therefore, communities now extend the park authorities their strong assistance in the event of HWC and this Component focuses largely on reducing the impact of HWC on such communities who are in the front line.

Regular conservation education programs, awareness-raising activities, and stakeholder meetings are routine activities for PAs and local Forestry Offices, as well as NGO-led programs. Currently, a number of educational activities are focused on HWC because of the urgency to de-escalate tensions arising between parks and people.

The management plans for Chitwan, Parsa and Bardia NPs provide a strong baseline for the current project, with strategies and activities that specifically relate to addressing HWC, rescue and care of injured and problem animals including tigers, forest, grassland and wetland management, tiger conservation, fire management, wildlife health management, park protection and law enforcement, control of encroachment, research, monitoring (including habitats, tiger, prey species), capacity building, tourism, and buffer zone management.

CNP is adopting the strategy of Human Wildlife Coexistence. A HWC revolving fund is being launched and systematized such that funding is provided to all the BZUCs. This fund is used to assist victims for treatment under quick response mechanism. People get relief support within 7 days of submitting required documents to the Park administration. The relief is later reimbursed to CNP from DNPWC as per the relief guideline. Meanwhile BNP has developed the HWC Strategy and Plan for the People Living Adjacent to BNP (2021-2026). The plan has already been rolled out and as a result the level of antagonism towards the park has been reduced.

Livelihood support for buffer zone communities by the Parks has included: endowment fund support for disadvantage groups/communities; cash crops, alternative crops promotion; fruits plants/seed distribution, vegetable seeds/plants distribution, goats and pigs distribution; and skill development trainings. Private sector engagement is mainly through the nature-based tourism industry which includes many resorts, hotels, guesthouses and tour companies, especially around Bardia and Chitwan National Parks. There are extensive community-based tourism activities in these regions also, mainly focused on homestays and local attractions. The UNDP BIOFIN Programme is piloting insurance options for HWC losses, with potential for longer term engagement of the insurance industry in this arena, which this project will further investigate.

The first two nationwide tiger counts were carried out in 2009 and 2013. In 2017, the government approved the "Tiger and Prey Base Monitoring Protocol" to systematize the assessment of the tigers and their prey base across the range. Later in 2018, a third nationwide tiger count was conducted. The DNPWC and its field offices led the entire process of the third and fourth nationwide tiger and prey status assessments in 2018 and 2022 with the assistance of conservation partners, i.e., WWF Nepal, ZSL-Nepal, and NTNC.

### *Component 3 Baseline*

The gradual conversion of grasslands into shrublands and forests remains a major concern for tiger habitat conservation. For example, a decrease in grassland area from 20% in 1970s to about 9.5% in 2015 has been reported in CNP (CNP, 2016). In recent years, CNP, BNP and ShNP have been piloting mechanical grassland management to save on financial resources. Moreover, PAs also remove woody vegetation, conduct controlled burning, and control invasive species from grasslands. PAs survey and monitor grasslands periodically to check for management gaps.

### *Component 4 Baseline*

International collaboration is actively pursued by DNPWC on subjects including tiger conservation and tackling wildlife crime. At the local level, India-Nepal joint monitoring and meetings are organized by park authorities regularly. Curbing wildlife crime demands well-coordinated multi-agency and multi-country efforts with a high level of commitment and advancement, and Nepal is a member of the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN).

## *Private Sector Engagement*

For livelihood related activities in Component 2, agriculture related cooperatives, forest related enterprises, hotel and homestay associations, and other private sector enterprises will contribute through supporting market access and generating local employment in targeted rural areas. These could be forest and agriculture-based jobs or industries that demand skilled labor that may be able to divert local communities from forest collection activities.

The project will collaborate with the UNDP BIOFIN Nepal programme and private sector insurance companies to design a HWC insurance pilot in the project area in Output 2.3.2. This would aim to build on BIOFIN's ongoing baseline work in conducting a feasibility study to identify the most appropriate insurance schemes (private led, community led or a mixed model), estimate insurance premiums using risk methodologies and develop mechanisms to finance the premiums.

In terms of technology company engagement, there is strong potential to replicate the use of the TrailGuard AI[16]<sup>16</sup> camera-alert system (or similar) that has been successfully deployed in the Kanha-Pench Tiger Corridor in India[17] under Output 2.3.4.

## **Barriers**

While the government has made significant efforts towards addressing HWC in the TAL and worked towards wildlife coexistence with other stakeholders in the baseline, progress has been impeded by several barriers:

1. The enabling environment for human-wildlife coexistence is insufficient to support implementation at scale, with some inadequacies in the policy & planning framework, weak inter-agency coordination, and inadequate technical guidelines, capacity and a major financing gap.
2. Human-wildlife coexistence in tiger landscapes is constrained by the lack of demonstrated comprehensive approaches to HWC management, inadequacies in the relief payment system, inadequate scale and diversity of strategic interventions to reduce HWC/HTC, and the lack of sustainable alternative livelihood options.
3. Key tiger habitat quality and connectivity within protected areas is suboptimal due to limited application of science-based management, inadequate trained human resources and insufficient financial resources.
4. Technical capacity for scaling up HWC management / coexistence is limited by the lack of systematic knowledge management and dissemination mechanisms that effectively apply regional and global knowledge.

## **Enabling Factors**

There are some significant enabling factors[18] for this project:

- The project is embedded in the GoN's successful landscape conservation approach, including PAs, BZs, corridors and community engagement through the TAL and CHAL strategies;
-

- The project area has a history of successful wildlife conservation strategies supported by enabling policy and institutions – both the rhino and tiger have increased in numbers due to successful anti-poaching efforts supported by effective law enforcement, coordination and community engagement;
- A strong system of CBNRM has been established in BZs, corridors and adjacent areas through BZMCs, BZUGs, CFUGs, etc., providing a network of CBOs to work with;
- Significant stakeholder support exists for priority species conservation, especially for the tiger and rhino across different segments of society;
- Chitwan and Bardia NPs are major nature-based tourism destinations offering potential for sustainable financing, partnerships with the parks and community benefits from tourism; and
- There is a history of HWC management interventions in the TAL, providing lessons to learn from, best practices to upscale and a functional HWC relief mechanism to further develop.

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[2] DNPWC 2023. Tiger Conservation Action Plan (2023-2032). Kathmandu, Nepal.

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[6] 45% of HTC incidents (2003–2013) in CNP occurred while collecting natural resources (Silwal et al. 2017).

[7] <https://www.worldwildlife.org/stories/nepal-s-rhino-population-increases-by-16-a-sign-of-hope-for-the-species#:~:text=Nepal's%20rhino%20population%20has%20increased,the%20nation's%20rhino%20conservation%20strategy.>

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[15] K Verma & S Arya 2023. Mitigating the Impacts of Climate Change in Nepal’s Terai Region: Sustainable Solutions for a Resilient Future. 28 August 2023, NIICE Commentary 8793. Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement (NIICE), Kathmandu.

[16] <https://www.nightjar.tech/>

[17] <https://conserwildcats.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2023/10/biad076.pdf>

[18] Including opportunities described in the Tiger Conservation Action Plan 2023-2032

## B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole, including how it addresses priorities related to the specific program, and how it will benefit from the coordination platform. 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 guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

This project is a child project under the GEF-8 Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program (WCD IP) and represents one of the 15 national projects competitively selected for the program. WCD IP forms the GEF-8 phase of the Global Wildlife Program (GWP) and will leverage the existing GWP knowledge platform to enhance collaboration and learning across GEF phases. In this document, WCD IP will hereafter be referred to as GEF-8 GWP to reflect this integration.

This project responds to the increasing levels of human-tiger conflict in the buffer zones of key protected areas in the Terai Arc Landscape of Nepal by removing the four key barriers described above to achieve the project objective. While a wide range of threats impact the ecosystems and wildlife of the Terai Arc Landscape, many of these are part of the larger picture beyond the immediate aims of this project – which focuses on addressing the key drivers of HWC/HTC. **The Theory of Change (ToC)** for the project is that:

### IF:

- - - An integrated policy and planning framework for HWC management[1]<sup>17</sup> and coexistence[2]<sup>18</sup> is established;
    - - Stakeholders’ capacity is increased and training provided on human-tiger conflict prevention and situation management;
-

- - HTC impacts are reduced through strengthened engagement of stakeholders, early warning and rapid relief and response approach;
- - Social behavior change interventions reduce local stakeholder exposure to HTC through improved understanding of risks and practice of adaptive actions;
- - Buffer Zone communities are empowered and provided with livelihood options that reduce their dependence on forest resources and exposure to HTC;
- - Human-tiger conflict response and delivery of relief is strengthened and informed by monitoring and piloting interventions;
- - Critical habitats in conflict hotspots are effectively functioning and resilient through science-based management and restoration; and
- - Knowledge generation, exchange and learning enable replication and scaling up of best practices.

#### **THEN:**

- The project will be able to advance human-wildlife coexistence in key tiger-bearing protected area landscapes in Nepal, deliver global environmental benefits for the tiger and other globally significant wildlife populations in the Terai Arc Landscape, human wellbeing benefits (such as greater security from HWC/HTC impacts, improved delivery of relief, and support for alternative livelihoods) to at least 121,000 local people including women, indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups living in the targeted PA landscapes, and provide a model for other tiger-range countries through the Global Wildlife Program.

#### **BECAUSE:**

- The combined interventions across the four components of the project will build on baseline initiatives to address key barriers that constrain progress towards reducing the impacts of HWC and HTC in particular, and to advance livelihood and development pathways that reduce risks and contribute towards coexistence with wildlife in the targeted landscapes.

**The Theory of Change diagram** is shown in **Figure 1 (below)**, including the **main assumptions** underlying the causal pathways between the project interventions and desired outcomes. The project objective will be achieved through four interconnected components, whose intervention strategies are described below, including how these are aligned with and contribute to the GEF-8 GWP outcomes and will result in both global environmental benefits and human well-being benefits.

**GEF-8 levers of transformation** relating to governance and policy, financial leverage, innovation and learning, and multi-stakeholder dialogue are targeted by this project, and in addition, social behavior change will be important for shifting the knowledge, attitudes and practices of stakeholders in the targeted landscapes in order to reduce the exposure of vulnerable communities to HTC risks and support the uptake of more sustainable and resilient livelihood options that are conducive towards coexistence with wildlife.

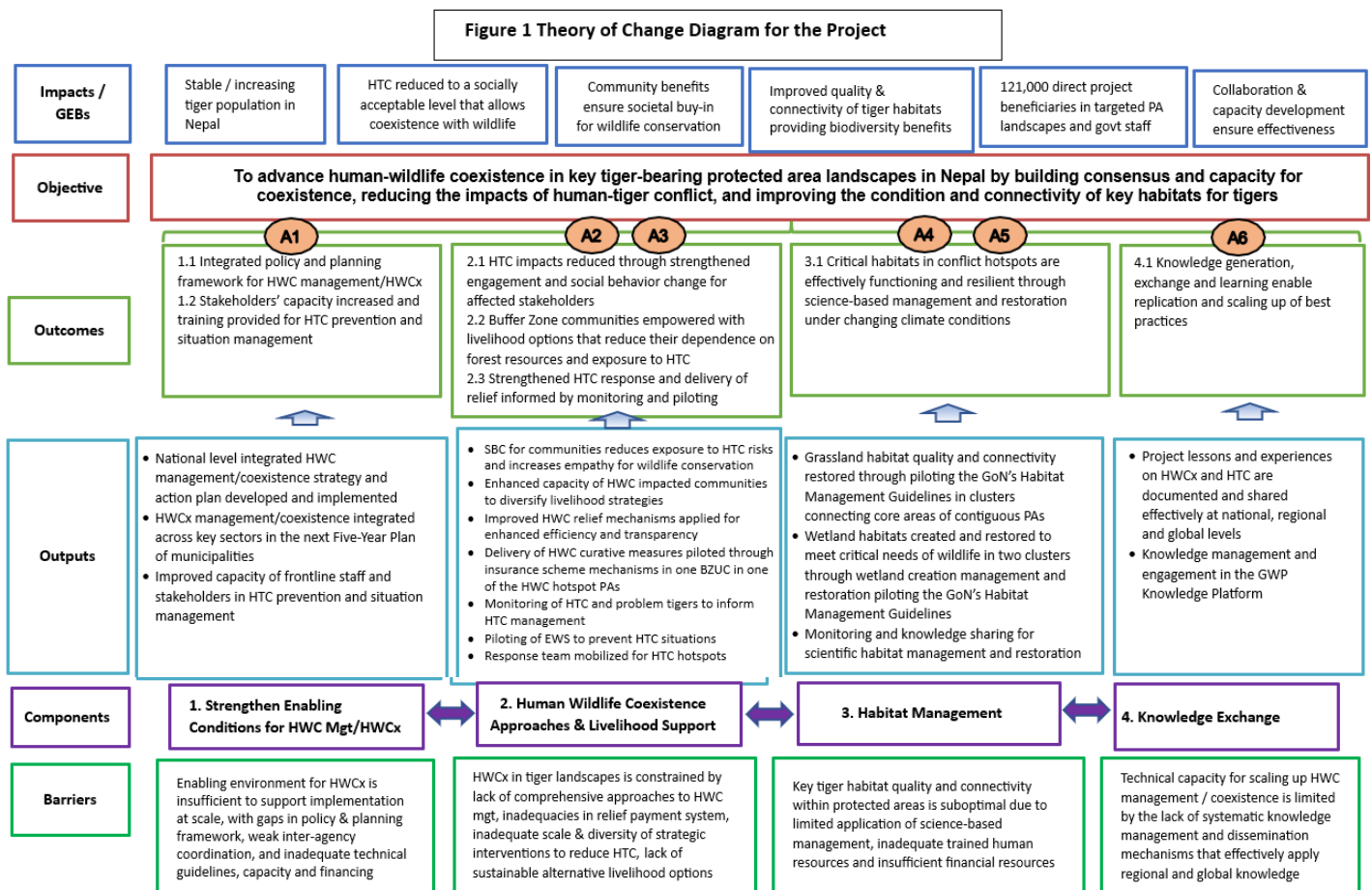
The accomplishment of the project outcomes across the four components will result in an improved national enabling environment for addressing HWC, implementation of a comprehensive approach for achieving

human-tiger coexistence in the targeted landscapes, improved habitat quality and connectivity to support populations of tigers, their prey and other wildlife, and enhanced capacity for HWC management. These outcomes will result in the reduction of diverse threats that contribute to HWC by encroaching, degrading and fragmenting wildlife habitats, and disturbing or killing wildlife in the PAs, buffer zones and community forests of the TAL, and provide the mechanisms for sharing and scaling up successful project approaches beyond the target intervention areas. They will also provide direct benefits to engaged communities through reduction of HWC impacts and enhanced relief delivery systems, and through the improvement and diversification of sustainable livelihoods to strengthen motivation for nature conservation and coexistence with wildlife.

Overall, the strengthening of stakeholder engagement, coordination between government bodies, technical capacity for HWC management, and reduction of threats will contribute **towards global environmental benefits** that include:

- Improved management of at least 388,969 ha of globally significant protected areas in the Terai Arc Landscape (CI#1); and
- 3,350 ha of grassland and 20 ha of wetland habitats restored (CI#3);
- These are reflected in the **GEF 8 Core Indicators** in the table below and Results Framework (**Annex C**). In addition, the project will contribute directly towards the conservation and sustainable management of the globally significant *Terai Duar Savanna and Grasslands* and *Eastern Himalayan Subtropical Broadleaf Forests* ecoregions, including important populations of the tiger, leopard, Asian elephant and greater one-horned rhinoceros as well as more than 30 other globally threatened species sharing the same habitats.

Figure 1 Theory of Change Diagram for the Project



**Assumptions for the Theory of Change Diagram:**

*A1: Government support for wildlife conservation is not superseded by economic development demands in the Terai Arc Landscape*

*A2: Participatory identification of social behavior changes, awareness raising of HTC together with viable sustainable livelihood options are sufficient to reduce occurrence of HWC and/or create promote coexistence.*

*A3: Reduced HTC / HWC plus improved sustainable livelihood benefits and adequate support from relief schemes are experienced by enough people to support coexistence with wildlife*

*A4: Improved habitats are sufficiently large and remain well connected to sustain viable tiger and prey populations*

*A5: Protected Areas are well managed and sufficiently financed over time to maintain connected habitats in good condition*

*A6: Technical assistance and knowledge exchange is sufficient to enable uptake of best practices and achievement of technical outcomes*

The project's contributions to the **GEF-8 Global Wildlife Program (Wildlife Conservation and Development Integrated Program)** are summarized in **Table 1 below (policy alignment section)**. The main focus of the project is aligned with Component 1 of the GEF-8 GWP and will directly contribute to Outcome 1 of "healthy, stable or increased populations of threatened wildlife", as well as towards Outcome 3 "Community benefits ensure societal buy-in for wildlife conservation" and Outcome 4 "Collaboration, capacity development and partnerships ensure maximum effectiveness". The project will work with the World Bank GWP coordination team as the Lead Agency of the GWP, which runs the GWP knowledge platform and coordination activities that this national project will participate in.

The project's Components, Outcomes and Outputs are summarized below. See **Annex 10** for a more detailed description of the project strategy including indicative activities.

## **Component 1: Strengthen enabling conditions for HWC management and coexistence**

### ***Outcome 1.1: Integrated policy and planning framework for HWC management and coexistence established***

*This Outcome seeks to improve the planning process for integration of HWC management through formulation of National level HWC strategy and Action Plan with PA specific HWC plans within it. Concurrently, the outcome will support integration of conflict management and coexistence interventions in key sectors including agriculture and forestry at the local level. The integration process will be conducted in the Human-tiger conflict hotspot municipalities including at least 20 municipalities around all five of the tiger-bearing protected areas of the Terai Arc Landscape in Nepal (Madi, Bharatpur, Ratnanagar, Thori, Manahari, Rapti Sonari, Kohalpur, Geruwa, Madhuban, Thakurbaba, Rajapur, Bhimdatta, Shuklaphanta, Dodhara-Chandani, Bedkot, Laljhadi, Beldandi, Belauri, Binayee Tribeni, Madhyabindu, Kawasoti, Gaidakot, Devchuli). A series of workshops will be conducted with the municipalities to facilitate participatory planning and budgeting in relation to human-tiger conflict management. Two Outputs are supported:*

*Output 1.1.1: National level integrated HWC management / coexistence strategy and action plan developed and implemented*

*Output 1.1.2: HWC management/coexistence integrated across key sectors in the next five-year plan of municipalities adjoining NPs (for municipalities in HWC hotspots)*

### ***Outcome 1.2: Stakeholders' capacity increased and training provided on HTC prevention and situation management***

This outcome will build the capacity of key stakeholders within and beyond the protected areas in preventing and managing conflict situations. Field interactions have clearly indicated that currently conflict prevention and management capacity is limited to protected area staff who have various other tasks and responsibilities. The consultations have highlighted that this capacity needs to be built in other government and community stakeholders such as local government and communities, division forest offices, District Administration Office, security agencies including the District Administration Office as the District Disaster and Security focal point etc. The training events will focus on managing emergency and conflict situations which also demand handling crowds during tense situations and maintaining the safety and security of technical staff involved in handling problem animals. Currently, the tiger-bearing National Parks lack capacity for effective HTC management and delays in response have led to anger and resentment among local communities. Additionally, the National Park staff lack basic skillsets, tools and transportation facilities to handle an emergency situation followed by rescue and response in a conflict situation.

In terms of institutionalizing and ensuring the sustainability of this Outcome, the proposed protocol for wildlife handling measures in HTC prone areas will apply to all tiger-bearing protected areas in Nepal, while ongoing training needs on HTC situation management, wildlife management and crowd management, and replacement and upgrading of wildlife handling equipment will be included in park management plans and budget requests to DNPWC. The government will make use of the improved capacity for management of problem tigers through institutionalization in DNPWC as this issue will continue to be of national importance.

There is one Output:

*Output 1.2.1: Improved capacity and resources of frontline staff and key stakeholders in HTC prevention and situation management*

### **Component 2: Human wildlife coexistence approaches and livelihood support**

#### ***Outcome 2.1: HTC impacts reduced through strengthened engagement and social behavior change for affected stakeholders***

This outcome aims to extend SBC among HTC-impacted communities in buffer zone hotspot areas. This will follow a facilitated participatory process through which communities identify and acknowledge risks associated with various behaviors and livelihoods leading towards the identification of changes that can be made to achieve greater security. The project will also support gender-sensitive awareness and educational activities that aim to build understanding of tigers and their role in ecosystems, and pride in having tigers as a prominent feature of local culture.

*Output 2.1.1: Social Behavior Change (SBC) measures for HTC-affected communities reduce exposure to HTC risks and increase empathy for wildlife conservation (such as avoiding forest entry at times of day when tigers are actively hunting; changing livestock husbandry practices to reduce forest entry; securing livestock at night; illuminating village areas at night; indoor toilet use, etc.)*

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***Outcome 2.2: Buffer Zone communities are empowered and provided with livelihood options that reduce their dependence on forest resources and exposure to HTC***

This outcome will aim to reduce the risks of human-wildlife interactions for the forest dependent communities by providing comprehensive packages for specific gender-sensitive livelihood options that complement the above behavioral changes. Most tiger attacks occur when villagers are extracting forest products. This outcome intends to enable these vulnerable households in conflict hotspots to stay out of the adjoining forests by creating livelihood options and focus on enterprise development that build on a value-chain approach where local communities are engaged in alternative strategies based on market demand. The specific livelihood solutions will be tailored to the actual context and needs of communities in the targeted areas including attention to gender and social inclusion requirements.

In terms of their environmental sustainability, all project activities including livelihood activities will be subject to screening in line with ESMF provisions for this project to ensure that impacts on natural habitats are avoided or mitigated, and only native species are used for aquaculture and forestry projects. In principle, as the aim is to reduce the exposure of villagers to tiger attacks by providing alternatives to the collection of forest produce and free grazing practices, this should result in a general reduction on pressure on natural habitats away from villages in the PA buffer zones.

In terms of the process for tiger-safe livelihood development and monitoring, the project will work with the park Buffer Zone Management Committees and Buffer Zone User Committees to select key areas and communities where HTC has been identified as a particular problem and where alternative livelihood development is seen as a viable means of reducing its prevalence. The project will undertake a participatory process for the discussion and selection of livelihood options for the affected communities, in collaboration with the BZMCs and relevant municipalities. A livelihood action plan will be developed for each community (or area?), including the identified livelihood options, capacity development needs, activities and estimated investments required. The project will then work with the BZMCs, municipalities, sectoral extension officers (agriculture, livestock, fisheries, enterprise development, etc) and other stakeholders to provide the required technical assistance based on a comprehensive package approach. The livelihood action plans will include monitoring and evaluation requirements for each strategy which will be implemented by the project in collaboration with the BZMCs. M&E will also track the number of cases of HTC in each community throughout the project to determine the effectiveness of the intervention in reducing attacks on livestock and people. The project has taken into account learning from several other projects in the TAL in developing this approach (including the UK Darwin Initiative “Living With Tigers” project, GEF6 Integrated Landscape Management project, WWF Nepal Projects, See Annex 10 (Detailed project strategy) which describes the planned activities.

*Output 2.2.1: Enhanced capacity of HWC impacted communities to diversify livelihood strategies*

***Outcome 2.3: Strengthened human-tiger conflict response and delivery of relief informed by monitoring and piloting interventions***

This outcome aims to improve HTC response and relief mechanisms, responding to needs expressed during consultations among affected communities. Currently, relief mechanisms are too slow and inefficient. This outcome aims to digitize the relief claim and distribution mechanism in a way that does not put the burden of proof on the HTC victims. Another concern is that relief amounts are significantly less when the damage is in the form of larger livestock such as cows and buffaloes. Hence, the conflict data will be digitized at provincial

level and an insurance scheme piloted in one of the hotspots along one Buffer Zone User Committee either in Chitwan or Bardia NP. This Outcome will also identify knowledge gaps and generate information that can be used to pilot early warning systems to safeguard communities. It will assess local conflict contexts and the effectiveness of HTC prevention and management interventions for replication and scaling up. Field consultations also highlighted the need for closer monitoring of problem animals that enter farms and settlements and start attacking livestock and humans, and effectively warning communities at risk.

The intention for this Outcome is to engage with the UNDP BIOFIN Nepal programme and private sector insurance companies to design a HWC insurance pilot in the project areas. This would aim to build on BIOFIN's ongoing baseline work in conducting a feasibility study to identify the most appropriate insurance schemes (private led, community led or a mixed model), estimate insurance premiums using risk methodologies and develop mechanisms to finance the premiums. A technical committee with representatives from the Ministry of Forest and Environment, BIOFIN, insurance companies, Nepal Insurance Authority and Ujyalo Nepal will support this process. Two insurance companies have already expressed their willingness to cooperate and a local government from the Mohana Laljahdi Biological Corridor in Sudurpaschim province has agreed to contribute to the insurance premiums. The National Insurance Authority has also pledged its support for this initiative[3].

In terms of technology company engagement, there is strong potential to replicate the use of the TrailGuard AI [4] camera-alert system (or similar) that has been successfully deployed in the Kanha-Pench Tiger Corridor in India [5] under Output 2.3.4. The activities include a study tour to review such an Early Warning System in action and subsequent follow up and capacity development for its use in Nepal.

*Output 2.3.1: Improved HWC relief mechanisms applied for enhanced efficiency and transparency*

*Output 2.3.2: Delivery of HWC curative measures piloted through insurance scheme mechanisms in one BZUC in one of the HWC hotspot PAs*

*Output 2.3.3: Monitoring of HTC and problem tigers to inform HTC management*

*Output 2.3.4: Piloting of early warning system based on real time camera trapping and text message alert system to prevent HTC occurring*

### **Component 3: Habitat management**

Component 3 of the project will contribute directly to GWP GEF-8 Component 1: Coexistence of People and Wildlife across Connected Landscapes, with the long-term Outcome: Healthy, stable or increased populations of threatened wildlife (see CEO ER Table 1: Alignment of the project with the GEF-8 Wildlife Conservation and Development Integrated Program framework, pp35-36).

The rationale for Component 3 is that in the baseline, important natural grassland areas in the three targeted National Parks are not being effectively managed, which has resulted in their degradation through encroachment of woody vegetation and invasive species and reduced value for tiger prey species and other wildlife. As a result, tiger prey disperse into the buffer zones resulting in increased tiger presence in these areas, contributing towards the incidence of human-tiger conflict. The paucity of small wetlands / waterbodies in the core zone grasslands is another factor affecting the distribution of herbivores and tigers, exacerbated by climate change-influenced seasonal water shortages. By improving grassland condition and connectivity and providing small wetlands in strategic areas of the park core zones, the project can improve the prey base within the core zones for the tigers, and reduce the potential for tigers to follow prey into the buffer zones.

Nepal has pioneered the landscape approach to conservation, hence protected areas of the Terai Arc Landscape (TAL, in both Nepal and India) are connected by a series of corridors that permit wildlife movements, within the context of the TAL Strategy and Action Plan, as well as species action plans. This has been the subject of the GEF6 Integrated Landscape Management TAL Project, hence corridors are not the focus of the current project. As the three targeted National Parks support most of the source population of tigers for the TAL (and Banke and Shuklaphanta NPs will also benefit through some shared activities), improved management of the declining grasslands as key habitats for tigers is a critical need to sustain the status of this population. This will also benefit other important grassland species (with significant needs for small wetlands) such as the Greater One-horned Rhinoceros (VU), Asian Elephant (EN), Gaur (VU), Wild Water Buffalo (EN) and Bengal Florican (CR).

Having established this system, the government wishes to reduce HWC/HTC in buffer zone areas, which is where it is most prevalent. As such it does not support habitat improvement to attract wildlife in the buffer zones – it wishes to ensure the park core zones provide the needs for core populations of wildlife, while the designated corridors allow for their movement and dispersal (they are important for tiger dispersal). The project is therefore well aligned with the government’s approach in focusing on habitat management in the protected area core zones, and on tackling HWC/HTC in the buffer zones. Inter-agency coordination on HWC management supported in Component 1 and through the TAL Strategy and Action Plan provides for connections between the parks, corridors and production landscapes.

***Outcome 3.1: Critical habitats in conflict hotspots are effectively functioning and resilient through science-based management and restoration under changing climate conditions***

This outcome intends to improve habitat management science and practice for enhanced effectiveness and learning through wetland and grassland management and restoration. Consultations emphasized the fact that protected areas face resource constraints for habitat management. Local communities understand that limited habitat management interventions inside PAs is leading to the movement of prey animals into farms, which are followed by tigers - leading to conflict. Concurrently, this outcome will also promote learning and knowledge exchange for habitat management and restoration across PAs in Nepal, India and globally.

In the context of this Component seeking to retain tigers and their prey within park Core Zones, proposed activities such as wetland/waterbody creation and restoration within PAs fulfils a critical need for wildlife including herbivores and tigers. The provision of such small waterbodies is even more critical in the current context of climate change-induced water scarcity impacts such as seasonal drought and wildfires, to prevent wildlife dispersal outside the PA core zones. Existing created wetlands in the TAL have added considerable value to the landscape, for example as wallows for rhinos and habitat for waterbirds in addition to their intended function as watering holes for herbivores, tigers and other wildlife. Proposed sites for creating wetlands will be assessed for potential environmental impacts before construction according to ESMF provisions and will be located in natural depressions without altering the natural landscape. In addition, these newly created waterbodies will enhance the soil moisture that directly reduces the extent of wildfires. The project will provide Personal Protective Equipment to ensure work safety during construction while special consideration will be provided to make these wetlands wildlife friendly.

*Output 3.1.1: Grassland habitat quality and connectivity restored through piloting the GoN’s Habitat Management Guidelines in clusters\* connecting core areas of contiguous PAs*

*Output 3.1.2: Wetland habitats created and restored to meet critical needs of wildlife in two clusters through wetland creation and restoration piloting the GoN’s Habitat Management Guidelines*

*Output 3.1.3: Monitoring and knowledge sharing for scientific habitat management and restoration*

\*Clusters are blocks of habitat (wetlands/grasslands) with potential for intervention that are identified based on criteria proposed by the government's Habitat Management Guideline. The project habitat clusters are located within Parsa, Chitwan and Bardia National Parks. These specific intervention sites are identified based on local wildlife movements and potential requirements for the upscaling of habitat requirements. These areas are also tentatively identified in the Protected Area Management Plans of the respective National Parks and Species Conservation Actions Plans. The selection of these clusters is based on the following criteria:

1. In terms of expansion into new grasslands or maintenance of existing grasslands, the priority is on areas that show or hold potential to provide a habitat for two or more than two species, are flat lands close to wetlands/ponds or water sources, and are important in terms of prey species;
2. In terms of integrated management or extension of new habitat, the priority for selection should be on areas that have grasslands but lack water sources, or grasslands that had water sources in the past but are depleting in the current situation and natural ponds, swampy lands and water sources should be selected.
3. Areas where grasslands have been degraded due to shrubs and woody vegetation and trees should be selected.
4. Areas located near infrastructure that support the operation and management of the protected area such as park posts, machan, bridges and fire lines should be selected.
5. Areas that hold the potential for promotion of tourism activities should be selected.

#### **Component 4: Knowledge Management**

##### ***Outcome 4.1: Knowledge generation, exchange and learning enable replication and scaling up of best practices***

A proactive approach to knowledge management, exchange and learning is envisaged through implementation of a knowledge management strategy and the development of knowledge and communications products that enable replication and upscaling of project activities. Knowledge management and learning is a core outcome of the GWP, facilitating connectivity and coordination between national projects and amplifying program results. The project will support national participation in GWP knowledge exchange events and promote the sharing of learning achieved during its implementation.

*Output 4.1.1: Project lessons and experiences on HWCx and HTC are documented and shared effectively at national, regional and global levels*

*Output 4.1.2: Knowledge management and engagement in the GWP Knowledge Platform*

#### **Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation**

M&E will be conducted according to WWF/GEF standards including stakeholder engagement, gender equality and social inclusion, and social and environmental safeguard plans and activities. M&E will include results reporting to the GWP IP via the global coordination project team, as well as broader programmatic coordination on M&E.

The Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) system in WWF Nepal is guided by its MEL Strategy that provides the foundation for strengthening the project management and monitoring system. An online database system will collect and record the monitoring data. Quarterly reviews (in 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters) are conducted to track target versus achievement at activity level. Likewise, annual review sessions are organized

at a programmatic level which provide guidance for adaptive management. Periodic result and ESS monitoring are conducted. The midterm review and final evaluation of the project will be undertaken as per the requirements. The project will incorporate GWP-specific questions (e.g., additionality, value-added, and benefits from participating in the GWP) into the mid-term review (MTR) and terminal evaluation (TE) processes.

[1] HWC management includes all actions to reduce contact or conflict incidents and to minimize negative impacts on both people and wildlife. It encompasses actions to monitor, understand, predict, prevent, respond to, and mitigate HWC, all underpinned by strategic policy frameworks. Brooks A. (2015). Human Tiger Conflict: A SAFE Strategy for the tiger range 2016-2022. (WWF Tigers Alive).

[2] Human-wildlife coexistence refers to people and wildlife existing in proximity to each other, whether in contentious, neutral, or beneficial coexistence. In this proposal, human-wildlife coexistence describes a dynamic state in which the interests and needs of both humans and wildlife are generally met, though this coexistence may still contain some level of impact to both and is characterized by a level of tolerance on the human side. Source: Gross E, Jayasinghe N., Brooks A., Polet G., Wadhwa R. and Hilderink-Koopmans F. (2021) A Future for All: The Need for Human-Wildlife Coexistence. (WWF, Gland, Switzerland).

[3] <https://www.biofin.org/news-and-media/nepal-introductory-workshop-risk-financing-pilot-project-wildlife-damage>

[4] <https://www.nightjar.tech/>

[5] <https://conserwewildcats.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2023/10/biad076.pdf>

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

Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this child project, including framework and mechanisms for coordination, governance, financial management and procurement. This should include consideration for linking with other relevant initiatives at country-level (if a country child project) or regional/global level (for coordination platform child project). If possible, please summarize the flow of funds (diagram), accountabilities for project management and financial reporting (organogram), including audit, and staffing plans. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

**The institutional arrangements for project governance are detailed in Annex 12 and summarized here. The Ministry of Finance (MoF), serving as the Operational Focal Point of the GEF, shall facilitate the management and disbursement of the project funds received from the WWF GEF Agency.**

The **Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE)** at the federal level will be the Project Executing Agency and shall have overall execution and technical responsibility for the project. The MoFE shall be accountable to the WWF GEF Agency for the timely execution of the agreed project activities, operational oversight, timely reporting, and effective use of GEF resources for the intended purposes under the provisions made in the Project Financing Agreement, Project Implementing Agreement and the Project Document.

The **WWF GEF Agency** shall provide support to the MoFE and further the PMU in the capacity of Implementing Agency of the project. At the request of the government, WWF Nepal will provide limited execution support funded by (non-GEF) co-financing to the project which includes, financial systems, policies and procedures, and risk assessment and monitoring.

These three **National Parks** will be responsible for executing the project activities directly as per the approved AWP&B under the guidance of the DNPWC and PMU. The National Parks will ensure effective coordination

with partners at the local level. The **Division Forest Offices** will support the implementation of the project activities to be carried out by National Parks.

**The Project Steering Committee (PSC)** will be hosted at the MoFE and led by the Secretary of the MoFE, and is the main governing body of the project. The PSC is responsible for providing strategic guidance and an enabling environment for effective implementation across all levels of the government, and guidance to the PMU. The terms of reference and membership structure of the PSC are given in Annex 12.

**The Project Management Unit (PMU)**, hosted at the DNPWC, will be the secretariat to the PSC led by the Director General serving as the National Project Director (NPD). The DNPWC will guide and facilitate the project execution with the project-executing protected areas, i.e., Chitwan National Park, Parsa National Park, and Bardia National Park. The NPD and other government employees serving the project/PMU will be solely paid by the government.

The NPD will be responsible for overseeing project execution, tracking the progress, and ensuring all project information is communicated with all relevant project partners and the GEF Agency. The MoFE/DNPWC may assign any government employee to serve at the PMU, and a team of project-funded staff will be recruited and seconded to the project by the WWF GEF Agency. The main functions of the PMU and its staffing are described in Annex 12.

In order to assist the PMU in the smooth execution of the project activities and provide technical support to the National Parks (field offices), a team of project-funded staff will be recruited and seconded to the project by the WWF GEF Agency adhering to WWF Nepal's policies and procedures in coordination with the NPD.

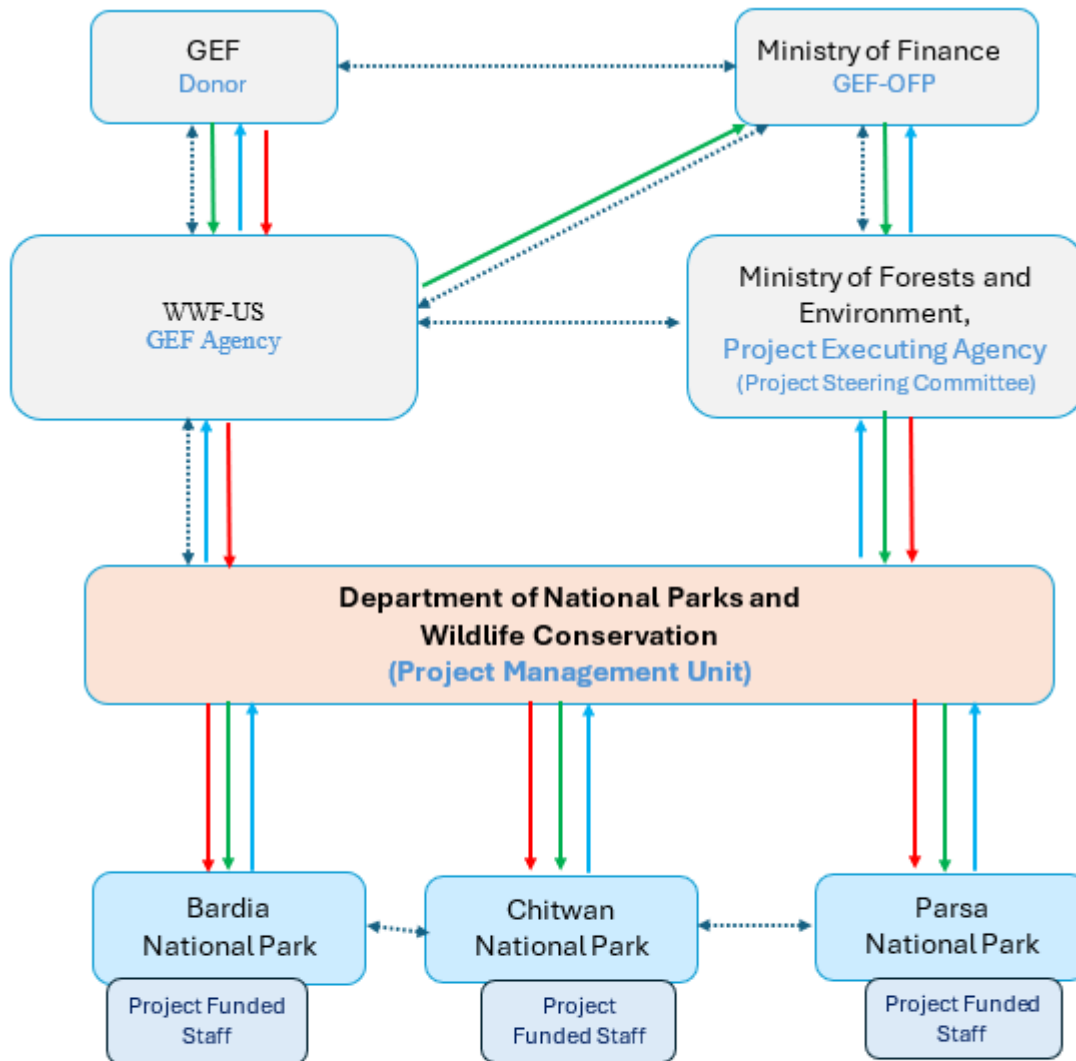
- Project Manager & Technical Lead
- Finance and Administration Officer
- MEL & Communications Officer
- Safeguards/GESI (Short-term)
- Human Wildlife Coexistence Specialist- Officer (2)
- Local Community Engagement Expert (2)
- Outsourced staff (messenger)

Under the guidance of the PSC, the PMU will carry out the following major functions: (i) oversee fiduciary arrangements, (ii) ensure overall efficient management, coordination, and timely implementation of the agreed project work plan/result framework, including the ESMF and related Safeguard plans (iii) oversight of implementation activities, (iv) timely reporting, and for effective use of GEF resources for the approved work plan, and (v) monitoring of the project.





The PMU will comprise the following staff members:

- Director General (DG), DNPWC, National Program Director
- Ecology section chief of DNPWC
- Project Manager & Technical Lead
- Finance and Administration Officer
- Project Officer

The PMU will develop the Project Operational Manual (POM) at the beginning of the project and present it to the first PSC meeting for review and approval. The POM will provide overall guidance on project management and operations and lay out the policies and procedures to ensure financial and operational compliance in the project. The TORs for the project-funded staff will be detailed in the POM.



**Legend:**

- Reporting: 
- Fund Flow: 
- Coordination: 
- Guidance: 

Will the GEF Agency play an execution role on this child project? No

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

No the project does not expect the agency to play an execution role.

WWF Nepal is a key partner of the Government of Nepal and will provide services at the request of the government as co-financing to the project, without accessing any GEF funds. In close coordination with the Government of Nepal, WWF Nepal will ensure that the financial and programmatic management of the project aligns with the required policies and standards. The execution support will include:

- Recruitment of PMU staff and consultants to be assigned to the PMU, as directed by MoFE
- Administering funds for hiring the PMU and certain TA activities, such as workshops, in accordance with GEF and WWF policies and procedures,
- Providing technical backstopping for the smooth execution of the project.

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

As a child project of the GEF-8 GWP, the project will both participate in and benefit from knowledge exchange through the GWP knowledge platform including national participation in GWP annual conferences, thematic and regional conferences, study tours and trainings, twinning visits between countries as well as GWP regional coordination calls, surveys and thematic webinars (Output 4.1.2).

Related projects are detailed in the Baseline Analysis Report. Of these, the WWF/GEF-6 ILaM Project<sup>[1]<sup>19</sup></sup>

will be in its final stages as the current project starts up. Relevant aspects of the ILaM project include the demonstration of corridor and buffer zone management for Bardia and Banke National Parks including support for sustainable livelihoods and enhancing landscape connectivity to benefit wildlife. The ILaM NPM participated in PPG consultations and MoFE will ensure coordination through the PSC, as the Executing Agency for both projects.

Following WWF-Nepal participation in their initial PPG workshop, coordination with the ADB/GEF-8 GRID project<sup>[2]<sup>20</sup></sup>

will be undertaken in relation to minimizing and mitigating the impacts of infrastructure development on wildlife in the TAL, through MoFE.

The UNDP BIOFIN II project in Nepal is an important partner to support sustainable financing of PAs, and to advise on piloting an HWC insurance scheme under Component 2. Further to PPG consultations, the PMU will coordinate directly with the BIOFIN Project Coordinator on these issues.

The PMU will lead on arranging regular coordination meetings with other projects active in the project landscapes (including USAID, NTNC, ZSL and IUCN/KfW, projects), to ensure that efforts are well aligned and knowledge is exchanged between initiatives. WWF-Nepal will ensure that the project is fully integrated with other WWF-supported initiatives through its technical assistance and co-financing inputs.

[1] Integrated Landscape Management to Secure Nepal's Protected Areas and Critical Corridors (ILaM). WWF US GEF6 Project ID: 9437

[2] Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development in Nepal: Terai Arc Landscape Case. ADB GEF8 Project ID: 11470

## Table On Core Indicators

### Core Indicators

Indicate expected results in each relevant indicator using methodologies indicated in the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework Guidelines. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

#### Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
297700	388969	0	0

#### Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

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

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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#### Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
297700	388969	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Bardia National Park	1308	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	129,500.00	129,500.00			59.00		
Chitwan National Park	10905	Others	168,200.00	168,200.00			63.00		

Parsa NP	10089	National Park		91,269.00		52.00		
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### Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	3370	0	0

### Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

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

### Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

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

### Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Natural grass		3,350.00		

### Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	20.00		

### Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

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

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (direct)</b>		0		
<b>Expected metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (indirect)</b>				
<b>Anticipated start year of accounting</b>				
<b>Duration of accounting</b>				

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

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

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

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

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

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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**Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments**

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
<b>Female</b>	70,000	60,400		
<b>Male</b>	50,000	60,600		
<b>Total</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>121,000</b>	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)

Core Indicator 1. The project will contribute to sub-indicator 1.2 through strengthening park management capacity for addressing HWC/HTC in buffer zones, behavior change and livelihood interventions to reduce HTC; and restore key tiger habitats. Improved management will be pursued across Chitwan NP (95,263 ha), Bardia NP (96,800 ha) and Parsa NP (62,739 ha) including their buffer zones (BZ): Chitwan BZ (72,937 ha), Bardia BZ (32,700 ha) and Parsa BZ (28,530 ha). This collectively accounts for 388,969 ha, an increase of 91,269 ha over the project concept through addition of Parsa NP.

Core Indicator 3. Component 3 will restore grasslands to increase prey populations and retain tigers inside NP Core Zones for Chitwan NP (1,500 ha); Parsa NP (350 ha); Bardia NP (1,500 ha). Similarly, the project will provide additional water sources in targeted NP Core Zones to benefit tigers, their prey and other wildlife by creating small waterbodies and restoring small wetlands at Chitwan NP (8 wetlands totaling <10ha); Parsa NP (5 wetlands totaling <5ha); Bardia NP (5 wetlands totaling <5ha).

Core Indicator 11. An estimated 121,000 (male: 60,600; female: 60,400) people will directly benefit from the project and use resources that the project will maintain or enhance (see table below). The people are expected to benefit directly through livelihood support and HWC mitigation. A large portion of the community beneficiaries will also benefit through behavior change activities. The project will also directly benefit government staff across a range of agencies through training and capacity development activities. The behavior change communication and livelihood activities will engage a large number of direct beneficiaries, and both of these specifically target women. The GESI mainstreaming Action Plan suggests 50:50 participation for men and women, considering the outmigration of men for employment it also proposes 60% women engagement where feasible. For Government staff, a 50:50 ratio is not possible since there just aren't so many female staff.

## Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Moderate	1- Unfavorable climatic conditions, including extreme weather events may negatively affect project implementation and outcomes – including flood and drought risk impacts on targeted habitats, wildlife populations, local communities and field site access; ● Current climatic variability has been taken into account in the design through a Climate Risk Assessment and will be considered during the implementation of all interventions. ● The project will support climate-resilient livelihood interventions, such as ecotourism development, and use of drought-resilient variants of crops and other plants; fire management; Other measures to increase the climate-resilience of local communities will be considered. ● Field operations will make use of locally-based staff supported by mobile communications as far as possible, and scheduling of field activities will take account of seasonal rains in order to avoid disruption.
Environmental and Social	Moderate	2- The project design and implementation results in environmental and social impacts cannot be adequately mitigated ● This risk has been assessed through a comprehensive screening procedure that has determined a Moderate level of risk, arising from a combination of risks concerning human rights, indigenous people, natural habitats and wildlife, community health, safety and security, physical and cultural resources, gender equality and women’s rights, and climate change; ● This risk has been mitigated through the inclusion in the project design of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), including an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework, a project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and a Cultural Resources Plan. In addition, a Stakeholder Engagement Plan and a Gender Assessment and Gender Action Plan have been prepared.
Political and Governance	Moderate	3-Significant delays in implementation due to inefficient government processes to acquire approvals for operational decisions, documents and deliverables, and suboptimal collaboration between agencies involved in project governance and HWC management ● The PMU and WWF Nepal will communicate closely with government authorities involved in decision-making between Project Steering Committee meetings in order to provide advance warning and guidance of upcoming needs, and relevant supporting information. ● The project has been developed in full collaboration with the Government of Nepal and its agencies, including discussions and joint efforts between relevant government agencies (e.g. under the Tiger Conservation Action Plan). The momentum created by the project will further strengthen and institutionalize coordination mechanisms. Collaborative work will be

		demonstrated at national, provincial and local levels and necessary systemic and institutional capacities will be installed to ensure sustainability.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	4-Changes in political leadership and government priorities may occur that reduce the significant commitment needed across government to effectively address HWC and advance HWCx in a holistic manner • Advocacy and awareness raising among government decision-makers will be built in as an integral part of the project activities, as well as capacity development through involvement in international GWP and regional collaboration activities
Technological	Moderate	5 – The project design includes a number technology-based interventions that could encounter challenges of uptake due to conflict with requirements for confidentiality of information (e.g. on location of tigers) and other sensitivities • The PPG process has included consultation on the project’s technical design with relevant stakeholders in-country including inputs and approval from DNPWC / MoFE • WWF GEF Agency reviews have confirmed and approved the technical of the project design • GWP alignment reviews have confirmed that the project design will contribute towards identified GWP GEF-8 Program Outcomes • Annual adaptive management reflection reviews informed by M&E results, and the MTR provide opportunities for adjustments during implementation as needed.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	6- Government budget allocations for the key agencies involved in HWC management may be inadequate to ensure an effective and sustainable response at different levels of organization • The project will ensure that the Ministry of Finance is engaged as a Project Steering Committee member to build understanding of the need to allocate sufficient budgetary resources to support the National Parks in managing wildlife habitats and responding to HWC cases in Buffer Zones, the Municipalities to support HWC-affected communities, and DNPWC to coordinate HWC management and the HWC relief scheme
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Moderate	7- Government staff turnover may impede project implementation: inexperienced staff may therefore have to lead on some activities and staff turnover may lead to the loss of institutional knowledge regarding project interventions, and less effective implementation • The project aims to build capacity within the government agencies involved in HWC management and will train staff from the relevant units, as well as other related agencies. This will increase the depth of experience and skills available both for the project and future work. • Relationships with the appropriate individuals in respective government bodies will be established through clear institutional mandates for roles and responsibilities in the project • A knowledge management platform will be developed to facilitate the transfer of knowledge regarding project interventions.

Fiduciary	Moderate	8- Low capacity to disburse project funds • Support from WWF Nepal to the government can substantially facilitate recruitment, procurement and subcontracting processes if needed
Stakeholder	Moderate	9- Risk that incentives for uptake of sustainable livelihood options are insufficient or not materialized to change behavior towards achieving intended conservation outcomes • Sustainable livelihood interventions will be targeted in specific conflict hotspot areas, especially where there is some baseline experience or receptivity to build on, with consideration of supporting vulnerable communities. Livelihood support will take the form of comprehensive packages including equipment, TA, and marketing support. • Further to PPG consultations and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Action Plan, proposals for livelihoods will be based on consultation and agreement of local communities, and socialized before uptake. • As far as possible, the project will seek to embed incentives and TA within government programs and build local capacity for line agency support to strengthen sustainability of community engagement in conservation management, nature-based tourism and other forms of sustainable livelihoods.
Other	Low	10- Infectious disease outbreaks causing similar disruption to the COVID-19 Pandemic are a possibility, with the potential for major impacts on implementation. • The project will comply with government directives including travel restrictions in order to reduce health risks to project staff and stakeholders. The project will also follow WWF Nepal policy and directives for field activities, meetings, etc. • Project start-up may be delayed or implementation may be paused if necessary, in affected areas while government public health control measures are implemented, and resumed at a later time if feasible. The project duration of 60 months is long enough to provide flexibility to cope with such risks. • The Project Steering Committee will guide project responses for ongoing situations, as required. • Revision of the project workplan may be necessary, and an extension request may be required if implementation is substantially delayed. • Some adaptive adjustments may be needed to project strategy (e.g., on community livelihood development). • Project support for PPE and IT communications to facilitate remote working will be provided through the project budget if needed.
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	Due to the risks in many categories being “moderate” as well as the Environmental and Social Safeguards rating being “moderate” the project is classified as “Moderate” Risk.

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

Explain how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies, including the specific integrated program priorities, and country and regional priorities, Describe how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements, such as through NDCs, NBSAPs, etc.

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)

**GEF-8 Programming Strategies:** As a child project of the GEF-8 Global Wildlife Program, the project is closely aligned with the Biodiversity strategy in the GEF-8 Programming Directions. The GEF-8 GWP “will support countries to secure terrestrial, freshwater and marine wildlife populations and key landscapes through an integrated approach to combat the illegal and high-risk consumption and trade by addressing key elements of the supply chain (poaching, trafficking and demand); and it will support strategies for the coexistence of human and wildlife populations through landscape-level conservation and by managing human-wildlife conflict, while incorporating a new focus on zoonotic spillover risk reduction by promoting control and proper regulation of wildlife trade and unsustainable wildlife exploitation for non-trade purposes”. This child project, which focuses on reducing human-wildlife conflict and advancing coexistence with wildlife, contributes directly to the following GEF-8 GWP Components:

Component 1: Coexistence of People and Wildlife in Connected Habitats, through the overall project aim of advancing human-wildlife coexistence in key tiger-bearing PA landscapes in Nepal, strengthening the policy environment and institutional capacity for HWC management, and reducing the incidence of HTC in targeted landscapes.

Component 3: Wildlife for Prosperity, through community empowerment and livelihood diversification in targeted landscapes.

Component 4: Coordination and Knowledge Exchange for Transformational Impact, through knowledge generation, exchange and learning to enable scaling up, strengthening of technical capacity at national and sub-national levels, and international technical cooperation.

The project contributions to each of the GEF-8 GWP Outcomes are detailed in Table 1 below, and the Results Framework incorporates required and recommended GEF-8 GWP indicators.

**Table 1. Alignment of the project with the GEF-8 Wildlife Conservation and Development Integrated Program framework**

GWP GEF-8 Component	Relevant GWP GEF-8 program outcomes	Expected project contributions to relevant GWP GEF-8 outcomes
<b>1: Coexistence of People and Wildlife across Connected Landscapes</b>  <i>Long-term outcome: Healthy, stable or increased populations of threatened wildlife</i>	1.1 Protected and conserved areas and other wildlife habitats are well connected, effectively managed and restored	The project will directly contribute towards the improved condition and connectivity of wildlife habitats in targeted protected areas and buffer zones through effective science-based habitat management and restoration (Project Outcome 3.1)
	1.2 Threats to wildlife from poaching and other illegal activities in landscapes and seascapes are reduced	Social behavior change interventions, improved livelihood options, and improved relief payment system to address human tiger conflict will reduce the impacts of HTC and HWC and ameliorate threats such as retaliatory killings of tigers (Project Outcomes 2.1, 2.2, 2.3)
	1.3 Community engagement in wildlife and habitat management is increased	The empowerment of communities and livelihood diversification in Project Component 2, and improved management of wildlife habitats in Component 3 will provide opportunities for community engagement in wildlife and habitat management (Project Outcomes 2.2, 3.1)

	1.4 Human-wildlife conflict is reduced	The project objective is to advance human-wildlife coexistence in key tiger-bearing protected area landscapes in Nepal by building consensus and capacity for coexistence, reducing the impacts of HTC, and improving the condition and connectivity of key habitats for tigers – as such, its overall aim is to reduce HWC (all Project Outcomes contribute)
<b>3: Wildlife for Prosperity</b>  <i>Long-term outcome: Community benefits ensure societal buy-in for wildlife conservation</i>	3.1 Policy, legislation and institutions to support a wildlife-based economy are strengthened	The project aims to advance Human-Wildlife Coexistence through establishing an integrated policy and planning framework for HWC management and coexistence (Project Outcome 1.1)
	3.2 Wildlife conservation financing mechanisms are diversified, and public-private-community partnerships built	Policy measures and mechanisms will enable mainstreaming and sustainable financing for HWCx at federal and provincial levels (under Project Outcome 1.1).
	3.4 Governance and benefit-sharing arrangements involving Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities are strengthened	Improved HWC relief mechanisms benefiting IPLCs will be applied for enhanced efficiency and transparency; and delivery of HWC relief will also be piloted through insurance scheme mechanisms in one PA/complex (under Project Outcome 2.3)
	3.5 Sustainable livelihoods are increased and diversified, especially for women, youth and socially marginalized groups	Buffer Zone communities will be empowered through sustainable livelihood options that decrease dependency on forest resources and that proactively benefit IPLCs – with the aim of reducing their exposure to HWC (Project Outcome 2.2)
<b>4: Coordination and Knowledge Exchange for Transformational Impact</b>  <i>Long-term outcome: Collaboration, capacity development and partnerships ensure maximum effectiveness</i>	4.1 Knowledge generation, exchange and learning enable replication and scale up of best practices	Project Outcome 4.1 will directly seek to address WCD Outcome 4.1 through documenting and sharing project lessons and experiences on HWCx and HTC at national, regional and global levels; and explicitly through knowledge management and engagement in the GWP Knowledge Platform
	4.2 Technical capacity of national and sub-national institutions and partners is collaboratively developed	The project will engage up to 20 Municipalities located around the targeted NPs to strengthen collaboration and resource mobilization for HWC management; it will also strengthen coordination and capacity among relevant government agencies on HWC management including federal and provincial level government agencies (Division Forest Offices, Agriculture Knowledge Centers, Veterinary Hospital and Animal Services Expert Center) (Project Outcome 1.1); it will build the capacity of key stakeholders beyond the protected areas in preventing and managing HWC situations (Project Outcome 1.2); it will also build the capacity of the five NPs in the TAL for science-based habitat management and restoration (Project Outcome 3.1)
	4.3 Collective impact is maximized through strategic Partnerships	The project will engage up to 20 Municipalities located around the targeted NPs to strengthen collaboration and resource mobilization for HWC management; it will also strengthen coordination and capacity among relevant government agencies on HWC management including federal and provincial level government agencies (Division Forest Offices, Agriculture Knowledge Centers, Veterinary Hospital and Animal Services Expert Center) (Project Outcome 1.1)
	4.4. Coordinated monitoring and reporting effectively track progress	The project’s M&E Plan is aligned with WCD requirements and WCD Required and Recommended Indicators have been incorporated in the project results framework

### Country priorities:

The following national commitments and enabling conditions support the project focus on HWC and the goals of the GEF-8 GWP:

- Nepal’s position paper on CBD CoP 15 includes HWC as a serious challenge to wildlife conservation. The project aligns to GBF target 4 to effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to minimize HWC for coexistence.

- The Species Conservation Action Plan for Endangered Species, as mandated under the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), has prioritized achieving the management of HWC as one of its main goals.
- The National Tiger Conservation Committee has prioritized working towards HWCx.
- The Tiger Conservation Action Plan (2023-2032) will address threats through securing tiger habitats and corridors, reducing HTC and enhancing economic opportunities for IPLCs.
- Nationally Determined Contributions 2020 and National Adaptation Plan 2021, which aim to reduce disaster risk and increase community and ecosystem resilience.
- Terai Arc Landscape Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2025), which includes a strategy to “mitigate HWC”.

### Regional priorities:

Nepal is actively engaged in transboundary collaboration on tiger conservation and HWC with its neighbors through mechanisms including SAWEN and the Global Tiger Forum (GTF).

### Global priorities:

The project is aligned with GTF’s objectives and with the global tiger summit declaration in 2022.

The project will contribute towards the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets as follows: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23. Please see the table below:

Table . Project contributions towards the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets

KMGBF Target	Project Contribution
1	Human Wildlife Coexistence will be promoted in national and local intersectoral planning under Outcome 1.1, which will engage some 20 municipalities adjoining NPs in the Terai Arc Landscape
2	The project aims to restore 3,350 ha of grassland to enhance its suitability for supporting tiger prey species and other wildlife (Outcome 3.1)
3	The project will improve HWC management, habitat management and Buffer Zone management of 388,969 ha of protected areas in the Terai Arc Landscape (All Outcomes)
4	Halting species extinctions – by addressing HWC/HTC, the project will not only help secure Nepal’s tiger population, but also facilitate continued support for wildlife conservation in Nepal through avoiding political and public backlash driven by HWC/HTC impacts (All Outcomes)
8	The impacts of climate change on Buffer Zone communities will be reduced through improved inter-agency coordination through engagement of municipalities in Buffer Zone Management (Outcome 1.1) and the development of climate resilient livelihood options (Outcome 2.2)
9	The project will strengthen management of Nepal’s tiger and prey populations through reducing HTC impacts and restoring habitats inside targeted PAs to enhance tiger prey populations and benefit other wildlife (eg rhinos make use of small wetlands to wallow) (All Outcomes)
10	Livelihood development in the targeted PA Buffer Zones will include sustainable agriculture and aquaculture practices (Outcome 2.2)
11	Improved protected area management under Outcome 3.1 will result in secured ecosystem services that will continue to benefit surrounding communities
14	The project aims to advance Human-Wildlife Coexistence through establishing an integrated policy and planning framework for HWC management and coexistence (Project Outcome 1.1)
19	Policy measures and mechanisms will enable mainstreaming and sustainable financing for HWCx at federal and provincial levels. The project will engage up to 20 Municipalities located around the

	targeted NPs to strengthen collaboration and resource mobilization for HWC management. (under Project Outcome 1.1)
20	The project will strengthen coordination and capacity among relevant government agencies on HWC management including federal and provincial level government agencies (Division Forest Offices, Agriculture Knowledge Centers, Veterinary Hospital and Animal Services Expert Center) (Project Outcome 1.1); it will build the capacity of key stakeholders beyond the protected areas in preventing and managing HWC situations (Project Outcome 1.2); it will also build the capacity of the five NPs in the TAL for science-based habitat management and restoration (Project Outcome 3.1)
21	Outcome 4.1 will document and share project lessons and experiences on HWCx and HTC at national, regional and global levels; and through knowledge management and engagement in the GWP Knowledge Platform.
22	The project's Gender and Social Inclusion Plan and Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework provide a systematic basis for ensuring IPLCs engagement in project implementation. Buffer Zone communities will be empowered through sustainable livelihood options that decrease dependency on forest resources and that proactively benefit IPLCs – with the aim of reducing their exposure to HWC (Project Outcome 2.2). Improved HWC relief mechanisms benefiting IPLCs will also be applied for enhanced efficiency and transparency (under Project Outcome 2.3)
23	The project's Gender and Social Inclusion Plan aims to ensure that the project mainstreams gender equality and the empowerment of women into implementation processes.

**National policies supporting linear infrastructure development** in the Terai Arc Landscape region may conflict with the project's outcomes on improving habitat quality and connectivity within Nepal's tiger landscapes. This is a critical issue for biodiversity conservation in the TAL and is the subject of the ADB/GEF-8 project 11470 Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development in Nepal: Terai Arc Landscape Case. The current project will seek to promote mitigation of impacts on biodiversity (especially habitat connectivity for large mammals) in the planning of any new infrastructure and the retrofitting of smart green infrastructure solutions where existing infrastructure clearly impacts wildlife populations, contributing towards human-wildlife conflict.

#### D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

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

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

Yes

**Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.**

Yes

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

Yes

**Stakeholder Engagement**

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

Yes

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

Consulted only; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

**Private Sector**

Will there be private sector engagement in the Child project?

Yes

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

Yes

**Environmental and Social Safeguards**

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

Yes

Please provide overall Project/Program Risk Classification

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 during Project Preparation in the Project Description and that these activities have been budgeted and an anticipated timeline for delivery of relevant outputs has been provided. This includes budget for linking with and participation in knowledge exchange activities organized through the coordination platform.

Yes

### Socio-economic Benefits

We confirm that the child project design has considered socio-economic benefits to be delivered by the project and these have been clearly described in the Project Description and will be monitored and reported on during project implementation (at MTR and TER).

Through this project people will directly benefit from the project interventions and use resources that the project will maintain or enhance. The people are expected to benefit directly through livelihood support and HWC mitigation. This project aims to benefit communities by making Human-Tiger Conflict (HTC) relief faster, fairer, and more efficient. By digitizing claims and distribution, victims no longer bear the burden of proof, ensuring they receive timely support. The pilot insurance scheme offers better compensation for livestock losses, reducing financial hardships. Improved monitoring of problem animals helps prevent attacks on people and livestock, while an early warning system using real-time camera traps and text alerts enhances community safety. Overall, these measures provide more effective conflict management, reducing risks and economic losses while promoting coexistence between people and wildlife.

A large portion of the community beneficiaries will also benefit through behavior change activities by reducing the effects of HTC impacts. The project will also directly benefit government staff across a range of agencies through training and capacity development activities. The behavior change communication and livelihood activities will engage a large number of direct beneficiaries, and both of these specifically target indigenous peoples and women.

The strengthened HWC management planning and institutional collaboration in Component 1 will result in long-term benefits to HWC-affected communities across Nepal. The engagement of at least 20 municipalities adjacent to project targeted PAs will leverage considerable additional resources to support HWC-affected communities. In Component 2, targeted communities supported by project livelihood activities are expected to receive socio-economic benefits in the form of: reduced human and livestock fatalities and injuries from tiger attacks (including reduced medical and veterinary support needs); improved

returns from livestock husbandry through protective corrals, stallfeeding and marketing support; improved returns as a result of assistance with crop selection to avoid HWC losses; improved returns from ecotourism development such as homestay and guiding services; skill-based training and material support (e.g. for lighting, solar fencing) to reduce exposure to HTC and HWC; and improved market access and assistance with market promotion, processing and value chain creation. Improved HWC relief mechanisms applied for enhanced efficiency and transparency will result in more prompt and fair relief payments for affected communities. In Component 3, actions to retain wildlife within park Core Zones will help to reduce HWC impacts on Buffer Zone communities.

## ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
WWF-US	GET	Nepal	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	3,373,739.00	303,636.00	3,677,375.00
WWF-US	GET	Nepal	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	Grant	1,124,579.00	101,212.00	1,225,791.00
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>						<b>4,498,318.00</b>	<b>404,848.00</b>	<b>4,903,166.00</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested? true

PPG Amount (\$) 150000

PPG Agency Fee (\$) 13500

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
WWF-US	GET	Nepal	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	112,500.00	10,125.00	122,625.00
WWF-US	GET	Nepal	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	37,500.00	3,375.00	40,875.00
<b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b>					<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>13,500.00</b>	<b>163,500.00</b>

Please provide Justification

### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
WWF-US	GET	Nepal	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	3,800,000.00
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>3,800,000.00</b>

### Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
Wildlife IP	GET	4,498,318.00	8089798
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>4,498,318.00</b>	<b>8,089,798.00</b>

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

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	WWF-US	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	539798
Civil Society Organization	WWF Nepal	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3750000
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Forests and Environment/Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3800000
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				<b>8,089,798.00</b>

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

Not Applicable

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENT

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Coordinator	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	2/5/2025	Rena Stenhouse	12027669372	RENAE.STENHOUSE@WWFUS.ORG

Project Coordinator	2/5/2025	Heike.Lingertat	12027669372	Heike.Lingertat@wwfus.org
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## Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template.

Name of GEF OFF	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Shreekrishna Nepal	Joint Secretary	Ministry of Finance	4/5/2024

## ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Please indicate the page number in the Project Document where the project results and M&E frameworks can be found. Please also paste below the Project Results Framework from the Agency document. For the Integrated Programs' global/regional coordination child project, please include the program-wide results framework, inclusive of results specific to the coordination child project. For any country child project, please ensure that relevant program level indicators are included.

Please see attached results framework document

Note GWP GEF-8 indicator cross-references

**WWF Project ID:**  
**G0045; GEF ID:**  
**11157**

Indicator (specifying units)	Definition (note if cumulative)	Method/ source	Responsible	Disaggregation	Baseline (YR0)	Targets (annual, or mid-term and close)					Notes/ Assumptions
						YR 1	YR2	YR3	YR 4	YR 5	
<b>Objective: To advance human wildlife coexistence in key tiger-bearing protected areas in Nepal by building consensus and capacity for coexistence, reducing the impacts of human-tiger conflict, and improving the condition and connectivity of key habitats for tigers</b>											
Core Indicator 1: Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use  Sub-Indicator 1.2: Terrestrial protected areas	GEF 1.2: This indicator refers to the number of hectares of protected area whose management has been improved, as indicated by an increased score in the GEF-7 METT Scorecard. 1.2: Number of hectares of terrestrial protected	1.2: GEF-7 METT Scorecard	1.2: M&E Officer in consultation with DNPWC, PA staff and key stakeholders	1.2: Disaggregated: Chitwan NP (168,200 ha) Bardia NP (129,500 ha) Parsa NP (91,269 ha) Total: 388,969 ha	0	1.2: N/A	1.2: N/A	1.2: Disaggregated: Chitwan NP (168,200 ha) Bardia NP (129,500 ha) Parsa NP (91,269 ha) Total: 388,969 ha	1.2: Disaggregated: Chitwan NP (168,200 ha) Bardia NP (129,500 ha) Parsa NP (91,269 ha) Total: 388,969 ha	1.2: Main improvements in NP management sought are: - Improved habitat management for tigers and their prey - Improved monitoring of tigers and their prey - Increased support for Buffer Zone communiti	

under improved management effectiveness (hectares)	area whose management has been improved, as indicated by an increased score in the GEF-7 METT Scorecard assessment results for Chitwan NP, Bardia NP, Parsa NP. <b>Non-cumulative.</b>									es to reduce HWC  PA Areas include PA Buffer Zones
Core Indicator 3: Area of land restored  Sub-indicator 3.3: Area of natural grasslands under restoration (# Hectares)	GEF 3.3: This indicator captures the area of grasslands undergoing ecological restoration through GEF-funded interventions (creation of corridors between PAs, riparian buffer zones, etc). <b>Non-cumulative</b>	Field reports ; remote sensing / GIS analyses	M&E Officer	Chitwan NP; Parsa NP; Bardia NP	Chitwan NP: 0 ha Parsa NP: 0 ha Bardia NP: 0 ha	n/a	n/a	Chitwan NP: 1,000 ha Parsa NP: 200 ha Bardia NP: 1,000 ha	n/a	Chitwan NP: 3,500 ha Parsa NP: 500 ha Bardia NP: 2,500 ha
Core Indicator 3: Area of land restored  Sub-indicator 3.4: Area of wetlands under restoration (# Hectares)	GEF 3.4: This indicator captures the area of wetlands undergoing ecological restoration through GEF-funded interventions <b>Non-cumulative</b>	Field reports ; remote sensing / GIS analyses	M&E Officer	Chitwan NP; Parsa NP; Bardia NP	Chitwan NP: 0 ha Parsa NP: 0 ha Bardia NP: 0 ha	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Chitwan NP: 10 wetlands= <10 ha Parsa NP: 5 wetlands= <5 ha Bardia NP: 5 wetlands= <5 ha

<p>Core Indicator 11: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment (# people)</p>	<p>GEF: This indicator captures the total number of direct beneficiaries including the proportion of women beneficiaries; i.e. those who receive targeted support from a given GEF project/activity and/or who use the specific resources that the project maintains or enhances. Support is defined as direct assistance from the project/activity. Direct beneficiaries are all individuals receiving targeted support from a given project. Targeted support is the intentional and direct assistance of a project to individuals or groups of individuals who are aware that they are receiving that support and/or who use the specific resources. <b>Cumulative</b></p>	<p>Field reports ; database</p>	<p>M&amp;E Officer in consultation with gender and stakeholder engagement staff</p>	<p>a) Community members in targeted intervention areas receiving capacity development / training / livelihood support; disaggregated by gender  b) Government staff receiving capacity development / training from the project, disaggregated by gender and national/provincial/local government</p>	<p>a) 0  b) 0</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>a) 60,000 (24,000 Men, 36,000 Women)  b) 500 (300 men and 200 women)</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>a) 120,000 (48,000 Men, 72,000 Women)  b) 1,000 (600 men and 400 women)</p>	<p>Direct beneficiaries only; detailed breakdown to be provided by project Output / activity</p>
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<p>GWP GEF-8 Required Indicator 1.1.1: Targeted wildlife population trends in project supported sites and/or landscapes: Tiger population trends in targeted project landscapes (<b>change in #tigers over baseline</b>)</p>	<p>The targeted project areas are: 1) Chitwan NP and its Buffer Zone 2) Parsa NP and its Buffer Zone 3) Bardia NP and its Buffer Zone Tiger population trends are defined as the change in #tigers according to official GoN census data using 2022 Census as the baseline. Not cumulative</p>	<p>Official GoN tiger census data for the targeted areas sourced from DNPWC</p>	<p>DNPWC</p>	<p>By project area: 1) Chitwan NP and its Buffer Zone 2) Parsa NP and its Buffer Zone 3) Bardia NP and its Buffer Zone</p>	<p>2022 (as the most recent official tiger census year): Chitwan NP: 128 Parsa NP: 41 Bardia NP: 125 Banke NP: 25 Shuklaphanta NP: 36 Total: 355</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>2026 Census shows population Stable or increasing over 2022 Census as baseline</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>2030 Census at / after end of project shows population stable or increasing over 2026 Census</p>	<p>Census results may only be available with some delay for analysis and confirmation. The monitoring of tigers in the targeted three parks represents a parallel monitoring effort rather than an attempt to establish a direct causal link between this project investment and the overall populations of tigers in these parks, which may only occur beyond the project lifetime.</p>
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						Targets (annual, or mid-term and close)					
Indicator (specifying units)	Definition (note if cumulative)	Method/source	Responsible	Disaggregation	Baseline (YR0)	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR 4	YR 5	Notes/ Assumptions
<p><b>Objective: To advance human wildlife coexistence in key tiger-bearing protected areas in Nepal by building consensus and capacity for coexistence, reducing the impacts of human-tiger conflict, and improving the condition and connectivity of key habitats for tigers</b></p>											
<p><b>2</b></p>											
<p><b>Outcome 1.1: Integrated policy and planning framework for HWC management and coexistence established</b></p>											
Indicator 1.1.1: # new or revised	See the GWP Roadmap	National HWC Management/Coexistence	DNPWC	- National HWC Management	No national HWC	n/a	n/a	- National	n/a	- National	Assumption: National government

government approved laws, policies and plans (GWP Indicator 1.6.1)	guidance; Not cumulative	Strategy & Action Plan approved by government; Revised Wildlife Damage Relief Guidelines approved by government		/ Coexistence Strategy and Action Plan - Revised Wildlife Damage Relief Guidelines	Management strategy; PA management plans include HWC measures; Wildlife Damage Relief Guidelines last revised in 2023			HWC Management /Coexistence Strategy and Action Plan approved by government - Revised Wildlife Damage Relief Guidelines approved by government		HWC Management / Coexistence Strategy and Action Plan implemented - Revised Wildlife Damage Relief Guidelines implemented	t continues to prioritize wildlife conservation
Indicator 1.1.2: # of municipalities where HWCx measures incorporated into annual and periodic plans and budgets for municipalities in HWC hotspot areas of TAL	Targeted municipalities: Madi, Bharatpur, Ratnanagar, Thori, Manahari, Rapti Sonari, Kohalpur, Geruwa, Madhuban, Thakurba, Rajapur, Bhimdatta, Shuklaphanta, Dodhara-Chandani, Bedkot, Laljhadi, Beldandi, Belauri, Binayee Tribeni, Madhyabindu, Kawasoti, Gaidakot, Devchuli. HWCx measures include	Review of municipality plans, budgets and activity reports	DNPWC	Potentially by park grouping of Municipalities	0	0	0	5	10	20	Assumption: Provincial and Municipal governments are supportive of HWC management and coexistence measures

	<p>relevant activities included in Municipal plans, such as: solar fencing, protective walls, livestock enclosures, education and awareness activities, support for livelihoods that reduce risk exposure, security lighting, relief for HWC damage, related emergency services, etc.</p> <p>- HWCx activities funded in Municipality budgets (as above)</p> <p>Cumulative</p>										
<p>Indicator 1.1.3: Percent reduction in financing gap for protected area management and HWC management for the five TAL National Parks</p>	<p>The financing gap represents the difference between the Annual budget requested and actual budget received.</p> <p>Cumulative</p>	<p>National Park / DNPWC official management plans, budgets and annual accounts</p>	<p>DNPWC</p>	<p>By National Park</p>	<p>TBD in Year 1</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>10%</p>	<p>15%</p>	<p>20%</p>	<p>Assumption: No financial shocks occur that impact the national economy. Example of finance gap: The Management Plan for Bardia National Park estimates</p>



HTC in localities where related project activities occur within targeted PA buffer zone areas (GWP GEF-8 Required Indicator 1.5.1)											
a) No. livestock taken / year	Definition to follow government HWC reporting system for relief payments	Government statistics/ reports by NP; and project location-specific reports	M&E Officer	Targeted locations for HWC related activities in PA BZs; by livestock type; gender of livestock owners	TBD in Year 1	No change	10% reduction over baseline	20% reduction over baseline	30% reduction over baseline	50% reduction over baseline	Assumption: that improved organization and reporting does not result in an increase in the number of reported losses over the baseline
b) Human fatalities and injuries / year	Definition to follow government HWC reporting system for relief payments	Government statistics/ reports by NP; and project location-specific reports	M&E Officer	Targeted locations for HWC related activities in PA BZs Injury vs fatality; gender disaggregated	TBD in Year 1	No change	10% reduction over baseline	15% reduction over baseline	25% reduction over baseline	40% reduction over baseline	Assumption: that improved organization and reporting does not result in an increase in the number of reported human fatalities and injuries over the baseline
Indicator 2.1.2: Percent change in community knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) towards wildlife and	Details to be developed in line with SBC Roadmap. Gender disaggregated	KAP / SBC surveys (gender disaggregated)	M&E Officer	Targeted project landscapes; gender disaggregated	TBD in Year 1	Baseline established for targeted landscapes through gender disaggregated surveys	No change	10% increase over baseline	20% increase over baseline	50% increase over baseline	Assumption: that KAP assessment methodology accurately reflects actual views of the targeted

habitat conservation and willingness to coexist with wildlife (GWP indicator 1.4.2)											population
<b>Outcome 2.2: Buffer Zone communities are empowered and provided with livelihood options that reduce their dependence on forest resources and exposure to HTC</b>											
Indicator 2.2.1: % Increase in uptake of livelihood options that reduce exposure to HTC among targeted communities:	uptake of livelihood options that reduce exposure to HTC: Cumulative % increase in uptake over baseline	Project reports	M&E Officer	Targeted locations for HWC related activities in PA BZs; female headed HHs							
a) # of HH in targeted communities practising HWCx livelihood activities over the baseline	HWCx interventions include solar fencing, protective walls, livestock enclosures, alternative crops, HWC risk reducing livelihood interventions such as fisheries, security lighting, Cumulative % increase in the number of HHs undertaking these HWCx interventions in targeted communities in	Project reports	M&E Officer	Targeted locations for HWC related activities in PA BZs; female headed HHs	No. HHs practising HWCx livelihood activities to be determined for targeted locations	Baseline established for targeted locations	10% increase over baseline	20% increase over baseline	30% increase over baseline	40% increase over baseline	

	HWC hotspots over baseline.										
b) # of Hectares of cultivated land with crops protected from HWC by solar fencing / walls	Crops protected by solar fencing/walls: Cumulative % increase in the area under cultivation (hectares) in targeted communities in HWC hotspots over baseline.	Project reports	M&E Officer	Targeted locations for HWC related activities in PA BZs; female headed HHs	No. of hectares of cultivated land protected by solar fencing/walls to be determined for targeted locations	Baseline established for targeted locations	5% increase over baseline	10% increase over baseline	20% increase over baseline	30% increase over baseline	
c) # of Village-based businesses	Village-based businesses: Cumulative % increase in the number of HHs undertaking this livelihood option in targeted communities in HWC hotspots over baseline.	Project reports	M&E Officer	Targeted locations for HWC related activities in PA BZs	No. HHs participating in other village-based businesses to be determined for targeted locations	Baseline established for targeted locations	10% increase over baseline	20% increase over baseline	25% increase over baseline	30% increase over baseline	
Indicator 2.2.2: Women, resident indigenous peoples and marginalized groups empowered for livelihood options in targeted PA BZs as indicated by:											

(GWP indicator 1.4.1)											
a) Number of womens', indigenous peoples and Dalit groups established for livelihood activities - including participatory wildlife or habitat management	Definitions for indigenous peoples and Dalit follows that used in the Safeguards assessment (see Annex X) Cumulative	Project reports	M&E Officer	Disaggregated by 1) womens' groups; 2) indigenous peoples groups; 3) Dalit groups	0	As baseline	a) 5 womens' groups, 5 indigenous peoples groups and 2 Dalit groups functioning for livelihood activities	a) 10 womens' groups, 10 indigenous peoples groups and 5 Dalit groups functioning for livelihood activities	a) 10 womens' groups, 10 indigenous peoples groups and 5 Dalit groups functioning for livelihood activities		
b) Number of indigenous peoples and Dalit communities engaged in project livelihood interventions - including participatory wildlife or habitat management	Definitions for indigenous peoples and Dalit follows that used in the Safeguards assessment (see Annex X) Cumulative	Project reports	M&E Officer	Disaggregated by 1) womens' groups; 2) indigenous peoples groups; 3) Dalit groups	0	As baseline	b) At least 5 indigenous and 2 Dalit communities engaged in project led livelihood interventions	b) At least 10 indigenous and 5 Dalit communities engaged in project led livelihood interventions	b) At least 10 indigenous and 5 Dalit communities engaged in project led livelihood interventions		
Indicator 2.2.3: # Community members economically benefiting from wildlife economy through (i) new jobs created; (ii) increased income; (iii) new enterprises created or supported; (iv) other diversified livelihood opportunities	Definitions for indigenous peoples and Dalit follows that used in the Safeguards assessment (see Annex X)	Socio-economic surveys of targeted communities (gender disaggregated)	M&E Officer	Gender disaggregated, also by indigenous peoples and Dalits. Disaggregated through the GWP categories at left (i-iv); and by project site.	0	As baseline	N/a	a) 30,000 (14,000 Men, 16,000 Women)	N/a	a) 50,000 (24,000 Men, 26,000 Women)	Concept total beneficiaries: 120,000 (50,000 men and 70,000 women)

(GWP indicator 3.4.1)											
<b>Outcome 2.3 Strengthened human-tiger conflict response and delivery of relief informed by monitoring and piloting interventions</b>											
Indicator 2.3.1: Progress of pilot provincial level data digitalization for conflict relief claim and processing mechanism will consist of a mobile phone app that enables HWC victims to make claims without having to travel or complete lengthy forms, and for payments to be made online to nominated bank accounts	The pilot provincial level data digitalization for conflict relief claim and processing mechanism will consist of a mobile phone app that enables HWC victims to make claims without having to travel or complete lengthy forms, and for payments to be made online to nominated bank accounts	Technical reports confirming completion of the mobile phone app software; approval by DNPWC for its pilot implementation	PMU	By province (one of the provinces which has tiger bearing protected area)	App under development and trial by NTNC for a pocket area	App/system design commentaries under project; detailed design for pilot	Completion of App design; DNPWC approval issued for pilot	Pilot conducted in one of the provinces	Pilot Year 1 evaluated; Pilot Year 2 implemented	Final evaluation of pilots; Government approval for general use of App/system	Builds on baseline work conducted by NTNC and would be dependent upon continuing collaboration between DNPWC and NTNC on this specific line of work
Indicator 2.3.2: No of tigers monitored using tracking collars (#tigers tracked; non cumulative)	Ideally individual tigers attributed to specific HTC incidents; otherwise tiger individuals occurring in hotspot areas where HTC is prevalent.	Radio / satellite tracking collars installed on targeted tiger individuals	PMU/Park staff		0	1	1	1	1	1	
Indicator 2.3.3: No of communities benefiting	The early warning system consists of	Log of EWS alerts maintained by appointed	PMU/Park staff		0	1	3	6	9	12	

from HTC Early Warning System alerts in targeted hotspot areas monitored using camera trap systems (#community Focal Points receiving EWS alerts; non cumulative)	camera traps erected in an active HTC hotspot providing realtime alerts of tiger presence to a trained and appointed community focal point, who then alerts community members by mobile phone text messages and / or personal visits.	community focal points and recorded by designated park staff								
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**Component 3: Habitat management**

**Outcome 3.1: Critical habitats in conflict hotspots are effectively functioning and resilient through science-based management and restoration under climate change conditions**

Indicator 3.1.1: Percent increase in population as determined by change in a) tiger, b) prey species and c) rhino sightings in restored grassland areas (# / sample plot area / month)	Define sample plot area (eg 100 ha); target species for prey	Camera trap grid; possibly drone monitoring	Park research staff	By project grassland restoration area: 1) Chitwan NP 2) Parsa NP 3) Bardia NP	To be determined before restoration begins			50% increase over baseline		100% increase over baseline
Indicator 3.1.2: Frequency of a) tiger and b) prey species and c) rhino sightings visiting	Define target sites; target species for prey; any additional species?	Camera traps covering watering holes	Park research staff	By project wetland restoration area: 1) Chitwan NP 2) Parsa NP 3) Bardia NP	To be determined before restoration begins			100% increase over baseline		200% increase over baseline

created / restored wetland sites (# / wetland site / month)											
<b>Component 4: Knowledge Management</b>											
<b>Outcome 4.1: Knowledge generation, exchange and learning enable replication and scaling up of best practices</b>											
Indicator 4.1.1: # lessons learned (positive and negative) and good practices documented and shared: (i) Across GWP (ii) With regional partners (iii) Within country via HWC conferences, national knowledge platform, etc. (GWP indicator 4.1.2)	Not cumulative	Conference reports, project reports, website articles, published articles	PMU/WWF	(i) Across GWP (ii) With regional partners (iii) Within country via annual conferences, website, etc.	0	0	10	10	10	10	Implementation of related activities proceeds efficiently, allowing best practices to be achieved and documented
<b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b>											
5.1.1 Percentage of Adaptive Management Actions developed in the previous year completed	Adaptive management actions are actions recommended by reflection workshops held the previous year to inform project strategy and AWPB development	AWPBs, project reports	PMU	N/A	0	0	100%	100%	100%	100%	Assumption: Project management staff actively participate in annual reflection workshops and are committed to incorporating M&E data and analysis into workplans
5.1.2 % reflection	Reflection workshop	AWPBs, project reports	PMU	N/A	0	0	100%	100%	100%	100%	Assumption: Project

workshops where monitoring data informed project strategy and development of AWPBs	s are held annually for project management purposes to provide feedback using monitoring data to inform AWPB development										management staff actively participate in annual reflection workshops and are committed to incorporating M&E data and analysis into workplans	
5.1.3 Percentage of grievances from all project GRMs resolved within the stipulated timeline during the reporting period.	The GRM is described in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan for this project	Grievance reports log	PMU	N/A		0	0	100%	100%	100%	100%	Assumption: Grievance reports log is actively maintained by PMU staff

#### ANNEX D: STATUS OF UTILIZATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

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

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
Consultations	8,000.00		8,000.00
Meeting, Workshop and Travel	14,125.00	1,716.10	12,408.90
Project Design and Development	94,096.64	43,535.07	50,511.57
Environmental and Social Safeguards Analysis and Management Framework Drafting	15,528.00		15,528.00
Gender Analysis	14,500.00		14,500.00
Document Translation	1,750.00		1,750.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>147,999.64</b>	<b>45,251.17</b>	<b>102,698.47</b>

## ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES

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

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Chitwan National Park	27.516389	84.417687	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Parsa National Park	27.314302	84.842158	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

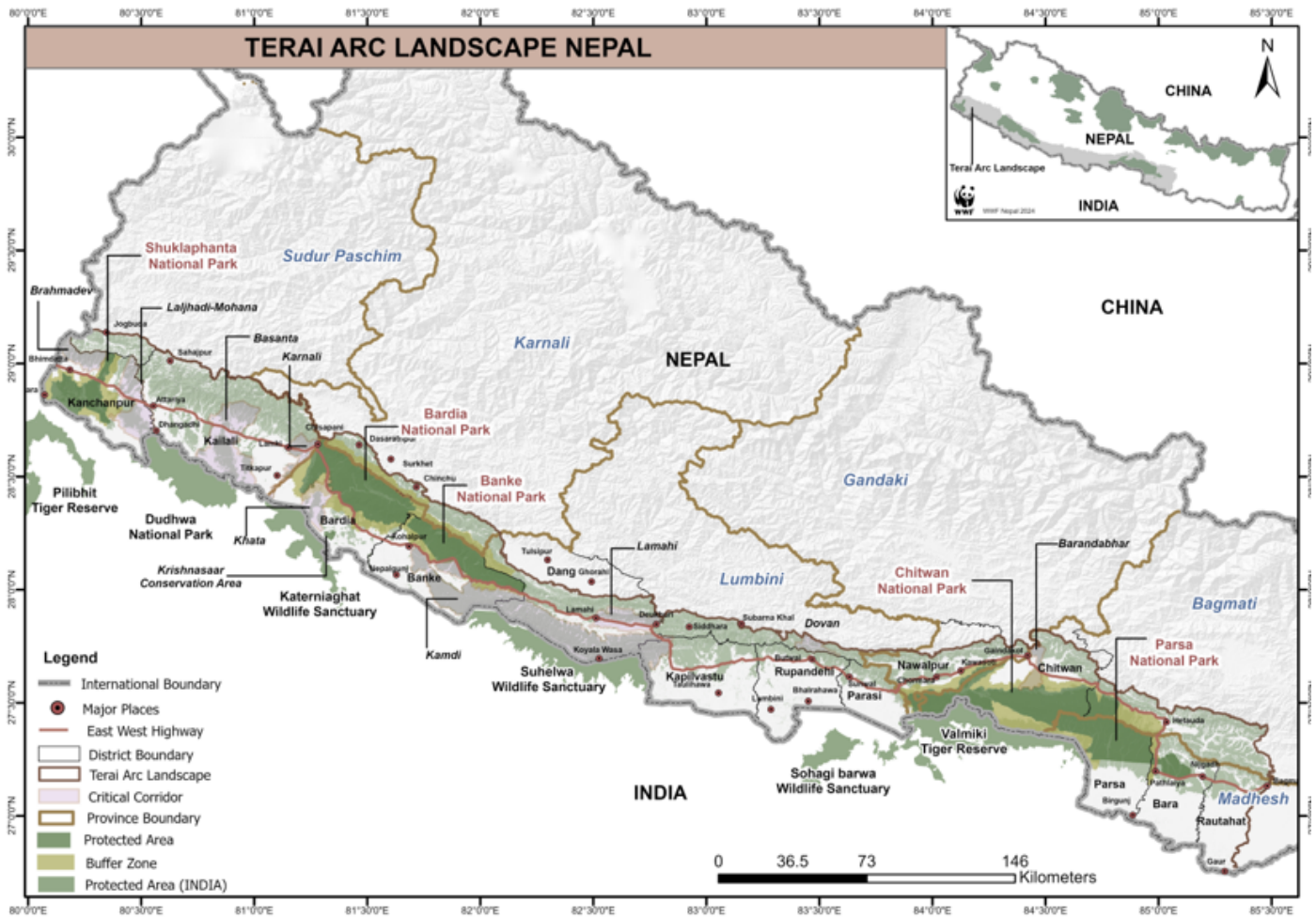
Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Bardia National Park	28.464398	81.444531	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

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

Chitwan National Park, Bardia National Park, Parsa National Park



Please see Annex 11 for detailed color maps of the three parks

## ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS DOCUMENTS INCLUDING RATING

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

Title

Annex 5.3 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Annex 5- ESS Screening Tool

Safeguards Categorization Memo\_Nepal WCD\_signed

Annex 5- Environmental and Social Management Framework

Annex 6- Gender Analysis

Annex 6.2-Gender Action Plan

**ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE**

Please upload the budget table here.

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

For a budget detailed by output, please refer to the uploaded ANNEX G

Expenditure Category	Budget notes and assumptions #	Component (USDeq.)							
		TOTAL COMPONENT 1	TOTAL COMPONENT 2	TOTAL COMPONENT 3	TOTAL COMPONENT 4	M&E	PMC	Total Project	Responsible Entity
<b>Total Works</b>									
<b>Goods</b>									
Laptop computers (with dock-in set and monitor)	61						\$10,000	\$10,000	PMU
Office furniture (desk, table, cabinet, notice board, etc.)	62						\$4,000	\$4,000	PMU
Printer	63						\$1,440	\$1,440	PMU
Copier/scanner	64						\$2,680	\$2,680	PMU
GPS	65					\$2,787		\$2,787	PMU
Camera	66					\$1,750		\$1,750	PMU
Air Conditioners	67						\$1,650	\$1,650	PMU
Fan	68						\$640	\$640	PMU
External hard drive (data backup)	69						\$510	\$510	PMU
Fire extinguisher	70						\$80	\$80	PMU
Cash vault	71						\$300	\$300	PMU
LCD Projector	73					\$2,037		\$2,037	PMU
Vacuum cleaner	74						\$300	\$300	PMU
Power backup system (inverter & battery)	75						\$2,500	\$2,500	PMU
Spiral binding machine	76						\$150	\$150	PMU
<b>Total Goods</b>						<b>\$6,574</b>	<b>\$24,250</b>	<b>\$30,824</b>	
<b>Vehicles</b>									
Motorbike -3 MOTORBIKES	72						\$6,500	\$6,500	PMU
<b>Total Vehicles</b>							<b>\$6,500</b>	<b>\$6,500</b>	

<b>Grants/ Sub-grants: Ministry of Forests and Environment (MOFE)/Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC)</b>									
Develop national human wildlife conflict plan, strategy and action plan	8	\$25,000						\$ 25,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Policy and planning process coherence consultation and review workshops including high level sharing national capacity building including participants of warden seminars.	10	\$15,000						\$15,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Integrate gender issues regarding women tiger interface in the workshops with conflict hotspot municipalities (half day workshop: 3 pax from each of 20 municipality x once a year)	11	\$ 1,200						\$ 1,200	MOFE/ DNPWC
Conduct series of coordination meetings, trainings and workshops with Local Government for integration of HWCx aspects in annual and periodic plans including budget allocation	12	\$10,000						\$10,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Training on HTC situation management for park staff, DFOs and key stakeholders	13	\$28,000						\$28,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Training on wildlife management and crowd management for enforcement agencies, buffer zone management committees and local communities	14	\$26,000						\$26,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Develop protocol for wildlife handling measures in HTC prone areas.	15	\$ 1,700						\$ 1,700	MOFE/ DNPWC
Procurement of wildlife handling equipment to support response teams	16	\$ 110,000						\$110,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Engage HTC-affected communities to assist them in co-identifying the underlying causes of risk- related behaviors related to Human-Tiger Conflict (HTC) and potential solutions through participatory assessment processes; and co-determine the messaging, methods, and appropriate communication channels for promoting desired shifts in behaviours	17		\$15,000					\$15,000	MOFE/ DNPWC

that will lead to risk-reduction									
Engage and mobilize community members as 'Friends of Tiger' (FoT) to build their knowledge and skills in HTC issues, empowering them to lead local mobilization and awareness efforts	18		\$ 3,000					\$ 3,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Develop an SBC campaign strategy, informed by the formative research findings, with the FoT leading the facilitation of behavior change initiatives to address HTC risks and promote wildlife conservation	19		\$ 5,000					\$ 5,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Organize local awareness events, social media campaigns, and digital/print media outreach to engage and mobilize the community, spreading key conservation messages and encouraging participation	20		\$10,000					\$10,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Design and produce SBC campaign materials such as infographics, posters, and videos tailored to the community's needs, based on the findings from the formative research.	21		\$ 2,500					\$ 2,500	MOFE/ DNPWC
Plan and execute local and national calendar day events, focusing on key conservation messages to reinforce the SBC campaign objectives and engage the community.	22		\$11,000					\$ 11,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Capacity building training for BZUCs on Social Saefgaud and GRM processes	23		\$ 7,700					\$ 7,700	MOFE/ DNPWC
Alternative/unpalatable crops to avoid prey species invasion of farms for conflict impacted households along hotspot area	24		\$30,000					\$ 30,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Fish farming for bote/majhi/tharu/mushaha r/darai households including conflict victims	25		\$ 100,000					\$100,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Predator proof livestock sheds/coral and support fodder plants (add target and ) Increase budget)	26		\$ 100,000					\$100,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Build cattle fence and solar lighteing in hotspot areas	27		\$10,589					\$ 10,589	MOFE/ DNPWC

along the human forest interface.									
Enterprise development that includes skill-based training, resource mobilization, and market promotion.	28		\$ 385,000					\$385,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Capacity building training for BZUCs on Social Saefgaud and GRM processes	29		\$10,000					\$ 10,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Feasibility study on data digitalization for conflict relief claim and processing mechanism	30		\$ 5,000					\$ 5,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Pilot a collaborative insurance-based mechanism for mitigating HTC in one hotspot area	31		\$ 200,000					\$200,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Review pilot outcomes with key stakeholders to evaluate its effectiveness and suitability for replication / upscaling	32		\$10,000					\$ 10,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Review and monitor the scale, extent and local variations in the intensity of human-tiger conflict to help strengthen the effectiveness of HTC prevention and management measures	33		\$ 138,480					\$138,480	MOFE/ DNPWC
Conduct problem tiger monitoring to improve behavioural understanding and track and prevent HTC occurring	34		\$ 180,000					\$180,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Procure and design real time camera trapping survey in hotspot area	36		\$18,600					\$ 18,600	MOFE/ DNPWC
Conduct camera trap survey along the hotspot area to monitor HTC situation	37		\$45,000					\$ 45,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Identify habitat clusters based on grid-based approach and apply habitat restoration prescriptions within habitat clusters based on GoN's Habitat Management guidelines	38			\$ 4,500				\$ 4,500	MOFE/ DNPWC
Implement grassland management prescription focusing on restoration at scale to enhance habitat condition and connectivity	39			\$1,443,715				\$ 1,443,715	MOFE/ DNPWC
Adopt fire management prescription to complement GoN's habitat management guidelines through creation of fire lines within habitat clusters	40			\$ 25,000				\$ 25,000	MOFE/ DNPWC

Construct waterholes with solar water pumps in low-lying areas (Chitwan, Parsa and Bardia NPs)	41			\$175,000				\$175,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Provide Personal Protective Equipments (PPE) to ensure workers safety during the construction of waterholes (cost only for safeguard)	42			\$ 15,000				\$ 15,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Construct large waterholes along the dry Chure foothills (Banke, Parsa NP)	43			\$ 80,000				\$ 80,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Provide Personal Protective Equipments (PPE) to ensure workers safety during the construction of waterholes (cost only for safeguard)	44			\$ 10,000				\$ 10,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Restore natural wetlands (Bardia, Chitwan NP)	45			\$100,000				\$100,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Inventory and documentation of current status of grasslands/wetlands and outcomes of restoration management interventions in hotspot PAs.	46			\$ 15,000				\$ 15,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Establish and monitor grassland and wetland plots to document habitat management responses under different restoration and management regimes	47			\$ 20,000				\$ 20,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
National and regional learning & exchange on habitat management including organizing periodic human wildlife workshop along the PAs in TAL and other relevant PAs from neighboring countries and ecological researchers.	48			\$120,000				\$120,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Develop knowledge products including technical reports, case studies, lessons learned and good practices; communications products including visuals and stories, and multi-stakeholder dialogues	49				\$20,000			\$ 20,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
Coordinate and support national participation in the GWP Knowledge Platform events – including: GWP annual conferences (2 participants annually for 5 years); thematic and regional conferences, study tours and trainings (1-2 participants annually); twinning visits between countries (one twinning visit);	50				\$80,000			\$ 80,000	MOFE/ DNPWC

Document the benefits of engagement in the GWP and share knowledge impact stories	52				\$10,000			\$ 10,000	MOFE/ DNPWC
<b>Total Sub-grants</b>		<b>\$ 216,900</b>	<b>\$ 1,286,869</b>	<b>\$2,008,215</b>	<b>\$ 110,000</b>			<b>\$ 3,621,984</b>	
<b>Local Consultants</b>									
Conduct sensitization on gender responsiveness to the plan preparation team (internal orientation by gender focal person)	9	\$ 1,265						\$ 1,265	PMU
Project Evaluation and Mid Term Evaluation	57					\$41,562		\$ 41,562	AMU
Project Audit & follow-up monitoring	58						\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	PMU
<b>Total International Consultants</b>		<b>\$ 1,265</b>				<b>\$41,562</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$ 62,827</b>	
<b>Salary and benefits / Staff costs</b>									
Project Manager & Technical Lead-FTE	1	\$31,624	\$31,624			\$31,624	\$23,718	\$118,590	PMU
F&A Officer- FTE	2						\$84,389	\$ 84,389	PMU
MEL and Communication Officer - FTE	3		\$27,848	\$ 27,848	\$19,128	\$ 9,564		\$ 84,388	PMU
Safeguard /GESI- FTE	4	\$20,410		\$ 20,410		\$20,410		\$ 61,231	PMU
HWC Specialist Officer (2)-FTE	5	\$21,097	\$63,292					\$ 84,389	PMU
Local Community Engagement Expert (2)- FTE	6		\$93,073	\$ 31,024				\$124,097	PMU
Office Support Staff (outsource/part-time)	7				\$ 474	\$ 7,919	\$ 23,282	\$ 31,675	PMU
<b>Total Staff Costs</b>		<b>\$73,132</b>	<b>\$ 215,837</b>	<b>\$ 79,283</b>	<b>\$19,602</b>	<b>\$69,517</b>	<b>\$131,389</b>	<b>\$588,758</b>	
<b>Trainings, Workshops, Meetings</b>									
Conduct a study visit to India to review EWS in action	35		\$20,000					\$ 20,000	PMU
Conduct inception workshop	53					\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000	PMU
Organize Project Steering Committee and technical group meetings	55					\$22,500		\$ 22,500	PMU
Organize periodic review and reflection, annual planning workshops	56					\$50,000		\$ 50,000	PMU
Project closure & learning dissemination workshop with project stakeholders	59					\$ 7,500		\$ 7,500	PMU
<b>Total Trainings, Workshpos, Meetings</b>			<b>\$20,000</b>			<b>\$82,000</b>		<b>\$102,000</b>	
<b>Travel</b>									
Participate in online knowledge exchange activities including: GWP regional coordination calls (quarterly); respond to annual knowledge needs	51				\$ 8,000			\$ 8,000	PMU

surveys and ad-hoc thematic surveys; regular thematic webinars;									
Conduct periodic planning and monitoring visits to project sits	54					\$33,426		\$ 33,426	PMU
Intuitional Support to MoFE/DNPWC/PAs	60					\$12,000		\$ 12,000	PMU
<b>Total Travel</b>					<b>\$ 8,000</b>	<b>\$ 45,426</b>		<b>\$ 53,426</b>	<b>\$-</b>
<b>Office Supplies</b>									
Office setup costs (carpet, curtains, painting, lighting etc.)	78						\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	PMU
<b>Total Office Supplies</b>							<b>\$ 1,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>	
<b>Other Operating Costs</b>									
Telephone/Internet connection (devices and networking accessories)	77						\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	PMU
Office Rent, Insurance, Maintenance, Utility	79						\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	PMU
Equipment / Vehicle Lease	80						\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	PMU
Equipment / Vehicle Running Costs (maintenance, running costs for 3 motorbike)	81						\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	PMU
Communications (phone, fax, AV, WP)	82						\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	PMU
Office supplies, stationary/ tea-coffee	83						\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	PMU
<b>Total Other Operating costs</b>							<b>\$ 30,500</b>	<b>\$ 30,500</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$ 291,297</b>	<b>\$ 1,522,706</b>	<b>\$ 2,087,498</b>	<b>\$ 137,602</b>	<b>\$245,079</b>	<b>\$214,139</b>	<b>\$4,498,319</b>

## ANNEX I: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS

From GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF.