GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO CHILD ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

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General Child Project Information

Child Project Title
Scaling up integrated landscape re-Greening and livelihood diversification best practices along the Great Green Wall belt of Ethiopia (SILAGLID)

Region	GEF Project ID
Africa	11458
Country(ies)	Type of Project
Ethiopia	FSP
GEF Agency(ies)	GEF Agency Project ID
UNEP	
Project Executing Entity(s)	Project Executing Type
Ethiopian Forestry Department Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa (PENHA) Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF)	Government Others Others
GEF Focal Area (s)	Submission Date
Multi Focal Area	6/20/2025
Type of Trust Fund	Project Duration (Months)
GET	60
GEF Project Grant: (a)	Agency Fee(s) Grant: (b)
4,437,156.00	399,344.00
PPG Amount: (c)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (d)
150,000.00	13,500.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Total Co-financing
5000000	15,000,000.00
Project Sector (CCM Only)	
AFOLU	

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Significant Objective 1	Significant Objective 1	Principal Objective 2	Principal Objective 2

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)

In the drylands of Ethiopia's Great Green Wall (GGW) belt, ongoing land degradation and deforestation are accelerating desertification, driving biodiversity loss, and depleting terrestrial carbon stocks — thereby undermining ecosystem services and the long-term viability of rural livelihoods. Key drivers of deforestation and land degradation in the GGW belt include rapid population growth and demographic shifts towards a young population, overdependence on rainfed agriculture, limited livelihood diversification, biomass dependence (~93% of households use firewood), and unsustainable farming practices such as overgrazing and poor soil conservation. Collectively, these trends reduce the capacity of ecosystems to sequester carbon, while increasing greenhouse gas emissions from degraded landscapes, and reducing the capacity of ecosystems to support biodiversity. Climate change further compounds these pressures through rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, and recurrent droughts and floods. These environmental stressors disproportionately impact women and girls, who experience increased workloads in water and fuelwood collection, food production and caregiving. Women — who comprise 45–60% of the agricultural labour force in the GGW regions — face persistent inequalities in access to land, financial services, extension support and participation in community-level decision-making, thereby limiting their adaptive capacity and economic agency. As resources decline, multi-dimensional poverty deepens, youth outmigration increases and the burden of sustaining households falls disproportionately on women and the elderly — fuelling a cycle of environmental degradation and vulnerability.

The proposed project, entitled *Scaling up Integrated Landscape Re-Greening and Livelihood Diversification (SILAGLID)*, aims to disrupt the cycle of land degradation, biodiversity loss, and unsustainable resource use by restoring ecosystem function, enhancing terrestrial carbon sinks, through support and scaling up of resilient, gender-responsive and socially inclusive livelihoods in the drylands of Ethiopia. As part of the country's contribution to the regional Great Green Wall initiative (GGWI), the project will implement new and upscale existing targeted interventions within the agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU) sector to regenerate degraded landscapes, conserve biodiversity, and reduce emissions from deforestation and land degradation[1][1]. This will be achieved through four interconnected Components, namely: i) Component 1: Institutional capacity development to support the sustainable management of natural resources within the Ethiopian GGW belt; ii) Component 2: Promoting diversified, resilient and sustainable livelihoods to incentivize sustainable resource management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt; iii) Component 3: Implementing integrated natural resources management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt iv) Component 4: Knowledge management platform and monitoring system for accountability and proper reporting of the GGW activities.

The SILAGLID project will be implemented in four strategically selected districts from GGW regions of the country, namely Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions. SILAGLID will target a total area of 62,000 ha, including: i) restoration of 22,000 hectares of degraded land — 2,000 ha of degraded agricultural landscape via climate-resilient agroforestry, and 20,000 ha of degraded communal landscapes through integrated afforestation, reforestation, assisted natural regeneration, soil and water conservation; ii) improving the management of 40,000 hectares of natural forests. The project will benefit approximately 20,300 people (at least 40% women), with a focus on gender-and youth-responsive livelihood interventions. These actions will increase carbon sequestration, and reduction emission, enhance biodiversity, and improve food and water security, contributing to Ethiopia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets, and the Global Biodiversity Framework. The project objective will be achieved through the four integrated project components listed below.

[1] A continental African Union-led effort to combat desertification, land degradation, and climate change in Africa's drylands

Child Project Description Overview

Project Objective

To restore degraded landscapes, enhance biodiversity, contribute to mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, and promote resilient livelihoods in the drylands of Ethiopia as part of the country's contribution to the regional Great Green Wall initiative (GGWI).

Project Components

Component 1: Institutional capacity development to support the sustainable management of natural resources within the Ethiopian GGW belt

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
534,000.00	1,805,210.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1. Institutional capacities at national and sub-national levels developed to support the sustainable management of natural resources within the Ethiopian GGW belt

Output:

Output 1.1. Partnerships built and cross-sectoral coordination mechanism put in place and operationalized.

Output 1.2: Inclusive capacity, knowledge and skills in natural resources management planning, implementation and monitoring built at all levels.

Output 1.3: Policy, legal, institutional frameworks aligned, and implemented, and sustainable financing mechanisms created for scaling up sustainable natural resource management.

Component 2: Promoting diversified, resilient and sustainable livelihoods to incentivize sustainable resource management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
1,581,004.00	5,344,653.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2: Diversified and resilient livelihoods promoted leading to sustainable resource management practices

Output:

Output 2.1: Inclusive nature-based livelihood diversification options identified and scaled up to build community resilience.

Output 2.2: Market linkages and value chains developed and strengthened for forests and climate smart agricultural products to enhance community resilience.

Component 3: Implementing integrated natural resources management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
1,302,014.00	4,401,515.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3: Integrated natural resources management practices supported, leading to improved ecosystem services and community resilience.

Output:

Output 3.1: 40,000 hectares of natural forests and other critical ecosystems put under participatory and sustainable management practices to enhance biodiversity conservation and emission reduction.

Output 3.2: 20,000 hectares of degraded communal landscapes including rangelands/grazing lands, restored through integrated restoration practices.

Output 3.3: 2,000 hectares of land put under innovative agroforestry practices to improve the resilience of smallholder farmers and pastoral communities.

Component 4: Knowledge management platform and monitoring system for accountability and proper reporting of the GGW activities

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
665,573.00	2,249,999.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4: Platform to facilitate knowledge management and monitoring system in place to enhance reporting and accountability.

Output:

Output 4.1: Knowledge management platform for collection, archiving, processing and sharing of data and information on natural resources management and climate change are strengthened/established.

Output 4.2: Participatory monitoring, evaluation and learning mechanisms established to accelerate adoption of best natural resources management practices.

Output 4.3: Lessons and experiences are shared with other child project countries and Great Green Wall stakeholders

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
133,115.00	450,001.00

Outcome:

Project M&E plan implemented

Output:

Project Mid-term Evaluation and Terminal Evaluation

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
Component 1: Institutional capacity development to support the sustainable management of natural resources within the Ethiopian GGW belt	534,000.00	1,805,210.00
Component 2: Promoting diversified, resilient and sustainable livelihoods to incentivize sustainable resource management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt	1,581,004.00	5,344,653.00
Component 3: Implementing integrated natural resources management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt	1,302,014.00	4,401,515.00
Component 4: Knowledge management platform and monitoring system for accountability and proper reporting of the GGW activities	665,573.00	2,249,999.00
M&E	133,115.00	450,001.00
Subtotal	**4,215,706.00**	**14,251,378.00**
Project Management Cost	221,450.00	748,622.00
Total Project Cost ($)	**4,437,156.00**	**15,000,000.00**

Please provide Justification

The PMC is calculated at 5% of GEF amount.

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

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

1. Background to SILAGLID project

In response to the growing urgency of these challenges in Africa's drylands, the GEF is investing in the Great Green Wall (GGW) initiative — a pan-African effort formally endorsed by the African Union in 2007 to combat desertification and build climate-resilient landscapes from Senegal to Djibouti (Figure 1). As part of this effort, the GEF is supporting a regional investment programme known as the *Transformation Approach to Large-Scale Investment in Support of the Implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative* (TALSISI-GGWI). This programme aims to strengthen fragmented and small-scale interventions by mobilising coordinated, transformative investments in land restoration, biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods across GGW countries. It serves as a common framework for national child projects that align with both national priorities and the broader GGW vision.



Figure 1. Ethiopia's location within the Great Green Wall region.

To support GGW efforts in Ethiopia, the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) — through the Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD) — is seeking USD 5 million in GEF support for the implementation of a medium-sized project entitled *Scaling up Integrated Landscape Re-Greening and Livelihood Diversification Best Practices along the Great Green Wall Belt of Ethiopia* (SILAGLID). The request is being channeled through the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which serves as the GEF Implementing Agency for the project. EFD, as the lead national executing entity, is coordinating the preparation of the Full-Sized Project (FSP) proposal under the guidance of the GEF Project Preparation Grant (PPG) process. This funding request is aimed at enabling large-scale ecosystem restoration and community-based resilience-building in Ethiopia's dryland regions, notably, along the GGW belt of the country. Following the GEF Council's approval of the project concept in 2024, EFD and UNEP are now jointly leading the preparation of the CEO Endorsement Request and all supporting documentation, with submission to the GEF planned by June 2025. Through inclusive, multi-stakeholder engagement, SILAGLID is expected to lay the foundation for long-term resilience and ecological recovery in Ethiopia's drylands, while contributing meaningfully to regional and global environmental goals. This collaborative arrangement ensures strong national ownership and alignment with Ethiopia's restoration targets and dryland development policies.

2. Site selection and project target areas

The SILAGLID project will be implemented in three regions of Ethiopia's GGW belt: Afar, Amhara and Tigray. Within these regions, four districts (woredas) will be targeted, namely: i) Gulina (Afar Region), ii); Chilga (Amhara Region); and ii) Metema (Amhara Region) and iv) Raya-Azebo (Tigray Region). These target areas are shown in below. Additionally, detailed forest cover maps for each of the districts is presented in Figure 2.

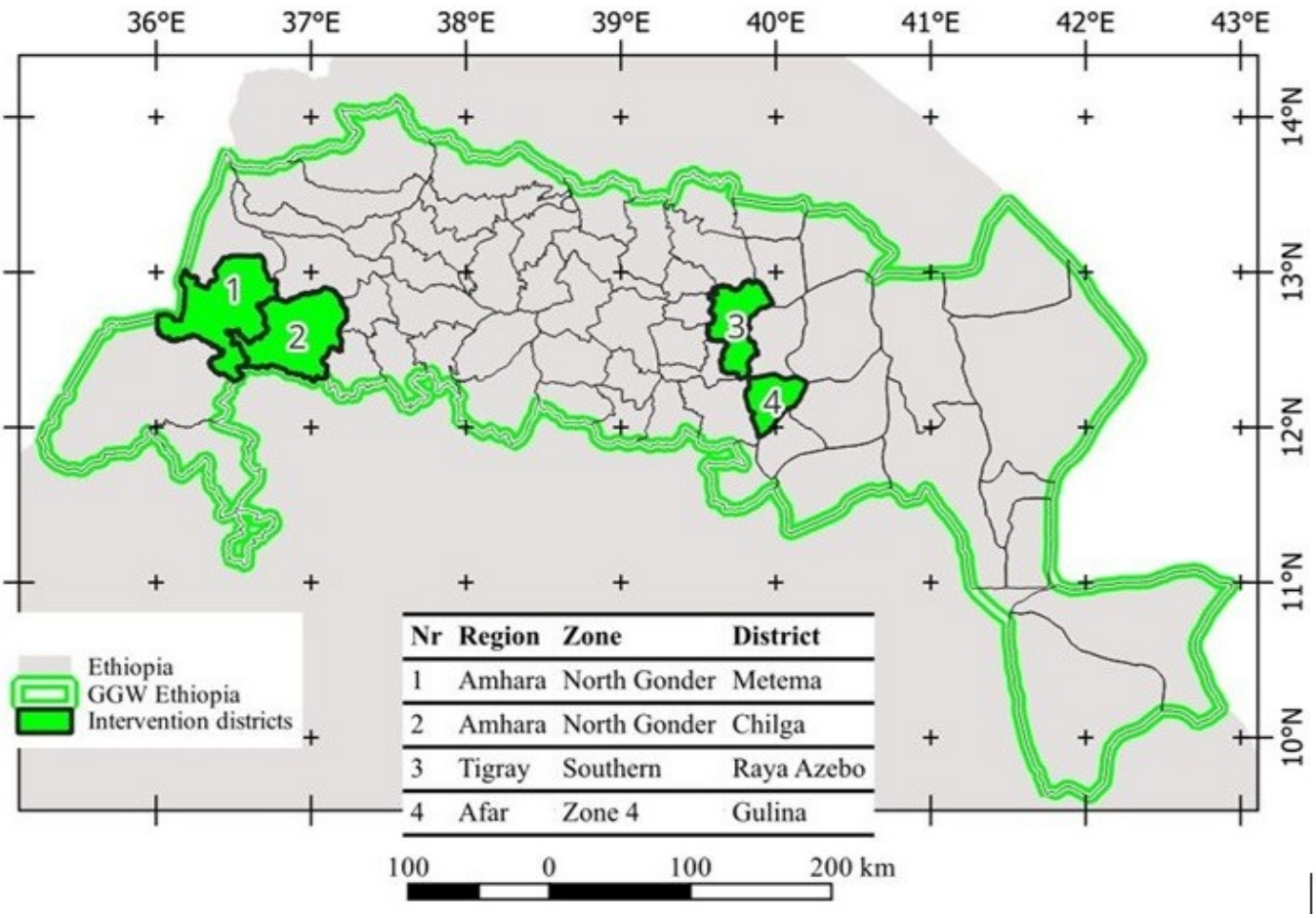


Figure 2. Locations of the target GGW Regions and four focal woredas for the proposed project, situated within the Ethiopian GGW belt[1][2].

The selected woredas fall within Ethiopia's broader engagement in the GGW initiative, which spans ~58 districts/woredas across the Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions. Ethiopia's GGW programme supports the pan-African vision to combat desertification, restore degraded landscapes, and build climate resilience across dryland areas from Senegal to Djibouti[2][3]. By targeting both the western and northeastern dryland zones, the project seeks to address a broad spectrum of degradation issues while leveraging the ecological characteristics and capacities of each site. A spatial representation of the intervention areas within the broader GGW context is also shown in Annex E (Figure 7). These target districts are characterised by two of the four major vegetation biomes of the country, namely, the Combretum-Termina biome and the Acacia Commiphora biome, rich in biodiversity and highly vulnerable to land degradation, deforestation and climate impacts — including prolonged droughts, erratic rainfall and soil erosion. This vulnerability underlines the urgent need for interventions under the proposed project.

2.1. Baseline conditions in the target woredas

A detailed, district-level baseline and situational assessment was conducted during project preparation and is presented in Appendix 17 (Baseline Assessment Report) and Appendix 18 (Situational Analysis). The findings highlight site-specific drivers and pressures of land degradation, deforestation, and socio-economic vulnerability across the four target woredas, confirming the need for tailored interventions. For instance, Chilga (Amhara) experiences severe gully erosion, acidic soils, and cultivation on steep slopes, driven by population pressure and limited access to sustainable livelihoods[3][4]. In Gulina (Afar), fragile rangelands are degraded by overgrazing, invasive *Prosopis* and recurrent droughts — the impacts of which are compounded by limited institutional capacity to mitigate and adapt to such threats[4][5]. In Metema (Amhara), ecosystems are threatened by unsustainable forest product harvesting, pressures from agricultural expansion and charcoal production. The absence of strong coordination structures further limits regulated natural resource use regulation, exacerbating land degradation and biodiversity loss[5][6]. Lastly, in Raya Azebo (Tigray), environmental degradation is intensified by post-conflict disruptions, uncontrolled livestock grazing, accelerated deforestation, and youth outmigration — placing increased economic pressure on households and reinforcing reliance on already strained natural resources[6][7].

The project areas receive highly variable and declining rainfall, while all four districts report increased temperatures and reduced vegetation cover. Soil erosion and declining soil fertility are widespread, reducing agricultural productivity and food security. An estimated 582,000 people across the four woredas are impacted by intersecting vulnerabilities, including land degradation, poor infrastructure, water scarcity and climate-induced livelihood losses[7][8].

The socioeconomic impacts of ongoing land degradation and biodiversity loss are considerable across the four target districts. For example, women and girls in Gulina and Chilga often walk for hours daily to collect water, limiting educational and income-generating opportunities. Institutional challengessuch as fragmented forest governance, low enforcement capacity and limited multi-sector coordination further undermine sustainable land management[8][9]. These systemic issues have been mapped using a DPSIR model and problem tree (Section 3 below), helping to establish causal pathways between direct and indirect drivers, current pressures and observed environmental and social impacts.

The project's design responds directly to these site-specific baseline conditions and their underlying causes — ensuring interventions are adapted to local context and needs. This includes both ecological restoration and livelihood strategies tailored to each woreda (see Section 3.2), building on gaps and opportunities identified in the baseline and stakeholder consultations.

A detailed description of baseline conditions in the GGW regions and target woredas is provided in Appendix 17 and Appendix 18.

3. Description of the problem to be addressed by SILAGLID

3.1. Problem statement

In Ethiopia's drylands, ongoing deforestation and land degradation are reducing the resilience of local communities and ecosystems, threatening the long-term viability of community livelihoods in these areas. These trends are underpinned by a complex interplay of direct and indirect drivers. These direct drivers of ongoing land degradation[9][10], deforestation and biodiversity loss include: i) rapid population growth and demographic shifts – including a large and growing young population, with increasing rural outmigration which contribute to a growing demand for natural resources and land; ii) heavy reliance on rainfed agriculture as a primary livelihood, with limited opportunities for employment diversification — in conjunction with the growing population, drives demand for land and natural resources; iii) an existing and growing heavy dependence on biomass for energy, with ~93% of households relying on fuelwood in GGW districts; and iv) unsustainable agricultural practices – including overgrazing, monoculture, lack of crop diversification, and limited soil and water conservation. Evidence from the baseline assessment (Appendix 17) confirms that these drivers manifest differently across the project regions. For example, in Chilga, population pressure and cultivation of steep slopes have accelerated soil erosion and reduced forest cover. In Metema, unsustainable harvesting of forest products and weak cooperative management structures undermine forest sustainability. Meanwhile, Raya Azebo's fragile post-conflict context and reliance on emergency assistance are contributing to ecosystem fragility and reduced household adaptive capacity[10][11].

Climate change is further intensifying pressures on ecosystems and communities, as rising average temperatures, increasing rainfall variability, and recurrent droughts and floods reduce agricultural productivity and threaten traditional rural livelihoods. Indirect drivers of deforestation and land degradation include: i) policy and institutional challenges related to sustainable land management (SLM) -including limited institutional capacity, policy coherence and coordination for planning and implementing sustainable landscape management and ecosystem restoration initiatives (refer to Section 4.1 below); ii) gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) challenges (refer to Appendix 5a: Gender Analysis for detail); and iii) economic factors, such as exposure to volatile global markets and economic shocks. Collectively, these drivers are placing increased pressure on the natural resource base in Ethiopia's GGW belt, leading to accelerated desertification, biodiversity loss and declining agricultural productivity.

The resulting loss of biological and economic productivity has contributed to food and water insecurity, increased health risks and reduced household incomes across the region. These impacts exacerbate already high levels of multidimensional poverty and are driving youth outmigration, leaving behind women and the elderly with the dual responsibility of caring for children and sustaining livelihoods under increasingly difficult conditions. As outlined in the project's Gender Analysis (Appendix 5a), women in the target woredas often face disproportionate burdens, including unpaid care responsibilities, limited access to land, productive resources and extension services and heightened exposure to gender-based violence. Women also remain underrepresented in decision-making structures related to land and forest governance. These structural inequalities constrain women's adaptive capacity and undermine the effectiveness of restoration and livelihood interventions.

As community resilience declines, households are increasingly compelled to adopt unsustainable land-use practices, perpetuating a vicious cycle of environmental degradation and socio-economic vulnerability — a cycle that is further compounded by gender inequalities. This dynamic is illustrated in in Figure 3 below, and a Problem Tree is provided in Appendix 19. A detailed Problem/Situational Analysis is presented in Appendix 18, and project target areas with forest cover maps are provided in Appendix E.

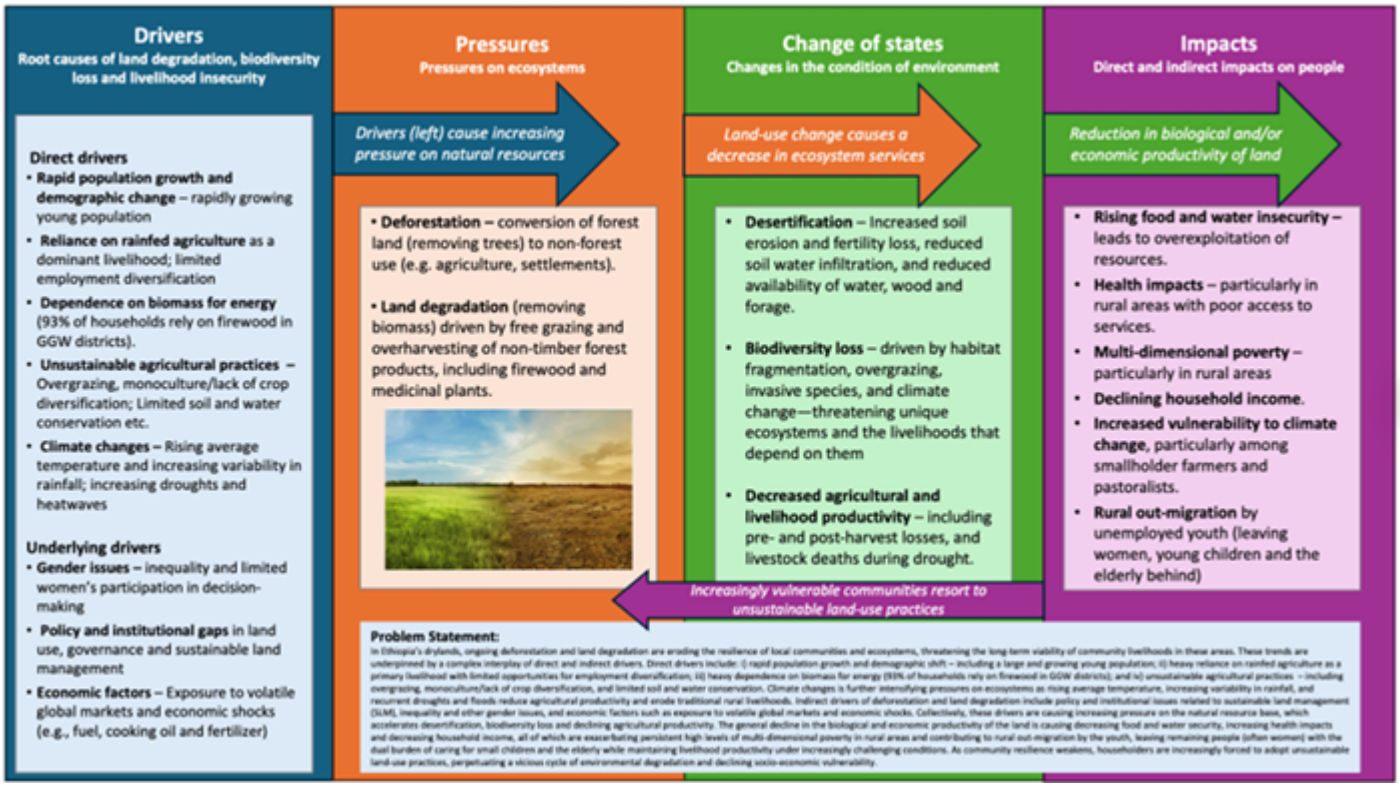


Figure 3. The root causes of the problem analysed using a 'Drivers, Pressures, States, Impacts and Responses' (DPSIR) conceptual model.

3.2. Preferred alternative scenario

There is an urgent need to combat land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate vulnerability across Ethiopia, particularly in the dryland regions. The Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) offers a transformative opportunity to address these challenges by advancing sustainable land management (SLM) and strengthening livelihood security within the Great Green Wall (GGW) belt. The GGW is an integral part of Ethiopia's Green Legacy Initiative, a flagship Nature based Solutions (NbS) initiative implemented across the nation to combat desertification, restore ecosystem services, conserve biodiversity, and thereby contribute to food and nutrition security and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Within the GGW belt, there is an urgent need to restore degraded lands, improve soil and water retention, reduce deforestation, enhance food and livelihood security, and strengthen climate resilience among rural communities. Addressing these priorities requires integrated interventions that combine ecological restoration with socio-economic development. Opportunities for enhanced SLM under the GGW initiative are numerous, with different approaches providing distinct benefits for target communities and ecosystems:

- **Environmental restoration** through afforestation, reforestation, and sustainable rangeland management will combat desertification, restore biodiversity, and improve water resource management.

- **Livelihood strengthening and diversification** provide Socio-economic benefits such as job creation in forestry and agroforestry, value addition to non-timber forest products, and improved food security through agroecological practices. This contributes to reduced poverty and supports rural development.

- **Climate change mitigation** efforts — including carbon sequestration and the adoption of low-carbon technologies — align with Ethiopia's development and sustainability goals.

To maximise these opportunities, it is essential to strengthen community participation, integrate local knowledge held by targeted communities, invest in innovative technologies (e.g. GIS and remote sensing) and build robust public-private partnerships.

Additionally, scaling up SLM and ensuring long-term impact across Ethiopia's GGW belt will require a supportive policy and institutional framework, and effective coordination across sectors. Although coordination structures already exist in the four SILAGLID project districts, they are often informal, lack consistency and clear mandates, and operate in silos. Overlapping responsibilities between agencies — particularly agriculture and forestry — as well as limited awareness of district-level plans, have undermined synergy across land use, forestry, water management, and livelihood interventions. Stakeholders have pointed to missed opportunities for efficiency and joint implementation due to weak collaboration frameworks and intermittent engagement between technical experts and communities. In addition, vertical coordination remains weak, and feedback loops between district offices and local institutions are underdeveloped, limiting the integration of local knowledge into policy-driven planning. Women and youth are also underrepresented in decision-making spaces, despite their critical roles in land and resource management.

Preferred solutions in the target areas

Afar: In Gulina district, sustainable land management requires a combination of institutional strengthening, inclusive governance, and climate-smart innovations to address the specific challenges associated with the region's arid conditions and agro-pastoralist livelihoods. Enhancing coordination between local, regional, and national actors, alongside building the capacity of woreda institutions, is key to supporting evidence-based, community-responsive planning. The region prioritises integrated natural resource management approaches — such as holistic regenerative grazing, Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), agro-forestry and soil and water conservation — to combat land degradation and restore critical ecosystems. Investments in flood protection, fodder banks, tree nurseries, windbreaks, and water infrastructure (e.g. ponds and solar pumps) will improve the resilience of rangelands and support productive agroforestry and irrigated horticulture. Livelihood diversification through milk processing, fattening, poultry, beekeeping, and gum and resin cooperatives offers sustainable income options, while the introduction of drought-resistant crops, improved livestock breeds, and alternative energy technologies (e.g., solar and biogas) will support both LDN and climate change mitigation goals. Participatory monitoring and peer learning platforms — including knowledge exchanges through the Daagu system[11][12] and stakeholder workshops — are essential for sustaining impact and scaling successful models across Afar's drylands. These interventions are in direct response to baseline findings of severe soil degradation, water scarcity, and invasive species pressure in Gulina (Appendix 17; Section 5).

Amhara region: Stakeholder have identified key sustainable land management solutions for project implementation districts in the region, grounded in the restoration of degraded landscapes, and the strengthening of community-based natural resource governance. In Chilga, where rainfed farming and livestock systems dominate, communities are already engaged in physical and biological soil and water conservation, integrated watershed management, and the restoration of degraded hillsides through area closures and reforestation. Scaling up these efforts — particularly Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), fruit-based agroforestry, and improved dairy systems — offers pathways to address land degradation while diversifying incomes. In Metema, the focus is on enhancing forest governance through stronger coordination between institutions, capacity building for local authorities, and revitalising forest cooperatives linked to sustainable harvesting of non-timber forest products such as gums and resins. Community-wide awareness raising and improved monitoring and evaluation systems will support adaptive management across both districts. For the broader Amhara region, integrated watershed development, value chain development (e.g. for honey, gums and resins, fruits and selected agricultural products), tree nursery expansion, and putting natural forests under participatory Forest Management/PFM are central to securing both ecological and livelihood outcomes. Building capacities and putting in place functioning monitoring and evaluation system is also considered as key focus area. Baseline assessments in Chilga and Metema confirm that deforestation, unsustainable farming, and weak forest governance are widespread (Appendix 17; Sections 3.1.1 and 4.1.2). Community-based restoration and forest cooperative strengthening are thus prioritised in the project design.

Tigray region: In Raya Azebo district, the preferred approach to sustainable land management centres on integrated, community-led restoration supported by strong governance, inclusive participation, and diversified livelihoods. Physical and biological soil and water conservation techniques—such as bench terraces, area closures, and gully rehabilitation — are widely promoted alongside afforestation and agroforestry interventions, including orchards, bamboo and elephant grass planting, and homestead agro-biodiversity. Strengthening land tenure systems, especially for women and youth, and reinforcing environmental regulations are critical to ensure long-term impact. Community awareness, leadership development, and behaviour change initiatives complement

these efforts, helping to scale nature-based solutions and foster stewardship. To enhance resilience, the region prioritises climate-smart agriculture, value-added processing of agricultural and forest products, and the promotion of small enterprises focused on beekeeping, dairy, and sustainable energy alternatives such as biogas and briquettes. Expanding access to tailored finance and sustainable technologies—like improved stoves, composting, and drip irrigation — will support adoption and improve food, income and ecosystem security in this drought-prone landscape. Given the district's fragile recovery from conflict and widespread climate-induced degradation (Appendix 17; Sections 6.1.1 and 6.2), integrated land restoration and youth-focused livelihoods are central to enhancing resilience.

To be successful, these integrated interventions must be inclusive. The Gender Analysis (Appendix 5a) underscores that failure to recognise and address structural gender inequalities undermines restoration success. The project will therefore prioritise actions that expand women's agency and access to productive resources, enhance their representation in decision-making, and reduce the time burden associated with unpaid care work — all of which are outlined in the Gender Action Plan (Appendix 5b).

4. Barriers and enablers to sustainable landscape management in Ethiopia's GGW Region

4.1. Barriers to SLM

A detailed barrier analysis was conducted to identify the challenges that currently inhibit sustainable land management interventions in Ethiopia's drylands from being implemented. The process followed is presented in *Appendix 20: Detailed Barriers Analysis*. A summary of the key barriers to be addressed by the SILAGLID project is presented in Table 1 below.

Table 1. A list of barriers to be addressed by the SILAGLID project.

#	Barrier	Key factors to be addressed
1	Limited institutional capacity, policy coherence and coordination for planning and implementing climate-resilient, sustainable landscape management and ecosystem restoration initiatives.	• Limited vertical and horizontal coordination between sectors. There is also institutional re-structuring with frequent changes in the agencies responsible for environment and natural resource management, affecting continuity and focus on the GGWI • Limited institutional capacity for enhanced natural resource management and climate resilience (for example insufficient skilled personnel at local level) • Insufficient decentralisation of policy implementation • Weak policy coordination across sectors, undermining the successful implementation of the GGWI • Fragmented mandates across ministries • Customary land-use practices that conflict with state-driven land-use planning
2	Insufficient technical and financial capacity at local level to develop and scale climate-resilient livelihoods, value chains, and nature-based solutions.	• Limited technical capacity in local government, including limited availability of technical personnel such as extension experts • Low capacity to develop bankable options for addressing challenges related to land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change

		• High upfront costs of adaptation technologies • Lack of quick incentives for restoration and SLM • Opportunity costs of land use – short term needs versus long-term costs
3	Limited private sector engagement and investment in sustainable land management, restoration, and resilient value chains.	• Limited engagement of the private sector in restoration and sustainable land management • Insufficient realization of multiple benefits of restoration for ecosystems and livelihoods.
4	Inadequate access to finance, markets, and technology for climate-resilient and inclusive land-use systems (e.g. agroforestry, NTFPs).	• Insufficient financial infrastructure in rural areas and gaps in market linkages for climate-resilient agricultural products • Inadequate access to microfinance and insurance
5	Limited awareness, knowledge systems, and dissemination of intervention options to strengthen the climate resilience of agricultural and other natural resource-based livelihoods.	• Insufficient infrastructure for data collection and analysis including gaps in historical climate and socio-economic data • Insufficient monitoring and maintenance of interventions • Limited documentation and dissemination of good practices • Low awareness of climate risks, climate change mitigation strategies and adaptation options • Gendered gaps in access to information • Limited Collaborating, Learning and Adapting Efforts in the GGW Initiative
6	Insufficient inclusion of local voices, traditional institutions, women, and youth in sustainable land management, climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and restoration planning.	• Limited engagement with civil society and local institutions • Gender inequality and social norms – such as limited decision-making power Youth disengagement – disinterest in traditional livelihoods
7	Structural gender inequalities limit the ability of women and marginalised groups to access resources, exercise decision-making power, and participate meaningfully in environmental governance, due to discriminatory norms, unequal care responsibilities, and risks of violence.	• Unequal access to resources • Limited decision-making power • Discriminatory norms and practices • Gender-based violence • Unequal distribution of unpaid care work • Lack of recognition of women's knowledge and skills

Gender-related barriers — particularly Barriers 6 and 7 — were confirmed by the detailed Gender Analysis (Appendix 5a), which highlights specific regional and cultural constraints limiting women and youth from participating in and benefiting from natural resource governance and climate-resilient livelihoods.

4.2. Enablers for the GGWI and SILAGLID Project

The points below summarise the enabling factors to the success of the GGWI and therefore also the SILAGLID project. A detailed analysis of these enablers is presented in Appendix 16: Final Socioeconomic Baseline Review Report (Developed by National Team)).

Necessary enabling conditions to guide policy and public-sector investment: To ensure the success of the GGWI, six key enabling conditions related to policy must be established: i) a strong policy framework with clear goals, supportive legislation, and incentives; ii) institutional capacity building through dedicated agencies, technical expertise, and inter-agency coordination; iii) community engagement via participatory planning, local capacity building, and fair benefit sharing; iv) sustainable financing through diverse and long-term funding sources; v) effective knowledge management with regular monitoring and shared learning; and vi) climate-resilient approaches that incorporate mitigation and adaptation strategies, and early warning systems.

Leveraging private sector engagement opportunities: By identifying investment-ready segments — such as livestock value chains, small-scale irrigation, and digital agri-advisory services—Ethiopia can attract private capital to scale climate-smart interventions. Private sector participation, particularly through debt, equity, and public–private partnerships, can unlock finance, innovation, and market access, supporting the sustainability and impact of the project and GGWI. However, to fully mobilise this potential, targeted efforts are needed to address barriers such as limited risk mitigation tools, high interest rates, stringent collateral requirements, and gaps in technical capacity. Blended finance models, risk-sharing mechanisms, and enabling policies will be essential to align private investment with national climate and development goals.

Promotion of promising value chains: Promoting promising value chains is a critical enabler for sustainable development and dryland restoration in Ethiopia's GGW areas. While dryland regions produce a range of goods — including livestock, gums and resins, indigenous fruits, and minerals — value chains for these products remain underdeveloped due to fragmented marketing systems, lack of standards and traceability, and limited infrastructure. Strengthening these value chains will contribute to improved livelihoods, rural-urban market integration, and long-term success of the GGW Initiative in Ethiopia.

Emerging socio-economic opportunities for transformational changes on women and youth: The GGWI in Ethiopia presents a great opportunity for socio-economic transformation, particularly for women and youth in rural areas. By building climate resilience and enhancing local infrastructure and services, the GGW contributes to broader rural development. Ensuring the active engagement of women and youth through inclusive planning, capacity building, and access to finance and technology will be essential for maximising these transformative impacts. The Gender Analysis (Appendix 5a) reinforces this opportunity by identifying key areas where targeted support — such as gender-responsive extension services, leadership training for women, and safeguards for gender inequality and social inclusion — can accelerate equitable participation and benefit-sharing.

5. Simple Future Narratives

The SILAGLID project design incorporated an analysis of simple future narratives, to explore how climate change and demographic-land use dynamics may shape land degradation, biodiversity and livelihoods in Ethiopia's dryland regions within the Great Green Wall belt. These narratives test the project's design under a range of plausible futures to ensure interventions remain relevant,

inclusive and adaptive. The focal question guiding this analysis is: *How can the resilience of dryland ecosystems and rural livelihoods be strengthened amid climate change, land degradation, and socio-economic vulnerability?* The analysis considers trends to 2050, across four target woredas — Raya Azebo, Gulina, Metema and Chilga — representing high ecological sensitivity and exposure to climate risks.

Two priority drivers were identified as critical uncertainties:

- **Climate change severity** (rainfall variability, temperature rise, droughts)
- **Demographic and land use change** (population growth, migration, land conversion)

These drivers are presented on two axes (Figure 4), generating four plausible futures:

1. **Slower climate change, slower land use change**: Lower environmental pressure but limited economic momentum; opportunities for long-term planning exist but require proactive investment and inclusive engagement to achieve significant gains.
2. **Slower climate change, faster land use change**: Reduced climate stress, but escalating pressure on ecosystems due to rapid land conversion. Urgent scaling of restoration, planning, and gender-responsive governance is needed.
3. **Faster climate change, faster land use change**: A high-risk scenario marked by ecosystem collapse, declining livelihoods, and deepening vulnerability. The project must focus on emergency responses and corrective mechanisms (mitigation), large-scale restoration, and resilience-building for at-risk groups.
4. **Faster climate change, slower land use change**: Intense environmental stress with slower demographic change offers space to adapt — but only if proactive, ecosystem-based strategies are in place.

A graphical representation of the priority drivers selected for an analysis of simple future narratives is presented below. A detailed assessment of Simple Future Narratives is presented in Appendix 20: Simple Future Narratives Analysis.

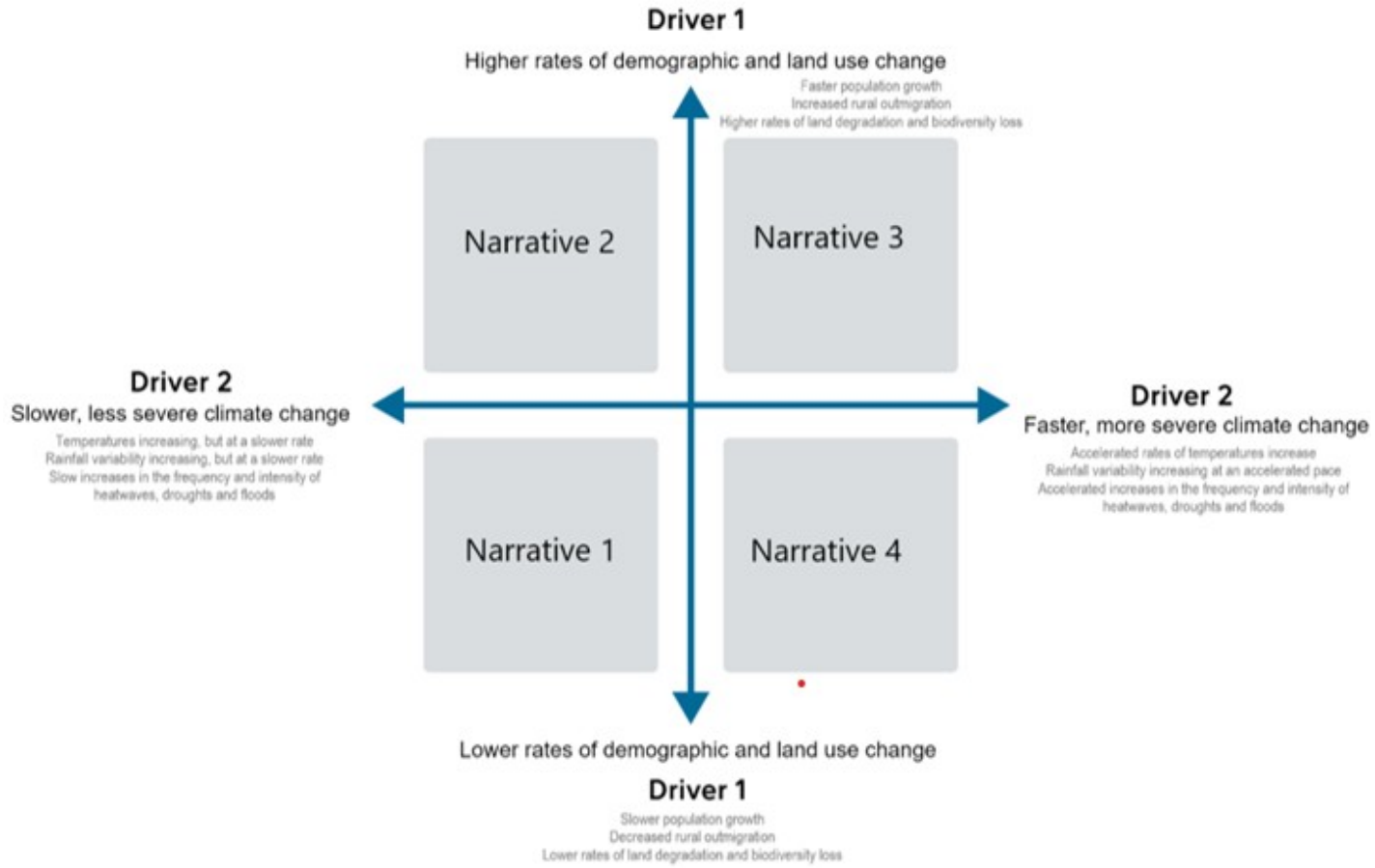


Figure 4. Graphical representation of the priority drivers selected for an analysis of simple future narratives, presented on a set of axes.

6. Consistency with national priorities and plans

A review of key Government policy documents was done (*see Appendix 18: Project Baseline and Situation Analysis*) to validate and expand the description of the institutional context in the project concept, ensuring alignment with the latest and most relevant GoE priorities while enhancing coherence and implementation effectiveness. Table 2 presents a preliminary list of relevant plans, policies, and strategies to be reviewed. In addition to this initial selection, further documents will be assessed based on specific keyword searches and identified gaps. A detailed description of each of these documents is provided in *Appendix 18: Project Baseline/Situation Analysis.*

Table 2. Preliminary list of relevant policies, plans and strategies.

Policy, plan, strategy or framework
Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (The Constitution; 1995)[12][13]
Agricultural and Rural Development Policy (1993)
Ethiopian Forestry Action Plan (EFAP; 1994)

Environmental Policy of Ethiopia (EEP; 1997)[13][14]
National Action Plan to Combat Desertification (1998)
National Food Security Strategy (NFSS; 1996, updated 1997 and 2002)
Environmental Law of Ethiopia (2002)
Policy on Pastoral Development (2002)
Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Program (SDPRP; 2002–2005)
Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP; 2005–2010)
The Forest Development Protection and Utilization Policy (2007)[14][15]
Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP I 2010–2015; GTP II 2015–2020)
Climate-Resilient Green Economy Strategy (CRGE, 2011–2025)[15][16],
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP; 2015–2022)[16][17]
LDN National Voluntary Targets (2015–2030)[17][18]
National Forest Sector Development Program (NFSDP; 2016–2025)[18][19]
Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP)[19][20]
National REDD+ Strategy (NRS; 2016 - 2030)[20][21]
Climate Change Education Strategy of Ethiopia (2017-2030)[21][22]
Forest Development, Protection and Utilization Proclamation (2018)
National Adaptation Plan (NAP; 2019)[22][23]
Development, Management and Utilization of Community Watersheds Proclamation (2020)
Ethiopia's Long-Term Low Emission and Climate Resilient Development Strategy (LT-LEDS; 2020–2050)[23][24]
Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC; 2021)[24][25]
Ten Years Perspective Development Plan (TYPDP; 2021–2030)[25][26]
Ethiopia National Drylands Restoration Strategy (2022)[26][27]
Ethiopia National Drought Response Plan (DRP; revised 2022)[27][28]
Ethiopia's Strategic Investment Framework for Sustainable Land Management (ESIF)
Paris Agreement, the Bonn Challenge, the New York Declaration on Forests and the AFR100
Biodiversity National Reports to UNCBD
National reports to the UNCCD

7. Project Cost-Effectiveness

In response to the problem and barriers to SLM described above, the Government of Ethiopia has identified the need for investment in the Ethiopian Great Green Wall (GGW) belt through the use of funding under GEF-8. This funding will be used to implement targeted interventions in four key districts, focussing on forest restoration/reforestation, agroforestry, sustainable diversified livelihood development and improved knowledge management. The SILAGLID project is inherently cost-effective because it strategically integrates ecosystem restoration, livelihood diversification, and institutional capacity-building into a coherent, multi-benefit programme that addresses the root causes of land degradation in Ethiopia's GGW belt. By combining reforestation, agroforestry, and community-driven natural resource management with support for nature-based enterprises and value chain development, the project ensures that restoration efforts are economically sustainable and socially inclusive. Each of the four components is designed to reinforce the others, reducing duplication and maximising synergies between ecological and socio-economic outcomes. Additionally, the use of participatory approaches, alignment with national priorities, and leveraging of co-financing and private sector engagement enhance cost-efficiency and scalability of interventions, ensuring that limited GEF resources generate durable, transformational impact across multiple sectors. UNEP's role as the GEF Implementing Agency further enhances cost-effectiveness by ensuring strong technical oversight, alignment with national systems and streamlined project supervision through its in-country presence. Its experience in managing complex, multi-stakeholder natural resource projects in Ethiopia and across the GGW region contributes to efficient implementation, while reducing transaction costs and avoiding duplication. See Section C.4 for further details on UNEP's competitive advantage and value for money the agency offers.

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[1] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: Scaling up integrated landscape re-greening and livelihood diversification best practices along the Great Green Wall belt of Ethiopia (SILAGLID) (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[2] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: Scaling up integrated landscape re-greening and livelihood diversification best practices along the Great Green Wall belt of Ethiopia (SILAGLID) (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[3]Appendix 17 (Section 3.1.1); and Appendix 18 (pp. 7)

[4] Appendix 17 (Section 5); Appendix 18 (pp. 12)

[5] Appendix 17 (Section 4)

[6] Appendix 17 (Section 6); Appendix 18 (pp. 17)

[7] Appendix 17 (Figure 7); Appendix 18 (pp. 5)

[8] Appendix 17 (Sections 3, 4 and 6)

[9] Deforestation specifically refers to the removal of trees from an area while land degradation refers to the removal of biomass in general, including collection of fuelwood from forest areas where larger trees remain present. Land degradation is linked to symptomatic issues such as soil erosion and soil fertility loss.

[10] Appendix 17 (Sections 3, 4 and 6)

[11] The Daagu system is a traditional indigenous information-sharing and early warning system used by pastoralist communities in Ethiopia, particularly among the Afar and Borana people. It is a highly structured, oral communication network that transmits timely and reliable information on critical issues such as:

[12] Constitution Of The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

[13] Environmental Policy of Ethiopia

[14] Forest Development, Conservation and Utilization Proclamation

[15]Ethiopia's Climate-Resilient Green Economy Strategy

[16] National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

[17] Ethiopia Land Degradation Neutrality Report

[18] The Ten-Year Forest Sector Development Program

[19] Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP)

[20] National REDD+ Strategy (2016 - 2030).

[21] Climate Change Education Strategy of Ethiopia 2017-2030

[22] National Adaptation Plan.

[23] Ethiopia's Long-Term Low Emission and Climate Resilient Development Strategy

[24] Ethiopia's Updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)

[25] Ten Years Development Plan

[26] Ethiopian National Dryland Strategy (2022)

[27] Ethiopia Drought Response Plan (DRP)

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

1. Description of Changes from Child Project Concept (PIF)

During Project Preparation, several elements of the project have been revised. These include minor issues such as standardization of terminology, as well as more significant revisions related to the project's Theory of Change and Results Framework. A short description of each change is provided below.

Table 3. A list of changes made from Child Project concept stage (PIF stage) to the development of the full CEO Endorsement Request.

Category/ Section	PIF stage	CEO ER stage	Notes
Terminology	'Great Green Wall Zone'	'Great Green Wall Belt'	The terminology has been updated (also in selected Components and Outcomes) from 'Great Green Wall Zone' to 'Great Green Wall Belt'. This was done because 'zone' is often used as an administrative division in Ethiopia and belt provides a clearer picture of the proposed intervention area.
Project Rationale	N/A	Identified barriers to sustainable land management.	A detailed barrier analysis was undertaken during the project preparation phase to determine barriers that should be addressed by the SILAGLID project. This is presented in Appendix 21.
ToC/Logframe	N/A	Developed project Outputs. Methodology presented in Appendix 22: Process for identification of project outputs and activities	Following from the barrier analysis, detailed project Outputs were developed, as well as activities and sub activities. The output identification process is presented in Appendix 22.
Rio Markers	N/A	Added Climate Change Adaptation as significant Objective	During Project Preparation, Climate Change Adaptation was added as a significant Objective under the Rio Markers. While the SILAGLID project is not an adaptation project per se, the

			interventions under the Land Degradation and Biodiversity Focal Areas will have significant adaptation co-benefits.
Co-financing commitments	Total co-financing of USD37,000,000	Total co-financing of USD 15,000,000	Co-financing amounts have been updated based on available resources under present conditions.
Implementation Arrangements (Appendix 7)	EWCA and EBI proposed as potential technical implementing partners	EWCA and EBI replaced by CIFOR and PENHA as Co-Executing Agencies/ Implementing Partners	During PIF stage, Ethiopia Biodiversity Institute (EBI) and Ethiopia Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA) were listed as key executing partners. During Project Preparation, it was determined that PENHA and CIFOR will be more suitable co-executing agencies than EBI and EWCA. EBI and EWCA will remain involved in the SILAGLID project implementation through provision of technical support for selected project activities.

2. Project Strategy

2.1. Project objective

The objective of the SILAGLID project is to restore degraded landscapes, reduce deforestation, enhance biodiversity, contribute to mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, and promote resilient livelihoods in the drylands of Ethiopia as part of the country's contribution to the regional Great Green Wall initiative (GGWI) — a continental effort to combat desertification, land degradation, and climate change in Africa's drylands — by integrating sustainable land management, forest conservation, and agroecological practices. The SILAGLID project will be implemented in four strategically selected districts from the three GGW regions of the country, in the regions of Afar, Amhara and Tigray. Through implementing community-driven interventions and institutional capacity strengthening, SILAGLID will target a total of 62,000 ha, including restoration of **22,000 hectares** of degraded land (including 2,000 hectares of degraded agricultural landscape through agroforestry and 20,000 hectares degraded communal landscapes/watersheds through restoration/afforestation), and improving the management of **40,000 hectares** of natural forests, and benefit over **20,300 people (40% women)**, with a focus on gender-inclusive sustainable livelihood interventions. These actions will increase carbon sequestration, reduce emissions from deforestation and degradation, enhance biodiversity, and improve food, nutrition and water security, contributing to Ethiopia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets, and the Global Biodiversity Framework. The project objective will be achieved through the four integrated project components listed below.

- **Component 1:** Institutional capacity development to support the sustainable management of natural resources within the Ethiopian GGW belt
- **Component 2:** Promoting diversified, resilient and sustainable livelihoods to incentivize sustainable resource management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt
- **Component 3:** Implementing integrated natural resources management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt
- **Component 4:** Knowledge management platform and monitoring system for accountability and proper reporting of the GGW activities

The Components are part of the proposed project's Theory of Change (see Figure 5 below), which will address land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change impacts by disrupting strategic impact pathways (see Appendix 19: Problem Tree). A description of each Component is provided in Section 2 below. Detailed descriptions of the project Outcomes under each Component, with their respective Outputs and Activities are presented in Section 3.

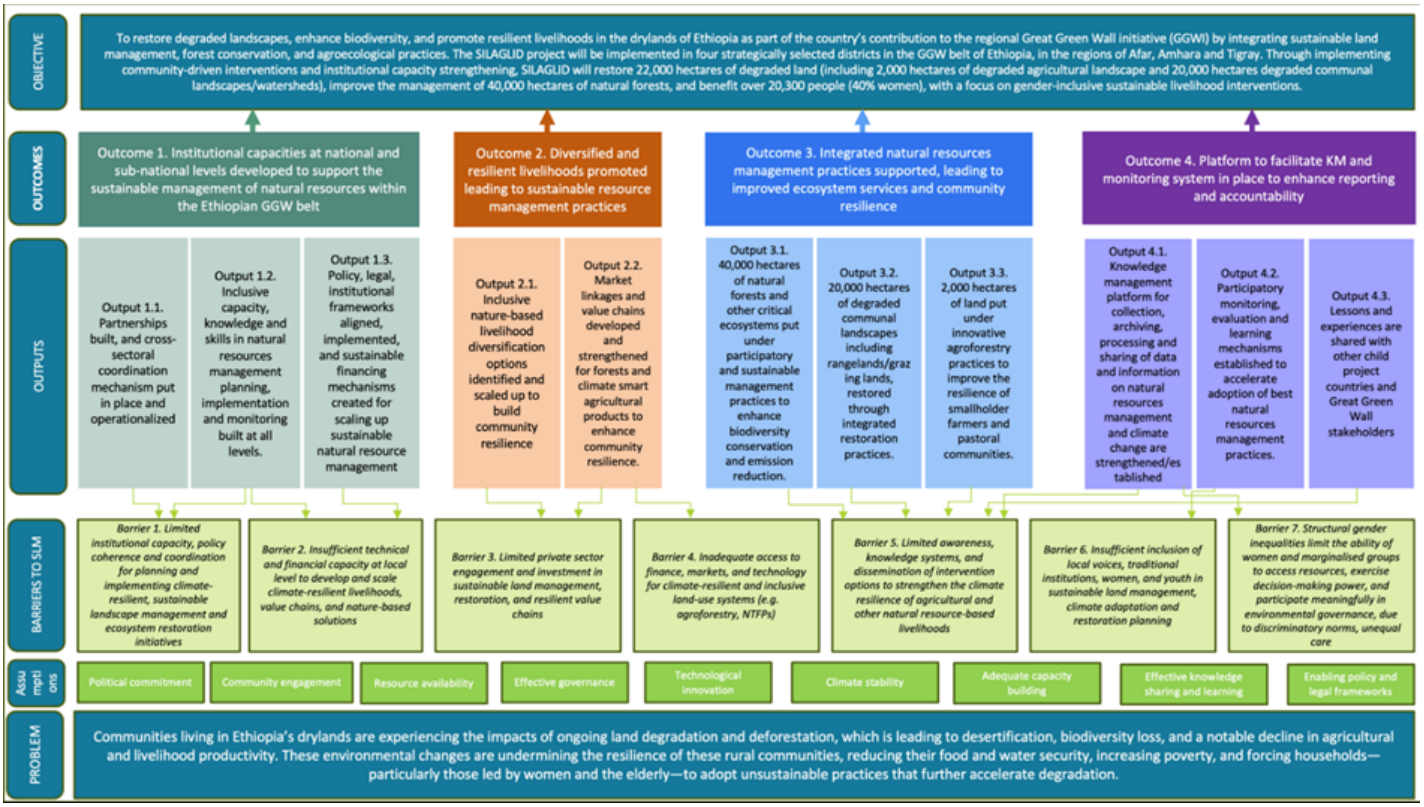


Figure 5. The SILAGLID project's Theory of Change diagram.

2.2. Description of Components

Component 1: Institutional capacity development to support the sustainable management of natural resources within the Ethiopian GGW belt

The objective of Component 1 is to build an enabling institutional environment for the effective planning, coordination, implementation and monitoring of sustainable natural resource management (NRM) across Ethiopia's GGW belt. This component addresses the need for strengthened institutional capacity, coordination, partnerships and governance frameworks to support sustainable natural resource management across the target region, while integrating measures for gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). Despite significant efforts have made through national strategies and programmes — including, *inter alia*, the Green Legacy Initiative (GLI) and the Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy — challenges persist in achieving coherent implementation of Nature-based Solutions across sectors and administrative levels. Institutional arrangements and decision-making structures often operate in silos, presenting an opportunity to strengthen both vertical and horizontal coordination. Capacity and knowledge gaps also persist, particularly in the planning, implementation and monitoring of integrated and inclusive NRM approaches. Appendix 5a highlights that only ~11% of women surveyed within the target regions participated in land use and NRM-related decisions, indicating a significant gender gap in institutional and governance structures. Further, many women lack awareness of their legal rights to land, limiting their ability to engage in or benefit from land restoration programmes.

In response to these challenges, Component 1 will support the establishment and operationalization of inter-ministerial and inter-agency committees, strengthen participatory decision-making processes, and facilitate regular multi-stakeholder dialogues to enhance coordination, partnerships and coherence in NRM. These dialogues will specifically ensure the meaningful engagement of women, youth, and customary leaders, whose voices are often excluded from formal governance structures, as identified in Appendix 5a. The Component will address capacity gaps by delivering tailored training programmes that align with GESI principles. Monitoring systems will be enhanced through the development of indicators to track policy outcomes and programme impacts. The component will also support the development of clear guidelines and procedures for operationalizing integrated NRM and law enforcement and promote alignment between national and regional frameworks. Finally, Innovative resource mobilization mechanisms will be introduced to increase public and private financing for sustainable NRM. In this regard, support will be provided to beneficiary regions and districts to access the Green Legacy and Degraded Landscape Restoration Special Fund, enabling the

scale-up of best practices across the GGW belt. Gender equality and inclusion of marginalized groups will be mainstreamed throughout all activities. Special attention will be given to women's participation in governance and capacity-building, aligned with Ethiopia's national commitments and the GGWI's inclusive vision. By strengthening institutions, coordination mechanisms, technical skills, knowledge and financial planning, Component 1 will contribute to a more coherent and inclusive enabling environment for sustainable NRM and resilient livelihoods. It will also enhance enforcement and alignment of national and regional policies and strategies.

Interventions under Component 1 respond to the barriers listed below:

- **Barrier 1:** Limited institutional capacity, policy coherence and coordination for planning and implementing climate-resilient, sustainable landscape management and ecosystem restoration initiatives
- **Barrier 2:** Insufficient technical and financial capacity at local level to develop and scale climate-resilient livelihoods, value chains, and nature-based solutions
- **Barrier 5:** Limited awareness, knowledge systems, and dissemination of intervention options to strengthen the climate resilience of agricultural and other natural resource-based livelihoods
- **Barrier 6:** Insufficient inclusion of local voices, traditional institutions, women, and youth in sustainable land management, climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and restoration planning
- **Barrier 7:** Structural gender inequalities limit the ability of women and marginalized groups to access resources, exercise decision-making power, and participate meaningfully in environmental governance, due to discriminatory norms, unequal care responsibilities, and risks of violence.

Component 2: Promoting diversified, resilient and sustainable livelihoods to incentivize sustainable resource management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt

The objective of Component 2 is to promote diversified, climate-resilient and sustainable livelihoods that directly support and incentivize improved NRM within Ethiopia's GGW belt. By strengthening household and community resilience through improved income and access to nutritious food, the component will contribute to reduced deforestation and land degradation, scaling up the implementation of inclusive, nature-based economic opportunities. Communities in the GGW belt face persistent challenges linked to unsustainable land use, including deforestation, land degradation, and limited viable alternatives. These communities are largely dependent on rain-fed agriculture, rely on biomass for energy, and are often trapped in an adverse cycle of poverty, food and water insecurity, and ecosystem degradation. As a result, this leads to the over-extraction of natural resources for income generation, placing increasing pressure on already degraded landscapes and exacerbating the climate vulnerability of the ecosystems and communities that depend on them for their livelihoods. Women and youth are disproportionately affected, with limited access to land, finance and decision-making opportunities. The project Gender Analysis (Appendix 5a) reveals that only ~17% of women in the target regions reported ownership of land, while over 60% are engaged in unpaid or low-paid care and agricultural work. These inequalities reduce their ability to benefit from current livelihood options and limit household adaptive capacity. Moreover, as livelihood productivity declines, many rural youths migrate to urban areas, leaving behind communities burdened with the dual responsibility of caring for young children and the elderly while sustaining their own livelihoods. Despite efforts to promote alternative livelihoods, past initiatives have been limited in scale or effectiveness, often lacking the market connectivity needed to catalyze long-term behavioral change or improve ecosystem stewardship.

To address these challenges, Component 2 will implement a suite of integrated interventions aimed at diversifying and strengthening the livelihoods of communities living in the target areas. This included the participatory identification, development and scaling of nature-based livelihood options — including agroforestry and regenerative agricultural and forestry practices, sustainable livestock management, and the development of value chains for nature-based products such as apiculture, bamboo, non-timber forest products (NTFPs). The Component will also support the formation and strengthening of community-based cooperatives, associations, enterprises and other groups that support NRM, alongside capacity-building for production, value addition and marketing ecologically sustainable and economically feasible products. Capacity-building will include targeted support for women-led enterprises, and address specific constraints faced by female and youth-headed households, such as time poverty, mobility limitations, and access to credit. Appendix 5b outlines activities to support the formation of inclusive cooperatives and links to microfinance institutions. To support long-term viability, value chain analyses will be conducted for selected products and enterprises, enabling inclusive and transparent market linkages. The component will further catalyze private sector investment by

facilitating partnerships and promoting innovative financing mechanisms for nature-based enterprises. These interventions will empower communities to better adapt to climate change by strengthening local capacities for climate risk assessment and implementation of adaptive strategies. Further, livelihood diversification will foster the widespread adoption of NRM practices, leading to improved land, water, and forest management and contributing to the overall ecological health and productivity of the GGW belt. A strong emphasis will be placed on gender equality and social inclusion, with all livelihood interventions designed to actively empower women, youth and marginalized groups — including pastoralists and smallholder farmers. Cooperatives and enterprise models will embed inclusive decision-making, and capacity-building activities will be tailored to address the unique needs and constraints of different social groups. These will include training schedules adapted to women's time availability, women-only learning spaces where relevant, and mentorship programmes for young people.

In these ways, interventions under Component 2 will directly address the following project barriers:

- **Barrier 2:** Insufficient technical and financial capacity at local level to develop and scale climate-resilient livelihoods, value chains, and nature-based solutions
- **Barrier 3:** Limited private sector engagement and investment in sustainable land management, restoration, and resilient value chains
- **Barrier 4:** Inadequate access to finance, markets, and technology for climate-resilient and inclusive land-use systems
- **Barrier 7:** Structural gender inequalities limiting equitable access to resources, decision-making, and environmental governance

Component 3: Implementing integrated natural resources management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt

The objective of Component 3 is to support the implementation of integrated, inclusive and climate-resilient natural resources management (NRM) practices across Ethiopia's GGW belt to improve ecosystem health, restore degraded landscapes, enhance biodiversity, and strengthen community resilience. By placing natural forests and communal lands, under participatory and sustainable management, and by improving the management of smallholder managed lands, this component aims to reverse or slow degradation and deforestation trends, improve ecosystem services provision, and reduce vulnerability to climate change. Land degradation and deforestation are widespread in the GGW belt — particularly in forested and communal areas — due to unsustainable extraction, farmland expansion, overgrazing, and climate-induced stressors such as rising temperatures, drought, and floods. These pressures result in biodiversity loss, disrupt hydrological cycles, and limit the productivity of agricultural and pastoral systems due to *inter alia* soil erosion and loss of fertility. Smallholder and pastoralist communities are particularly vulnerable, with limited access to resources and support for implementing sustainable land-use practices. The Gender Analysis (Appendix 5a) found that women-headed households in the project areas have among the lowest access to extension services and are often excluded from decisions related to communal land use. Youth, including pastoralist youth, also face barriers to participation due to age-based power hierarchies. While national and regional initiatives have promoted afforestation, enclosure systems and forest protection, efforts have often been limited by challenges related to full community ownership, context-specific planning and integration with sustainable livelihoods, resulting in inconsistent impacts and limited scalability.

In response, Component 3 will support the participatory management of 40,000 ha of natural forests and the biodiversity resources thereof, and other critical ecosystems through the organization of community groups, providing training programmes and awareness campaigns. Integrated forest management plans will be developed using spatial data and community input — incorporating biodiversity conservation, emission reduction and sustainable use practices to support local livelihoods. Different Participatory Forest Management/PFM groups will be established to ensure decentralized and sustainable management of these forests and other critical ecosystems. In parallel, 20,000 ha of degraded communal rangelands and grazing areas will be restored through integrated restoration practices including afforestation and reforestation, assisted natural regeneration, constructing different soil and water conservation structures, harvesting rainwater, and range management practices including fodder production informed by detailed participatory assessments. These assessments will ensure inclusion of diverse groups, particularly women and young people, who are primary users of degraded rangelands in many areas but are underrepresented in current planning processes. These interventions will be tailored to site-specific degradation types and implemented through certified community-based restoration groups. Additionally, 2,000 ha of agroforestry systems will be established on smallholder farmlands, with suitable models selected through participatory processes to enhance resilience by improving soil fertility, diversifying incomes, and rehabilitating landscapes. Gender equality and social inclusion will be embedded throughout implementation. Women, youth,

and marginalized groups — including pastoralists and smallholder farmers — will actively participate in decision-making, planning, and implementation of forest management, restoration, and agroforestry activities. Training and support will be tailored to reduce barriers to participation and ensure equitable benefit-sharing from restored landscapes. Specific measures will be taken to ensure equitable benefit-sharing, including gender-responsive benefit tracking systems and social safeguards to prevent elite capture.

Component 3 addresses the following key barriers:

- **Barrier 1:** Limited institutional capacity, policy coherence and coordination for climate-resilient landscape management
- **Barrier 2:** Insufficient technical and financial capacity at local level to develop and scale nature-based solutions
- **Barrier 5:** Limited awareness, knowledge systems and dissemination of intervention options
- **Barrier 6:** Insufficient inclusion of local voices, traditional institutions, women, and youth in sustainable land management, climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and restoration planning
- **Barrier 7:** Structural gender inequalities limiting equitable access to resources, decision-making, and environmental governance

Component 4: Knowledge management platform and monitoring system for accountability and proper reporting of the GGW activities

The objective of Component 4 is to establish a robust, transparent, and inclusive knowledge management and monitoring system to facilitate learning, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making throughout Ethiopia's GGW project implementation stage and beyond. It responds to persistent gaps in data systems, participatory monitoring, and mechanisms for sharing lessons within Ethiopia and across the broader GGW region. The project Gender Analysis and Action Plan (Appendix 5a and 5b) note that the exclusion of women and marginalized groups from data systems leads to biased or incomplete information and hinders inclusive planning. In the Ethiopian GGW belt, weak data infrastructure, fragmented knowledge systems, and inconsistent monitoring have constrained efforts to assess progress, adapt strategies, and communicate results. While valuable insights and practices are emerging across the landscape, these are often not systematically captured or shared. Inconsistent monitoring and limited dissemination of results have reduced opportunities for adaptive management and hindered knowledge exchange among communities, implementers and policymakers. The absence of digital systems for real-time data storage and analysis further restricts learning and accountability. To address these gaps, Component 4 will support the development of a digital knowledge platform to collect, archive, analyze, and disseminate information on forest resource management and climate adaptation in the drylands of Ethiopia.

Specifically, the project will build on the existing forest knowledge management system established under the Norway-funded National Forest Management Centre. This system, initially hosted by the Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD) and now housed at Hawassa University, compiles and stores digital forestry data, including information on forest management, carbon, and production. Supported by CIFOR and formalized through an MoU with the university, the center already has the necessary facilities, software, and structure in place. SILAGLID will strengthen and expand this system by linking it to the four target woredas, enhancing accessibility of geolocated forestry data, and supporting EFD's transition to digital education and monitoring. The upgraded system will serve as a GIS training and MRV center, improve institutional sustainability in the forest sector, reduce the need for repeated baseline data collection, and empower regional offices and local stakeholders with real-time forest information for decision-making, verification, and carbon trading.

The platform will be supported by training across all levels to ensure effective data entry, use, and interpretation. In parallel, the system will be used to manage and track project progress, feeding into a participatory monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) framework. The MEL system will integrate gender-responsive indicators, such as the number of women in leadership positions in forest groups or the share of benefits accessed by female-headed households. Regular field monitoring, project evaluations, and stakeholder review meetings will facilitate reflection, feedback, and continuous improvement in project implementation. To foster peer learning and regional collaboration, the project will document lessons learned and promote knowledge exchange with other GGW child projects through materials, workshops, and dedicated exchange platforms. Gender equality and social inclusion will be

embedded across all activities under Component 4. Women, youth, and marginalized groups — including the elderly, pastoralists and smallholder farmers, as well as beneficiaries living in remote areas with limited access to technology — will be meaningfully engaged in data collection, validation, and learning. Training will be tailored to address literacy, language, and access barriers, while disaggregated data (by gender, age, and other markers) will be integrated into the MEL system to support inclusive decision-making and track differential impacts. Knowledge products will be designed to be accessible, inclusive, and culturally appropriate for diverse user groups. Training materials and knowledge products will use local languages and visual aids to accommodate lower literacy levels among women and elders. Peer-to-peer learning models will also be explored, especially for women with limited formal education. By improving data systems, participatory learning, and knowledge exchange, Component 4 will strengthen accountability, enable continuous learning, and support the replication of effective practices across Ethiopia and the wider GGW belt.

Component 4 will address the following barriers:

- **Barrier 1:** Limited institutional capacity and coordination
- **Barrier 5:** Limited awareness, knowledge systems, and dissemination of intervention options
- **Barrier 6:** Insufficient inclusion of local voices, traditional institutions, women, and youth in sustainable land management, climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and restoration planning

3. Description of Outcomes, Outputs and Activities

The sections below provide a description of the SILAGLID project's Outcomes, Outputs and Activities (additional detail on project activities is presented in *Appendix 24: Activity detail and descriptions*). Project Components described above, and Outcomes below were defined during the Child Project concept development (PIF stage). Project Outputs and Activities were developed during the Project Preparation Phase following the process described in *Appendix 22. Process for identification of project outputs and activities.*

Outcome 1. Institutional capacities at national and sub-national levels developed to support the sustainable management of natural resources within the Ethiopian GGW belt

Under Outcome 1, institutional capacities will be strengthened across all levels of government and community structures to enable the effective, inclusive, and sustainable management of natural resources in Ethiopia's GGW belt. Collectively, Outputs under Outcome 1 will foster institutional coherence and accountability, enabling more integrated and effective landscape governance. This will include the establishment and operationalised of inter-ministerial and inter-agency coordination platforms to promote cross-sectoral planning and decision-making (Output 1.1), as well as the provision of targeted training, tools, and monitoring systems to address technical and capacity gaps, thereby improving the planning, implementation, and evaluation of natural resource management activities (Output 1.2). In addition, support will be provided for the alignment and enforcement of policies, the development of implementation strategies and guidelines, and the establishment of sustainable financing mechanisms (Output 1.3). By embedding gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) into all capacity-building and planning processes, Outcome 1 will also empower marginalised groups such as women and the youth to actively participate in decision-making and benefit from improved natural resource management. These interventions will lay a strong institutional foundation for long-term resilience to climate change across the GGW belt.

Output 1.1. Partnerships built and cross-sectoral coordination mechanism put in place and operationalised

This output will strengthen coordination platforms for natural resource management (NRM) at district and regional levels, facilitating more structured, inclusive, and consistent inter-agency collaboration. Building on existing mechanisms such as District Steering Committees and Technical Committees, the project will support the development of formal joint planning and decision-making frameworks to enhance integration across the agriculture, forestry and conservation sectors and alignment between local

priorities and policy goals. Terms of Reference, joint management agreements, and coordination tools will be developed in consultation with stakeholders, while encouraging inclusive participation and stronger vertical linkages with community institutions such as watershed committees and traditional councils. Through these actions, the project will enhance institutional coordination and governance under Outcome 1 and strengthen stakeholder capacity to plan and implement NRM in a coherent, integrated, and participatory manner. This output will promote gender-responsive and socially inclusive coordination structures by facilitating the participation of women, youth, and marginalised groups in planning and decision-making processes. Measures will include gender-balanced representation in stakeholder groups, use of participatory tools, and the development of planning guidelines and materials in local languages to ensure cultural relevance and accessibility. Implementation will follow participatory and consultative approaches — including stakeholder mapping, capacity assessments, landscape planning workshops, joint field assessments, and validation meetings — and will be carried out in close collaboration with government institutions and local actors. Coordination will be strengthened through regular multi-stakeholder dialogues and communication efforts aligned with existing governance structures and planning cycles. The output contributes to national policy priorities, aligning with Ethiopia's Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy (CRGE), National Forest Sector Development Program (NFSDP), National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and other strategies relevant to NRM governance. It complements the roles of institutions such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD), and regional bureaus of environment and natural resources, while reinforcing the mandates of coordination bodies at district level.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 1.1.1.** Establish/strengthen steering and technical committees and working groups on NRM.
- **Activity 1.1.2.** Develop and implement joint management agreements, participatory planning and decision-making processes and collaborative frameworks.
- **Activity 1.1.3**. Facilitate regular meetings and dialogues among stakeholders to strengthen partnerships and intersectoral coordination

Output 1.2: Inclusive capacity, knowledge and skills in natural resources management planning, implementation and monitoring built at all levels.

This output will build technical capacity for natural resources management (NRM) across national, regional, and local levels by providing tailored training, participatory skills development, and outcome-oriented monitoring systems. The focus is on both institutional and community-level actors, with training aligned to sustainable and climate-resilient land use practices. Gender-responsive systems will be developed to strengthen learning, knowledge application, and the tracking of NRM outcomes. By strengthening the knowledge base and institutional capacity of key actors, this output will contribute to Outcome 1 by enhancing the quality, consistency, and inclusivity of NRM planning, delivery, and adaptive management. It will also promote equitable participation and long-term monitoring of ecological and socio-economic outcomes, thereby supporting landscape restoration and community resilience. Despite ongoing NRM efforts in the project districts, implementation is often hampered by the absence of standardised technical guidance and limited integration with broader watershed or land use frameworks. Monitoring systems tend to capture short-term activity data — such as hectares restored or trees planted — without assessing long-term ecological or social impacts. Offices responsible for land and forest management lack indicators for tracking NRM outcomes, and current monitoring frameworks are rarely linked to planning or adaptive management processes. Moreover, existing systems do not consistently capture sex-disaggregated or community-generated data, reducing the ability to evaluate equitable impacts or respond to local priorities.

Baseline consultations identified widespread demand for capacity-building in participatory planning, integrated watershed and forest management, value chains, and community engagement. Forest cooperatives involved in gum and resin production, for example, reported a lack of structured training on sustainable harvesting and value chain development. Although extension services exist, they are under-resourced and struggle to reach remote communities. Women and youth, in particular, face structural barriers to participation in NRM. While responsible for key tasks such as firewood collection, water access, and subsistence farming, women remain underrepresented in planning bodies and often lack access to training and decision-making opportunities. Cultural norms and unequal access to cooperative structures further restrict their engagement.

To address these challenges, the project will strengthen technical knowledge, deliver inclusive training programmes, and co-develop locally appropriate indicators for monitoring NRM outcomes. Training will be delivered through needs-based assessments, participatory approaches, and field-based workshops tailored to different groups. Local-language curricula and manuals will support accessibility, while training-of-trainer (ToT) models will ensure sustainability. Monitoring tools — both digital and paper-based — will be co-designed with stakeholders and piloted to generate relevant data for adaptive management. The project will also emphasise institutional collaboration to ensure tools and approaches are embedded in government systems. Inclusive participation will be actively promoted by engaging women, youth, and marginalised groups in all capacity-building and monitoring activities. Training approaches will be gender-responsive and participatory, incorporating tools such as local-language materials and inclusive ToT sessions. Monitoring data will be disaggregated by gender, age, and other markers to support equitable decision-making, and participatory methods will be used to gather feedback from communities. This output supports national priorities under Ethiopia's Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy (CRGE), National Adaptation Plan, and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) commitments under the UNCCD. It aligns with the monitoring and capacity-building mandates of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD), and relevant regional and woreda-level authorities. Indicators developed under this output will also align with GEF and government reporting frameworks.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 1.2.1.** Conduct needs assessment at national, regional, and local levels to identify the specific knowledge and skill gaps in natural resources management planning, implementation, and monitoring.
- **Activity 1.2.2.** Design and implement tailored capacity-building training on sustainable NRM practices taking into consideration gender dimensions.
- **Activity 1.2.3.** Develop and implement indicators for monitoring NRM programs and policy outcomes and impacts in the project area.

Output 1.3: Policy, legal, institutional frameworks aligned, and implemented, and sustainable financing mechanisms created for scaling up sustainable natural resource management

Output 1.3 will strengthen and support Ethiopia's existing national policy framework by facilitating policy alignment and operationalisation at regional and woreda levels. It will strengthen the enabling environment for natural resource management (NRM) by improving inter-sectoral coordination, clarifying enforcement procedures, and piloting innovative, locally appropriate financing mechanisms. Key interventions will include the development of harmonised procedures, simplified implementation tools, and strategies to mobilise additional resources for sustainable land and forest management. By enhancing policy coherence and enabling access to finance, this output will support Outcome 1 by strengthening institutional capacity and creating a more consistent, inclusive, and well-resourced foundation for long-term restoration and resilience to climate change.

In line with Ethiopia's Drought Response Plan (DRP), Output 1.3 will integrate drought risk reduction, preparedness and response into natural resource management systems at national and local levels. It will strengthen coordination by engaging drought-related institutions in policy harmonisation and joint planning. Activities under this output will also support the development of guidelines that incorporate drought-resilient practices — such as sustainable water use and adaptive land management — and promote financing models that enable long-term investment in drought resilience, including local funds and public-private collaboration. These efforts will help translate DRP priorities into actionable tools, institutional arrangements, and sustainable financing strategies in dryland areas.

Despite Ethiopia's strong national policy frameworks for natural resource management in Ethiopia — including the CRGE Strategy, National Forest Sector Development Program, National Drought Response Plan and regional guidelines for watershed management and sustainable agriculture — implementation at the district level remains fragmented and under-resourced. Consultations revealed that district officials are generally aware of national directives, but face challenges in translating them into coordinated and enforceable local actions. Overlapping mandates, weak horizontal and vertical coordination, and limited clarity in enforcement responsibilities hinder effective delivery. In many districts, both the Agriculture Office and the Environmental and Forest Protection Office engage in land rehabilitation, but without a joint framework, efforts risk duplication and fragmentation. Enforcement

mechanisms, such as penalties for illegal charcoal production or encroachment, are often inconsistently applied, and guidelines are not always available in simplified or locally adapted formats[1][29].

District stakeholders expressed a strong demand for practical tools to support implementation — such as checklists, translated guidelines, and visual field aids — as well as for mechanisms to strengthen coordination across sectors and levels of government. Financial constraints further limit progress, with most woreda departments dependent on restricted central budgets and lacking tested pathways to mobilise local resources. To address these challenges, SILAGLID will provide incrementality by defining institutional mandates, supporting the co-development of locally appropriate NRM guidelines, and strengthening law enforcement through locally adapted tools. It will also address financing gaps by identifying new funding streams and piloting sustainable financing models — including community-based and blended finance approaches — to support the scaling of nature-based solutions (NbS) and long-term restoration efforts. The project will also promote inclusive governance by supporting secure land access for women and vulnerable groups and ensuring that enforcement and financing tools are accessible and culturally appropriate. Women, youth, and the elderly will be actively engaged in consultations, workshops and pilots, with visual and local-language materials developed to improve participation.

Implementation will involve policy reviews, institutional mapping, multi-stakeholder dialogues, and validation workshops. Practical tools such as checklists, field posters, and local-language guidelines will be co-developed and piloted. Financing strategies will be informed by assessments, roundtable discussions, and targeted proposal development. Coordination will be maintained with relevant government, justice system, and private sector actors to ensure integration with national and local systems. This output directly supports the implementation of national frameworks such as the CRGE Strategy, the National Forest Sector Development Program, Ethiopia's Drought Response Plan (DRP) and the Land Use and Administration Proclamation. It complements the mandates of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), Ethiopian Investment Commission, and sectoral ministries, while reinforcing decentralised implementation through existing governance structures. Pilot financing models will align with emerging policies on green investment, NbS, and sustainable land management.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 1.3.1.** Establish effective mechanism for policy coordination and harmonization across different sectors and levels of government.
- **Activity 1.3.2.** Develop and adopt clear guidelines and procedures that facilitate implementation of integrated NRM and law enforcement.
- **Activity 1.3.3.** Develop and implement strategies to enhance institutional capacity to mobilize financial resources from private, public sector and other sources for NRM.

Outcome 2: Diversified and resilient livelihoods promoted leading to sustainable resource management practices

Under Outcome 2, community livelihoods will be diversified and strengthened through the promotion of inclusive, nature-based economic opportunities that support sustainable resource management in the Ethiopia's GGW belt. Output 2.1 will support the participatory identification and scaling of both existing and innovative livelihood options tailored to local contexts, while also establishing community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) cooperatives and groups to strengthen ownership and governance. Output 2.2 will strengthen market linkages and develop inclusive value chains for climate-smart agriculture, forest-based products, and other nature-based enterprises through value chain analysis, enterprise development, and private sector engagement. These interventions will reduce reliance on unsustainable land-use practices by increasing household income opportunities, improving access to markets, and encouraging long-term investment in sustainable landscapes. By embedding gender equality and social inclusion throughout value chain and enterprise development processes, Outcome 2 will expand opportunities for women, youth, and marginalised groups to benefit from and contribute to resilient local economies. Together, these efforts will incentivise communities to adopt more sustainable natural resource management practices, while enhancing their adaptive capacity to climate change.

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Output 2.1: Inclusive nature-based livelihood diversification options identified and scaled up to build community resilience

This output will improve community resilience by identifying, enhancing, and scaling up viable nature-based livelihood options that align with local ecosystems and patterns of resource use. Through participatory planning and targeted support, the project will promote the adoption of sustainable practices that reduce environmental pressure while enhancing household income. Emphasis will be placed on small-scale, locally appropriate, and climate-resilient livelihoods, supported through demonstration activities, capacity building, and improved access to finance and markets. By strengthening the sustainability and inclusivity of rural livelihoods, this output will contribute to Outcome 2 by reducing community dependence on unsustainable practices and enhancing adaptive capacity. Diversified income sources will increase household resilience, improve gender equality, and support long-term land restoration efforts under the SILAGLID project. Consultations in all four districts revealed strong community interest in diversifying income sources through nature-based solutions that reflect local ecological conditions and resource availability[2][30]. Opportunities cited by communities included beekeeping, gum and resin value chains, fruit and seedling production, and small-scale irrigation. However, these initiatives remain small, fragmented, and poorly supported by formal extension services or enabling policies[3][31]. The project will address these gaps by supporting the participatory identification, piloting and scale-up of context-specific, inclusive livelihood options. Special attention will be given to equitably involving women, youth, pastoralists and small-holder farmers at every stage of the process — from opportunity identification to implementation. Training, financial products, and cooperative structures will be tailored to reduce participation barriers and reflect the specific needs and capacities of underrepresented groups. Access to productive resources, engagement in governance roles, and entry into underrepresented value chains will be key areas of support.

Implementation will include participatory rural appraisals, livelihood assessments, and community planning workshops to identify and prioritise viable and sustainable income-generating activities. Demonstration plots, farmer field schools (FFS), and tailored starter kits will be used to test and showcase successful approaches. Local-language training materials will support capacity building, and community cooperatives, associations and natural resource-based enterprises will be established and formally registered. Governance tools, including constitutions and bylaws, will be co-developed with communities, and operational manuals will be distributed to ensure sustainability and replication.

This output supports Ethiopia's CRGE Strategy, the National Forest Sector Development Program, and the National Rural Job Creation Strategy. It also reinforces decentralised planning under the Land Use and Administration Proclamation and aligns with national guidelines for participatory forest and rangeland management. Partnerships with regional bureaus, local cooperative offices, and investment institutions will ensure alignment with public programmes and increase continuity with donor support.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 2.1.1.** Conduct participatory identification and prioritization for scaling up of innovative nature-based livelihood diversification options.
- **Activity 2.1.2.** Introduce new and scale up innovative nature-based livelihood diversification options.
- **Activity 2.1.3.** Establish and/or strengthen community cooperatives and other community groups/associations for diversified livelihood options.

Output 2.2: Market linkages and value chains developed and strengthened for forests and climate smart agricultural products to enhance community resilience.

This output will strengthen the functionality and inclusivity of value chains for key forest and climate-smart agricultural products across the four target districts. Through detailed value chain analysis, enterprise development support, and facilitation of public-private partnerships, the project will address bottlenecks in production, processing, marketing, and finance. Activities will focus on enhancing the capacity of producer groups and cooperatives, supporting small-scale processing and packaging, and enabling private

investment in nature-based product markets. Strengthening these market linkages and value chains will support Outcome 2 by expanding access to sustainable income-generating opportunities, reducing environmental degradation, and empowering women and youth to participate in higher-value, climate-resilient enterprises tied to restoration and NRM. Although products such as honey, fruits, gums, and resins are already being produced, value chains remain fragmented and underdeveloped. During consultations, stakeholders identified the lack of value chain infrastructure and support systems as a critical barrier — citing gaps in input supply, processing, storage, access to market information and private investment opportunities. Indeed, while producer groups and cooperatives exist in all four districts, their functionality and inclusivity vary. Youth and women's groups reported significant barriers to participation, such as lack of start-up capital, restricted land access and exclusion from decision-making spaces. Accordingly, the project will strengthen the technical, organisational and entrepreneurial capacity of these groups to manage production, add value, and maintain market linkages.

Currently, private sector engagement in NRM-based value chains remains limited in the target districts. Although some traders and aggregators operate in nearby urban centres, few invest in upstream production, processing or out-grower models. During initial consultations, stakeholders expressed interest in attracting private investment in areas such as gum and resin processing, fruit drying and eco-tourism. However, enabling mechanisms — such as risk-sharing instruments, blended finance models and investment incentives — are currently limited at the local level. The project will address these constraints by developing viable business cases, organising investor dialogues, and piloting inclusive financing mechanisms to support enterprise growth and equitable value distribution. To ensure inclusive participation, the project will actively support women- and youth-led enterprises and cooperatives through tailored training, equipment packages and marketing tools. Business development services and value chain forums will promote equitable access to finance, market intelligence, and collaborative planning among diverse stakeholder groups.

Implementation will include participatory value chain mapping, development of technical guidance, and support for local cooperative and enterprise formation through training, branding and packaging initiatives. Investment promotion will be advanced through regional investor dialogues, promotional materials and co-developed investment briefs. Strategic linkages will be created with extension services, financial institutions and regional business platforms to ensure continuity and scale.

This output aligns with national priorities under the CRGE Strategy, Ethiopia's SME development efforts, and regional investment promotion frameworks. It complements the mandates of cooperative development offices, agricultural extension systems, and Chambers of Commerce, while contributing to national goals for sustainable rural entrepreneurship and green growth.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 2.2.1.** Strengthen/develop inclusive and transparent value chains for selected products – including detailed value chain analyses for selected products and enterprises.
- **Activity 2.2.2.** Establish/strengthen inclusive community-based enterprises and build capacity to implement and sustain value added products, production and marketing.
- **Activity 2.2.3.** Facilitate private sector investment in community-based enterprises through innovative financing mechanisms and investment opportunities.

Outcome 3: Integrated natural resources management practices supported, leading to improved ecosystem services and community resilience

Under Outcome 3, the project will implement inclusive and participatory natural resources management (NRM) practices that restore degraded landscapes, enhance ecosystem services, reduce deforestation and loss of biodiversity and strengthen community resilience across the Ethiopian GGW belt. Output 3.1 will put 40,000 ha of natural forests and critical ecosystems under sustainable management through community-led planning, biodiversity conservation, also known as participatory forest management. Introducing PFM to these areas will be crucial in emission reduction. Output 3.2 will restore 20,000 ha of degraded communal landscapes including rangelands through tailored, site-specific restoration approaches. Output 3.3 will introduce agroforestry and other climate smart land management practices to degraded 2,000 ha of farmlands to enhance the adaptive capacity and food security of smallholder farmers and pastoral communities. These interventions will reduce land degradation, improve soil and water retention, and restore essential ecosystem functions, while also supporting conservation of biodiversity and community livelihoods through improved productivity and sustainable land-use practices.

Output 3.1: 40,000 hectares of natural forests and other critical ecosystems put under participatory and sustainable management practices to enhance biodiversity conservation and emission reduction.

This output will place 40,000 hectares of forests and critical ecosystems under participatory and sustainable forest management across the four project districts. It will strengthen the capacity of local communities and government actors to implement integrated forest management, aligning with biodiversity conservation and climate mitigation goals. Key interventions will include community mobilisation, participatory boundary mapping, and the development of forest management plans that incorporate local knowledge, ecological priorities, and national policies. By reinforcing participatory forest governance and integrated planning, this output supports Outcome 3 by enhancing biodiversity conservation, reducing emissions, and fostering institutional accountability and local ownership. Forest degradation in the target areas continues due to encroachment, fire, illegal logging, charcoal production, and unsustainable harvesting, exacerbated by climate change and weak governance structures. Natural forests and associated ecosystems are critical for biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and local livelihoods, yet remain under growing threat — including from cross-border bushfires and cultivation in riverine and wetland areas that disrupt habitat connectivity.

This output will address these gaps by formalising and strengthening community forest governance mechanisms, developing integrated forest management plans, and building local capacity in planning, monitoring, and sustainable use. The objective of this output is to transform the management system from open access to more regulated access and increase accountability of management of forest land. Since the targeted districts are very large and their population sparsely distributed, and the distribution of interventions across four districts, the interventions will be in relatively small area of each targeted woreda. Within these areas, livestock movement will not be totally restricted, although there will be partial restrictions to reduce the negative impacts of free and unregulated grazing in specified target areas. Any restrictions in land use will be mitigated, and the restricted areas will eventually provide benefits to communities, for example in terms of feed for their livestock. Community members will be organized into structures such as cooperatives to counter the restrictions.

Existing spatial forest cover data at regional level will be made accessible to local actors, enabling evidence-based planning and prioritisation. Plans will go beyond tree planting to focus on ecosystem services, emissions reduction, biodiversity conservation, and long-term community benefits. Participatory mapping and zoning processes will ensure forest boundaries are clearly demarcated, and that management plans are inclusive and locally validated. Gender and youth inclusion will be central, with women, youth, and marginalised groups — including pastoralists and smallholders — actively involved in forest group leadership, planning, and implementation. Training and management tools will be designed in local languages and accessible formats to ensure equitable participation.

Implementation will follow participatory and inclusive methods, including sensitisation, stakeholder mapping, and technical training. Spatial tools such as GIS and community mapping will support forest zoning and boundary delineation. Forest management plans will be co-developed through multi-stakeholder workshops and validated at the woreda level. Project support will include training, field equipment and monitoring tools, with implementation coordinated by local institutions and supported by regional and woreda staff from forestry, agriculture and land offices.

This output contributes to Ethiopia's Forest Policy, National REDD+ Strategy, CRGE Strategy, NBSAP, and environmental proclamations. It aligns with GEF safeguards and supports Ethiopia's international commitments under the UNFCCC and CBD. Coordination will be ensured through woreda-level Steering and Technical Committees.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 3.1.1.** Capacitate community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) groups established under Component 2, including training and awareness campaigns on participatory forest management.
- **Activity 3.1.2.** Conduct participatory identification, demarcation and mapping of natural forests and other critical ecosystems to be put under sustainable management.
- **Activity 3.1.3.** Develop and implement integrated forest management plans that incorporate biodiversity conservation targets, emission reduction strategies, and sustainable resource use practices in support of local livelihood, informed by spatial data and community input.

Output 3.2: 20,000 hectares of degraded communal landscapes including rangelands/grazing lands, restored through integrated restoration practices.

This output will restore 20,000 hectares of degraded communal land — including rangelands and grazing areas — across the four project districts using integrated restoration approaches tailored to local ecological and social contexts. SILAGLID will increase forest cover and biomass through afforestation, reforestation, and improved forest management, contributing to carbon sequestration and emission reductions in dryland landscapes. Activities will include participatory land degradation assessments, mapping, area certification and implementation of physical and biological measures to halt and reverse degradation. By restoring degraded communal lands, this output contributes to Outcome 3 by enhancing ecosystem services, improving soil and water retention, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, and building community resilience. It promotes biodiversity recovery, reduces erosion, and fosters inclusive and sustainable governance of communal landscapes. Women and youth face additional challenges due to limited land ownership, labour burdens, and exclusion from training opportunities. Nevertheless, many women's groups see potential in small-scale agroforestry systems — such as kitchen gardens, fuelwood hedgerows, and medicinal plant cultivation — for improving household food security and reducing time spent on resource collection. This output will address these gaps by mobilising user groups, facilitating participatory planning, and implementing restoration practices that reflect the underlying causes of degradation. Technical assistance will be provided to build the knowledge and leadership of community groups, with tools, training, and demonstrations tailored to be accessible and inclusive. Special emphasis will be placed on supporting women, youth, and marginalised groups — including pastoralists and small-holder farmers — to take active roles in planning and implementation.

Implementation will follow a participatory approach involving stakeholder mapping, mobilisation, and training in integrated land restoration. Site assessments and participatory mapping will guide certification and land use agreements. Restoration activities will combine physical measures — such as terraces, bunds, and check dams — with biological interventions like reseeding, fodder planting and reforestation. Certification processes and land use agreements will be supported by participatory mapping and site assessments. Monitoring will be conducted by communities using low-cost tools and validated through joint reviews with local institutions. Local government departments responsible for land, environment, livestock, and agriculture will oversee implementation, supported by restoration specialists and GIS professionals. This output aligns with Ethiopia's Land Degradation Neutrality targets, CRGE Strategy, and integrated watershed and rangeland policies. It complements regional land and natural resource frameworks and draws on lessons from past GEF and CALM initiatives. Woreda-level Steering and Technical Committees will support coordination and ensure integration into broader planning processes.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 3.2.1.** Capacitate community groups, provide training and awareness campaigns on integrated landscape restoration practices.
- **Activity 3.2.2.** Conduct participatory assessments to identify, map and certify degraded communal landscapes to individuals/groups, including rangelands and grazing lands to be restored through integrated restoration practices.
- **Activity 3.2.3.** Identify, implement and monitor integrated landscape restoration practices tailored to the specific degradation types and site conditions

Output 3.3: 2,000 hectares of land put under innovative agroforestry practices to improve the resilience of smallholder farmers and pastoral communities.

Output 3.3 promotes the scaling-up of innovative, context-appropriate agroforestry systems across 2,000 hectares in the four target districts. The project will conduct participatory assessments to identify locally suitable agroforestry practices — including silvopastoral systems, fruit and fodder trees, and multi-purpose shrubs — tailored to local ecological and livelihood conditions. Priority will be given to land plots held by smallholders and pastoralist groups, which will be mapped and certified in collaboration with local authorities. Demonstration plots will be established to facilitate peer learning and replication, supported by technical training, input provision, and extension services. By integrating productivity with ecological restoration, this output contributes to Outcome 3 through enhanced ecosystem connectivity and reduced pressure on remaining natural ecosystems, thereby enhancing resilience, improving food and income security, and strengthening biodiversity in dryland landscapes. Nursery capacity and extension systems will be strengthened to ensure availability of planting material and ongoing technical support. The combined focus on land restoration, productivity, and inclusion will deliver environmental and socio-economic benefits at scale. Primary beneficiaries will include smallholder farmers, pastoralists, women's and youth groups, forest cooperatives, and nursery operators.

Local facilitators will include kebele leaders, woreda staff, agroecology trainers, and traditional knowledge holders. Woreda and regional officials will support land certification, coordination, and monitoring. Women and youth will be actively supported to lead and participate in agroforestry initiatives. Activities will include the design of low-labour models, allocation of demonstration plots to women's and youth groups, and the provision of training in local languages using peer-learning methods and visual tools for broader accessibility.

Implementation will begin with agricultural suitability assessments and participatory mapping to guide land selection and certification. Agroforestry models will be co-developed with communities and supported through training, extension services, and start-up inputs. Demonstration plots will support hands-on learning, and progress will be tracked through seasonal monitoring of survival rates and productivity. Monitoring results will inform adaptive support and scaling. All efforts will be coordinated with existing nurseries and linked to forest information systems. This output supports the National Agroforestry Strategy, CRGE Strategy, National Forest Sector Development Program, and regional land-use mandates. It also contributes to Ethiopia's land restoration and food security goals under the Green Legacy Initiative and is aligned with the work of the Ministry of Agriculture, EFD, and woreda land use offices.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 3.3.1.** Participatory assessment and identification of suitable agroforestry types to be implemented and scale up.
- **Activity 3.3.2.** Conduct participatory assessments to identify, map and certify lands suitable to implement plantation and agro-forestry practices to support smallholder farmers and pastoral communities.
- **Activity 3.3.3.** Implement and monitor agro-forestry practices on smallholder farmers and pastoral community's land holdings.

Outcome 4: Platform to facilitate knowledge management and monitoring system in place to enhance reporting and accountability

Under Outcome 4, the project will build on the existing forest knowledge management (KM) system established under the Norway-funded National Forest Management Centre, now housed at Hawassa University, to improve evidence-based planning, enhance transparency and strengthen accountability for the implementation of Ethiopia's GGW activities. Output 4.1 will support the expansion and operationalization of this digital KM platform for the systematic collection, processing, storage, and sharing of geolocated forestry and natural resource management data, including information on climate change mitigation, adaptation to changing environmental conditions and resilience-building strategies. The upgraded platform will be linked to four woredas and designed to make forest and land-use information easily accessible in real time, supporting EFD's digital transition and institutional sustainability. Training will be delivered at all levels to ensure the platform is fully utilized for project tracking, learning, and decision-making. Output 4.2 will establish participatory monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) mechanisms to support adaptive management — including regular field assessments, stakeholder workshops and reporting cycles. Output 4.3 will ensure that lessons, experiences, and best practices from the Ethiopia GGW project are documented and shared with other GGW countries and global partners. These interventions will support more informed and coordinated implementation across sectors and levels, while also promoting peer learning and cross-country knowledge exchange. Gender and social inclusion will be mainstreamed in training and knowledge-sharing activities to ensure equitable participation and access to information. In doing so, Outcome 4 will enable continuous improvement in natural resource management interventions and ensure long-term learning and accountability throughout Ethiopia's GGW programme.

Output 4.1: Knowledge management platform for collection, archiving, processing and sharing of data and information on natural resources management and climate change are strengthened/established

Under Output 4.1, the knowledge management system housed at Hawassa University will be operationalized and expanded to enable the collection, storage and dissemination of data on land restoration, climate resilience and project implementation across the four target districts. This fills a key gap by providing a centralized, user-friendly system backed by training, data protocols, and institutional support, fostering transparency, collaboration, and adaptive learning across governance levels. Local institutions and

communities across the four SILAGLID target districts are already adapting to changing environmental conditions and generating important data and practical knowledge related to land restoration, forest management and climate resilience. However, this information is seldom captured, analyzed or shared across sectors or levels of governance[4][32]. As a result, data remains fragmented, often stored in paper records or non-standardized digital formats that are not easily accessed or synthesized for planning or reporting. There are also gaps in documenting and validating traditional and community-based knowledge. Indigenous practices related to drought coping strategies, land-use rotations and species selection are widely applied across the four districts but are not formally recorded or disseminated beyond the community level. Women's groups highlighted valuable knowledge on medicinal plants, soil fertility management, and homestead-based innovations—yet this is seldom recognised in official planning or reporting processes[5][33]. Training on data management and analysis is minimal, and even when government staff are trained under specific projects, high turnover and limited refresher support often limit the continuity and institutionalisation of knowledge. Several district offices have expressed interest in tools for real-time tracking of project results, GIS-based monitoring and dashboard-style reporting, but noted the absence of technical infrastructure and user-friendly systems that meet local needs[6][34].

The platform developed under Output 4.1 will be designed in collaboration with end-users, enabling integration of cross-sectoral data for analysis, reporting, and evidence-based planning. It will consolidate fragmented datasets, include traditional and community knowledge, and facilitate learning among government officials, communities, and project stakeholders. Offline access, multilingual content and simplified interfaces will be prioritised to ensure usability across all skill levels. By improving access to, and use of, quality data and knowledge, this output contributes to Outcome 4 by enhancing adaptive management, enabling cross-sectoral planning, and strengthening governance systems. It ensures that restoration, resilience, and climate actions are informed by timely, reliable, and inclusive evidence. The platform will prioritise the inclusion of Indigenous and community-based knowledge, particularly that of women and youth. It will document traditional practices related to natural resource management and climate resilience. Training will be delivered in local languages, using accessible formats to ensure participation by users with varying literacy and digital skills. The system will be co-developed with key users and aligned with national platforms such as the EFD and MoA databases. Training workshops will be held at regional and woreda levels, with IT toolkits and offline materials provided as needed. Monitoring will include regular data reporting, trend analysis, and review meetings. Standardised protocols for data entry, validation, and reporting will be established and made accessible in English and Amharic. This output supports Ethiopia's CRGE Strategy and GEF monitoring requirements. It strengthens national and subnational data transparency and links with government digitalisation and results tracking systems. Alignment with MoA and EFD data standards will ensure institutional uptake and long-term sustainability.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 4.1.1.** Develop a robust digital Knowledge management platform to collect, archive, process and share data and information on the project progress and result.
- **Activity 4.1.2.** Develop and deliver comprehensive training for users at all levels on how to effectively utilize the digital system for data collection, entry, management, analysis, and sharing.
- **Activity 4.1.3.** Manage the system to track progress and facilitate evidence-based decision-making in natural resources management and land degradation.

Output 4.2: Participatory monitoring, evaluation and learning mechanisms established to accelerate adoption of best natural resources management practices.

Output 4.2. will strengthen the project's MEL system by embedding regular performance reporting, community-inclusive field validation, and structured learning exchanges. Participatory tools and digital systems will be combined to ensure that progress is tracked, challenges are addressed in real time, and good practices are captured and shared. MEL mechanisms will be used not only for accountability but also to inform decisions and scale natural resource management solutions that work. By institutionalising participatory MEL systems, this output contributes to Outcome 4 by strengthening learning, accountability, and adaptive

governance. It improves the quality and transparency of implementation, supports continuous improvement, and ensures that successful practices are documented and scaled. Current monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) practices in the SILAGLID project districts are structured around activity-level tracking systems managed by sectoral departments. Results are submitted to regional authorities through standard reporting templates, but the processes are often infrequent, lack participatory elements, and are rarely used to inform adaptive management or support learning[7][35].Monitoring reports are typically compiled on a quarterly or annual basis, but data collection is inconsistent across kebeles. Verification efforts are limited by inadequate transport, human resources, and digital tools. At the community level, monitoring systems are largely absent. While natural resource committees and watershed groups do exist in some kebeles, they are not routinely engaged in tracking project progress. Tools that facilitate participatory monitoring — such as scorecards, calendars, or community reflections — are generally lacking, and sex-disaggregated data are not consistently captured. This weakens the ability to assess equality in project outcomes. Opportunities for structured learning remain limited. While occasional review meetings are held, these are not embedded in a broader learning cycle. Lessons from successful practices — such as well-managed area closures or effective livelihood pilots — are rarely documented or shared across districts[8][36].

This output addresses these limitations by operationalizing a full-cycle MEL framework that incorporates real-time data verification, inclusive indicators, and local learning platforms to support responsive project delivery. Participatory MEL will integrate gender-responsive indicators and disaggregated reporting to reflect the experiences and outcomes of women, youth, and marginalized groups. Reflection and learning sessions will be designed to ensure inclusive participation, and outputs will be translated into local languages and accessible formats. The MEL system will include biannual and annual reporting using standardized templates, regular field missions with photo documentation and community feedback, and stakeholder learning workshops. Monitoring findings will be shared at local and district levels, and technical briefs will summarize insights for higher-level actors. MEL outputs will also be used to verify data from the digital knowledge platform (Output 4.1), ensuring cross-validation. This output supports national and GEF standards for transparency and evidence-based planning. It aligns with the CRGE Strategy's focus on adaptive management and links with Ethiopia's regional and federal performance monitoring systems. Results from MEL activities will feed directly into district planning cycles to improve alignment with local needs.

Activities under this output:

- **Activity 4.2.1.** Undertake regular project progress reporting including half yearly and end of year reporting, mid term evaluation and termination evaluation.
- **Activity 4.2.2.** Conduct regular field mission to project sites to monitor and evaluate progress, track changes and provide feedback, and to verify and calibrate data provided through the digital management/monitoring system.
- **Activity 4.2.3.** Organize regular stakeholder workshops to review project activity progress, share experiences and lessons and address challenges in adopting best NRM practices.

Output 4.3: Lessons and experiences are shared with other child project countries and Great Green Wall stakeholders

This output supports the structured documentation, packaging, and dissemination of lessons and best practices from SILAGLID project sites. It will highlight local innovations in restoration, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and livelihoods, and ensure that these are shared through national and continental platforms. The project will produce accessible knowledge products, host national learning events, and facilitate exchanges with other GGW child projects and partners. In doing so, Ethiopia will strengthen its role as both a contributor to and beneficiary of regional learning and south-south cooperation. The output will elevate Ethiopia's visibility and influence within the GGW community, foster mutual learning between countries, and improve the scaling of successful approaches across dryland areas. It supports Outcome 4 by embedding cross-sector learning, evidence-sharing, and regional collaboration within project design and implementation.

Despite extensive practical experience, Ethiopia lacks consistent systems to capture and share restoration knowledge from the ground up. Local actors are underrepresented in regional GGW forums, and lessons are not standardised or widely disseminated.

Engagement with other GGW child projects and regional actors is mostly national-level and does not involve district-level implementers who hold practical experience. Language barriers, platform access, and institutional limitations further restrict knowledge exchange[9][37],[10][38]. At local level, existing efforts are often undocumented, with no formal system to transform local experience into lessons learned or knowledge products. Local government offices and partners cite the lack of dedicated resources and skills for packaging knowledge into usable formats. Documentation is typically ad hoc and project-specific, with limited capacity for wider dissemination or participation in peer learning. This output fills these gaps by institutionalising documentation, strengthening national-to-regional linkages, and providing resources to share scalable models and innovations from SILAGLID with the wider GGW community.

Knowledge products and communication materials will highlight the perspectives and contributions of women, youth, and marginalised groups. Community innovations will be featured in multimedia formats that reflect diverse voices and experiences. All dissemination and learning events will ensure inclusive participation, with materials made available in local languages and accessible formats.

Activities include conducting after-action reviews, compiling case studies, and producing accessible knowledge products such as brochures, briefs, videos, and a dedicated GGW web portal. Dissemination will be facilitated through national events (e.g. GGW Day), regional exchanges with other child projects, annual peer-learning webinars, and side events at continental forums. Participation in African Union and Pan-African knowledge platforms is also planned.

This output reinforces Ethiopia's role in the African Union's GGW Initiative and contributes to south-south cooperation goals under the UNCCD. Linkages will be established with institutions supporting regional knowledge platforms (e.g. PENHA, SU, APARI, MU) and national systems like the Daagu knowledge exchange system. Activities under this output:

- **Activity 4.3.1.** Document lessons learnt and experiences from the Ethiopia GGW project
- **Activity 4.3.2.** Develop and disseminate knowledge products, communication material and promotional material of the project.
- **Activity 4.3.3.** Establish linkages to facilitate knowledge exchange, peer to peer learning among the GGW child projects

4. How the project will disrupt Impact Pathways (IPs)

The SILAGLID project will address the stated problem (see Section 3.1 above) by disrupting several key Impact Pathways (IPs) along which environmental degradation, biodiversity loss, and socio-economic vulnerability reinforce one another in the GGW belt (see *Appendix 19: Problem and Solution Tree*). Through targeted activities, the project will intervene at key points along these pathways to shift the system toward a more resilient and sustainable future, as described below.

- **IP1:** The SILAGLID project will disrupt IP1 by promoting nature-based livelihoods that reduce dependence on unsustainable expansion of agriculture into marginal areas. By enhancing the productivity of existing lands and improving market access and value chains, the project will reduce pressure to convert forests and communal lands into croplands or rangelands. Specifically, under Outputs 2.1 and 2.2, the project will support the participatory identification and development of diversified livelihood options such as agroforestry, regenerative agriculture, and sustainable livestock management, beekeeping, gum and resin value chain development, fruit and seedling production, and small-scale irrigation.

- **IP2:** The project will disrupt IP2 by promoting diversified, resilient and inclusive livelihood options (Output 2.1) that reduce dependence on unsustainable practices such as overgrazing, deforestation for fuelwood, and unsustainable monoculture farming. It addresses the overreliance on biomass and rainfed agriculture by introducing innovative agroforestry practices on 2,000 ha (Output 3.3) and restoring degraded rangelands (Output 3.2). By improving market linkages, the project incentivises

sustainable land-use while simultaneously enhancing food and income security – thereby easing the pressure that rising resource demand places on already degraded landscapes.

- **IP3:** By addressing the problems of expanding crop- and rangeland, and unsustainable agricultural and land-use practices (through Outputs 2.1, and 2.2), the project will disrupt the key impact pathway leading to deforestation and land degradation.

- **IP4:** SILAGLID will also disrupt IP4, where deforestation and land degradation are causing a loss of biodiversity, increasing desertification and declining agricultural and livelihood productivity as a result of soil fertility loss, soil erosion, reduced livestock health and declining crop yields. Collectively, the project's activities will reduce water scarcity and food insecurity while contributing to an increase in community health and wellbeing, and a reduction in rural poverty, youth out-migration and conflict over resources.

5. Assumptions

Key assumptions for the successful implementation of the project's interventions are listed below[11][39]:

- **Strong political commitment:** Strong political will and support from the government at all levels.

- **Active community engagement:** Active participation of local communities in planning, implementation, and management of the initiative.

- **Continued resource availability:** Sufficient financial and technical resources to sustain the initiative.

- **Effective project governance:** Sound governance structures and mechanisms to ensure transparency, accountability, and equitable distribution of benefits.

- **Technological innovation:** Development and adoption of innovative technologies for efficient and sustainable land management.

- **Climate stability:** Relatively stable climate conditions to support plant growth and survival.

- **Capacity building:** Adequate capacity building for stakeholders to implement and manage the initiative effectively.

- **Knowledge sharing:** Effective knowledge sharing and learning among stakeholders to improve practices and outcomes.

- **Policy and legal frameworks:** Enabling policy and legal frameworks to support the implementation of the initiative.

6. Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs)

The SILAGLID project is designed to deliver multiple Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs) across key GEF focal areas[12][40]. It will contribute directly to the achievement of benefits related to i) biodiversity conservation; ii) land degradation neutrality (LDN); iii) climate change mitigation; iv) sustainable forest management (SFM); and v) international cooperation in safeguarding shared natural resources.

6.1. Biodiversity conservation

The project will enhance the conservation and sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity across dryland ecosystems in Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions. Through the participatory management of 40,000 ha of natural forests and critical ecosystems, and the restoration of 22,000 ha of degraded landscapes — including 20,000 ha of degraded ecosystems (in addition to 2,000 hectares put under sustainable agroforestry). In terms of biodiversity conservation, the project will:

- conserve habitat for dryland flora and fauna.
- restore ecosystem integrity through agroecological and nature-based solutions; and
- support the sustainable management of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) such as gums, resins, and honey, thereby reducing overexploitation and maintaining ecosystem functions.

6.2. Land degradation

The SILAGLID project directly addresses land degradation and desertification in Ethiopia's GGW belt by restoring 22,000 hectares of degraded areas—including forests, rangelands, and other critical ecosystems through sustainable agroforestry—and by scaling up sustainable land management practices across 40,000 hectares of forest. These efforts aim to revitalise ecosystem service provision that has been diminished by human activity and climate change. Anticipated global benefits include:

- improved provision of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem goods and services.
- enhanced soil fertility and water retention in sustainably managed forests, agroforestry systems, and restored rangelands; and
- reduced erosion and siltation through area closures, regenerative grazing, and sustainable agricultural practices.

6.3. Climate change mitigation

The project supports Ethiopia's climate commitments by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and land degradation, while enhancing carbon sequestration through large-scale landscape restoration. Expected climate-related GEBs include:

- enhanced carbon sequestration resulting from reforestation, restoration and agroforestry (-1,355,508 tCO2-eq); and
- reduced dependence on biomass (currently used by over 90% of households) through the promotion of low-carbon value chains and renewable energy alternatives.

As part of its focus on climate change mitigation (CCM), the project will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enhance carbon sequestration in the agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU) sector. Key interventions include restoring degraded lands, scaling up agroecological and climate-smart practices, and promoting sustainable natural resource management across Ethiopia's drylands. These measures will deliver multiple global environmental benefits by increasing terrestrial carbon stocks, conserving biodiversity, and reducing pressures that drive land degradation.

6.4. Sustainable forest management (SFM)/REDD+)

By implementing activities related to restoration, protection, and sustainable use of forest ecosystems, SILAGLID will support multiple global environmental benefits linked to dryland forest management. The project will improve the management of 40,000 ha of forest landscapes and restore 22,000 ha of degraded forest and rangeland ecosystems under sustainable agroforestry (2,000 ha) and land management systems (20,000 ha). The project will contribute to:

- reduced forest loss and degradation.
- strengthened governance and participatory management of forests, including through forest cooperatives and community groups; and
- improved livelihood security for forest-dependent communities through sustainable forest product use and inclusive value chain development.

6.5. International waters (Indirect contribution)

While not directly targeting transboundary water bodies, the project will yield indirect benefits for international waters by reducing sedimentation and pollution in shared watersheds. This will be achieved through erosion control, upland ecosystem restoration, and soil and water conservation measures. These interventions are expected to enhance regional hydrological function and improve downstream water quality.

7. Project sustainability, replicability and scalability

To ensure the long-term success and impact of the GGWI in Ethiopia, the SILAGLID project will prioritise strategies for replication, scaling, and sustainability, as outlined below.

7.1. Sustainability

The SILAGLID project has been designed with a strong focus on long-term sustainability, ensuring that its outcomes and impacts will endure beyond the official implementation period and funding cycle. At the core of this approach is community ownership and engagement. Through activities such as participatory land-use planning (Activities 3.1.1, 3.2.1, 3.3.1) and the formation of community-based natural resource management cooperatives (Activity 2.1.3), the project empowers local actors to become stewards of natural resources. This bottom-up approach builds the leadership, skills, and structures necessary for communities to sustain restoration and livelihood activities independently.

Financial sustainability will be supported through the development and implementation of strategies to enhance institutional capacity to mobilize financial resources from private, public sector and other sources for NRM (Activity 1.3.3 and Activity 2.2.3), which aim to attract public and private sector investment and diversify funding streams. These mechanisms will be embedded within the policy frameworks and institutional systems established through the project, reinforcing their long-term viability. The Government of Ethiopia has recently approved the Green Legacy and Degraded Landscape Restoration Special Fund — a first-of-its-kind national mechanism designed to sustain initiatives such as this GEF-financed project. This fund demonstrates strong government commitment to the long-term financing of land restoration. In parallel, Ethiopia has entered the Results-Based Payment (RBP) phase under international climate finance frameworks and is actively exploring public–private partnerships and market-based instruments to scale up restoration and ecosystem service delivery. Leveraging these funding streams will help ensure continued financial support for nature-based solutions (NbS) and other project interventions beyond the project lifecycle — even in the event that the financing mechanisms piloted under the project are not sustained or fully effective.

Institutional sustainability is further ensured through the strengthening of national and sub-national capacities for natural resource management (Activities 1.2.1–1.2.2), and the alignment of policy and regulatory frameworks (Activity 1.3.1–1.3.2). In addition, the

project's Knowledge Management Platform (KMP) will be embedded within an appropriate national institution to ensure long-term ownership and maintenance. Discussions are underway with [insert relevant agency, e.g., EFD or MoPD], with initial commitments secured to support this integration. These measures are designed to integrate project activities into formal governance structures, allowing for continuity and upscaling beyond the project timeframe.

An adaptive management approach underpins the project's implementation, with ongoing monitoring, evaluation, and learning processes (Activities 4.2.1–4.2.3) allowing strategies to be refined in response to evolving challenges and opportunities. Environmental and social safeguards will be integrated throughout, ensuring that risks are mitigated and that project outcomes deliver long-term positive impacts for both people and ecosystems. Together, these elements form a comprehensive sustainability strategy that combines institutionalisation, financing, local ownership, and continuous learning to ensure that SILAGLID's benefits are durable, scalable, and resilient to future shocks. These measures are in line with recommendations made in the GGWI Baseline Study[13][41] for ensuring project sustainability under the GGWI. These recommendations are summarised below:

- **Community ownership and engagement:** Empowering local communities to take ownership of GGW projects by providing them with training, resources, and incentives.
- **Sustainable financing mechanisms:** Exploring diverse funding sources, including public-private partnerships, carbon markets, and impact investing, to ensure long-term financial sustainability.
- **Policy and institutional support**: Advocating supportive policies and regulations that promote sustainable land management and incentivize environmental conservation.
- **Adaptive management**: Regularly monitoring and evaluating the GGW Initiative to identify challenges and opportunities. Adapting strategies and practices as needed to ensure ongoing success.
- **Environmental and social impact assessment**: Conduct thorough assessments to minimize negative impacts and maximize positive outcomes.

7.2. Replicability

The SILAGLID project is designed to ensure replicability by embedding structured learning, documentation, and knowledge exchange throughout implementation. Lessons from successful interventions — such as participatory restoration planning, climate-resilient livelihood strategies, and integration of indigenous knowledge — will be systematically captured and documented (Activity 4.3.1), forming the basis for practical guidance that can inform similar efforts in other regions. These materials will be transformed into accessible knowledge products and shared through targeted dissemination efforts (Activity 4.3.2). Replicability will be further enhanced through a robust digital knowledge management platform (Activity 4.1.1), which will centralise data and experience from the project, making it readily available to other GGW implementers, policymakers, and partners. Peer learning will be actively facilitated through the establishment of linkages and exchange mechanisms with other GGW projects (Activity 4.3.3), promoting horizontal transfer of successful models. By combining documentation, digital tools, and networked learning, the project ensures that tested, context-appropriate solutions can be adapted and scaled across Ethiopia's drylands. These interventions are in line with recommendations for replicability made in the GGWI Baseline Study[14][42], which are summarised below:

- **Identify successful models**: Pinpoint the most effective GGW projects and practices, including those that have demonstrated significant environmental and socio-economic benefits.

- **Document and share best practices**: Creating detailed case studies and guidelines to share knowledge and lessons learned with other regions and stakeholders.

- **Foster knowledge sharing**: Organizing workshops, conferences, and online platforms to facilitate knowledge exchange between experts, policymakers, and community leaders.

- **Build capacity**: Providing training and technical assistance to local communities, government agencies, and NGOs to enhance their skills in project implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

7.3. Scalability

The SILAGLID project is structured to enable scalability by building a strong foundation for geographic expansion, institutional integration and resource mobilisation. Drawing on lessons from implementation in the target districts, the project will generate scalable models of restoration, livelihood diversification and knowledge management that can be adapted to other parts of Ethiopia's drylands. Areas with high ecological value and vulnerable populations will be prioritised for future expansion, based on insights generated through project monitoring and stakeholder consultations. As successful interventions are demonstrated, the project will scale up both spatially — by increasing the area under restoration and the number of participating communities — and programmatically, by expanding the range of supported practices and technologies. Scalability will also be driven through strategic partnerships with government agencies, local authorities, NGOs, the private sector and international development partners. These partnerships will help mobilise technical expertise, policy support and financing to sustain and grow the initiative beyond the project's initial implementation period. The use of innovative technologies such as remote sensing and GIS will enable precise targeting, monitoring and reporting, supporting efficient resource allocation and informed decision-making at scale. These measures ensure that SILAGLID's impact can be systematically expanded across Ethiopia's Great Green Wall belt, in line with recommendations for scaling made in the GGWI Baseline Study[15][43], summarised below:

- **Expand geographic scope**: Gradually expanding the GGW Initiative to cover more regions within Ethiopia, prioritizing areas with high ecological value and vulnerable communities.

- **Increase project scale**: Scaling up successful projects by increasing the area of land restored, the number of trees planted, and the number of communities involved.

- **Leverage partnerships**: Collaborating with government agencies, NGOs, private sector organizations, and international donors to mobilize resources and expertise.

- **Utilise innovative technologies**: Employing advanced technologies such as remote sensing, and GIS to monitor progress, optimize resource allocation, and improve decision-making.

8. Communication strategy

Rather than developing a new standalone communication strategy, the project will draw on the comprehensive national communication strategy already prepared by EFD. This strategy will be adapted and cascaded to local levels as appropriate, ensuring alignment with national messaging and avoiding duplication. Communication efforts under the project will support broad awareness, meaningful stakeholder engagement, and behavioural change aligned with SILAGLID's objectives. These efforts will be supported through the production and dissemination of communication materials, integrated into relevant activities — notably under Activity 4.3.2 — with budget allocations included across the project. Communication activities will be closely integrated with

the project's knowledge management and monitoring systems and will adopt participatory methods that promote gender equality, youth inclusion, and the engagement of traditional institutions.

The communication strategy implemented under the project will incorporate measures to:

- raise awareness of sustainable land management (SLM) and the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI).
- advocate for enabling policy and institutional support.
- mobilise local communities to engage in restoration and livelihood activities.
- encourage uptake of nature-based solutions; and
- promote behaviour change to reduce environmental degradation.

Communication tools will include a mix of accessible, locally relevant formats — such as posters, infographics, radio broadcasts, and social media campaigns — tailored to specific target audiences. A digital platform will also be established under Component 4 to enable real-time information sharing, participatory monitoring, and dissemination of lessons learned. The UNEP Communication Division will provide technical support, ensure quality and visibility, and facilitate global outreach.

8.1. Awareness raising

Rather than developing a new standalone communication strategy, the project will draw on the comprehensive national communication strategy already prepared by EFD. This strategy will be adapted and cascaded to local levels as appropriate, ensuring alignment with national messaging and avoiding duplication. The project will raise awareness using culturally appropriate formats such as local radio, community theatre, field demonstrations, and dissemination of visual materials in local languages. These campaigns will explain the causes and impacts of land degradation, highlight the benefits of re-greening and clarify each stakeholder's role in sustainable land use. By promoting understanding and local ownership, the strategy will build public support for restoration and climate-resilient livelihoods, with targeted messaging for women, youth and marginalised groups.

8.2. Advocacy

To influence policy and institutional decision-making, the project will deliver evidence-based messages to government stakeholders through briefs, dialogues, and presentations. These will draw on project results — such as improved ecosystem services, income gains, and gender outcomes — to support investment in integrated landscape approaches. Strategic coordination with Ethiopia's GGWI task force and national plans will strengthen the uptake of recommendations into policy and practice.

8.3. Social mobilisation

The project will mobilise community members, elders, women's groups, and youth by creating inclusive spaces for participation in planning and implementation. Facilitators will lead community dialogues, using participatory tools while farmer field schools and peer exchanges will build confidence and capacity. This will strengthen local ownership of restoration activities and foster sustained engagement beyond the project's duration.

8.4. Social media and digital pathways

A central digital platform will house project data, maps and learning materials, and enable stakeholder engagement. Social media (e.g. Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube) will amplify success stories and project updates, while SMS and voice messaging will reach rural audiences. These digital tools will extend the project's reach, particularly among youth and diaspora, and promote transparency, visibility and knowledge exchange across regions.

8.5. Behaviour change

The strategy will promote behavioural change by combining clear messaging, practical demonstrations, and peer influence. It will target shifts such as reducing charcoal use, adopting rotational grazing, and practicing agroforestry. Radio programmes, mobile alerts, and local-language visuals will reinforce key messages. Demonstration sites and model farmers will show tangible benefits, while dialogue forums and feedback tools will support reflection and accountability. Together, these measures will enable communities to adopt and sustain more sustainable and climate-resilient practices.

9. Innovativeness of the project strategy

The SILAGLID project introduces an innovative, locally responsive approach to address the widespread degradation, food insecurity, and vulnerability to climate shocks observed across the target districts of Afar, Amhara, and Tigray. Baseline assessments highlight communities' heavy dependence on fragile ecosystems, combined with limited access to diversified livelihoods, institutional support, and adaptive technologies[16][44]. In response, SILAGLID blends traditional knowledge with new tools and capacities to scale up integrated landscape restoration and climate-resilient livelihoods. A core innovation lies in bridging the gap in research and human resource development for dryland restoration under Ethiopia's Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI). The project adopts a systems-based approach to strengthen adaptive capacity and embed sustainable practices in local institutions and communities. Indigenous knowledge and traditional land management methods are central to this strategy, providing a foundation for natural resource management that is relevant, trusted, and context-specific (Activity 2.1.1). Participatory assessments guide the selection of appropriate agroforestry and livelihood diversification options (Activities 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 3.3.1), ensuring that interventions reflect community priorities and capacities.

To support knowledge generation and exchange, SILAGLID will establish a digital platform (Activity 4.1.1) for real-time data collection, sharing, and analysis—enabling evidence-based decision-making across scales. Tailored training (Activity 4.1.2) will ensure that stakeholders can meaningfully engage with and benefit from the platform. The project will also promote continuous learning through documentation and dissemination of good practices (Activities 4.3.1, 4.3.2), and by facilitating peer-to-peer exchanges among GGW stakeholders (Activity 4.3.3). Together, these elements constitute an innovative strategy that combines local relevance with systemic support—positioning SILAGLID to enhance the effectiveness, ownership, and scalability of dryland restoration efforts in Ethiopia.

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[2] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: SILAGLID (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[3] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: SILAGLID (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[4] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: SILAGLID (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[5] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: SILAGLID (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[6] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: SILAGLID (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[7] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: SILAGLID (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[8] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: SILAGLID (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[9] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: SILAGLID (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[10] Baseline Assessment for Project Preparation on: SILAGLID (Chilga, Metema, Gulina, Raya Azebo districts). 2025. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[11] APPENDIX 16: Final Socioeconomic Baseline Review Report.

[12] Global Environment Facility. 2012. Global environmental benefits. Available here

[13] APPENDIX 16: Final Socioeconomic Baseline Review Report.

[14] APPENDIX 16: Final Socioeconomic Baseline Review Report.

[15] APPENDIX 16: Final Socioeconomic Baseline Review Report.

[16] APPENDIX 16: Final Socioeconomic Baseline Review Report.

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)

10.1. Project governance structure

This governance structure for the SILAGLID project has been formulated based on the approved Programme Framework Document (PFD) for the 'Transformation Approach to Large Scale Investment in Support of the Implementation of the Great Green Wall' (TALSISI-GGW) umbrella programme and the approved Child Project Concept Note (PIF). The draft reflects the institutional roles and coordination mechanisms outlined for the broader GGW programme, adapted to the national context of Ethiopia. The institutional arrangements and flow of funds for the project are outlined in the diagram below.

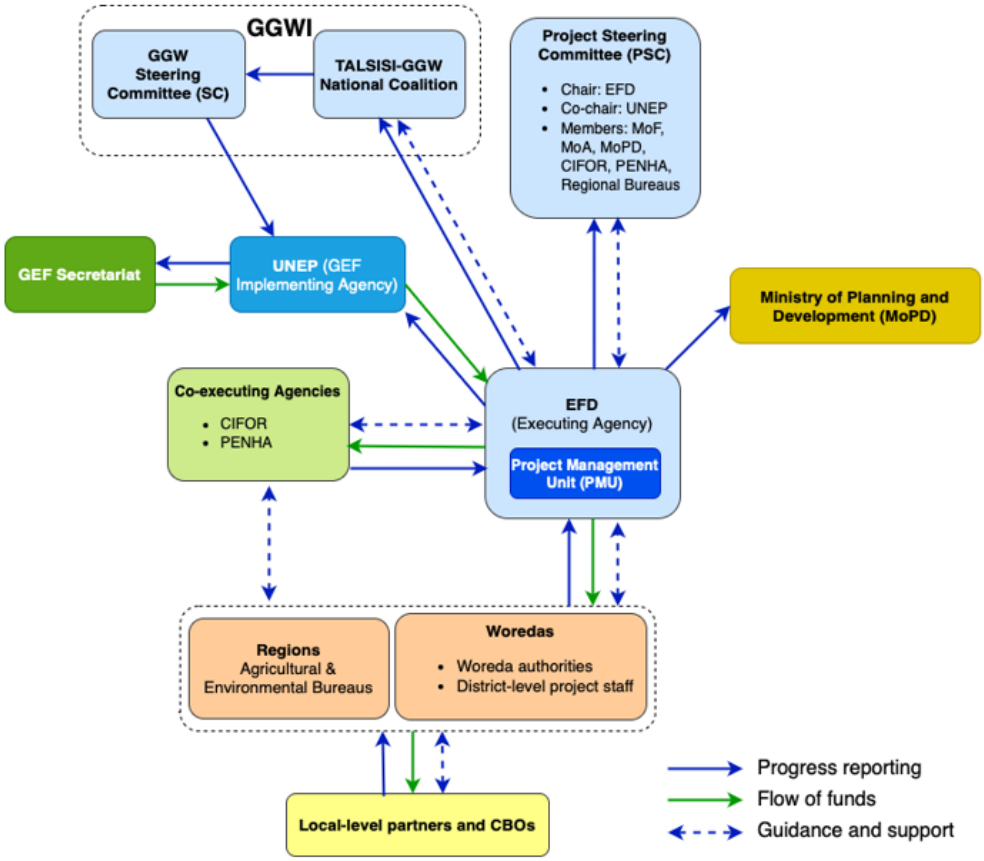


Figure 6. Proposed SILAGLID project implementation arrangements.

At the national level, the Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD) will serve as the national focal point and executing entity, with support from the Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD), the Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute and the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority. The Project Steering Committee (PSC) will provide strategic oversight, while the Project Management Unit (PMU), housed within EFD, will handle day-to-day project implementation and report directly to the PSC. The governance structure outlined below which consists of governance structures at the regional, national and sub-national levels — is proposed as an initial framework to be refined during the inception workshop and subsequent stakeholder consultations.

Gender equality and human rights principles will be mainstreamed into the deliberations and operations of the Project Steering Committee (PSC), Project Management Unit (PMU) and regional coordination platforms. Gender balance will be actively promoted in the nomination of PSC and PMU members, with efforts made to ensure meaningful representation of women and marginalised groups. All meetings and consultations associated with project governance will collect sex-disaggregated data and qualitative information on stakeholder composition and interests, to monitor inclusive participation and adjust engagement strategies as needed. The PMU will include a dedicated GESI Specialist to advise on gender-responsive implementation, monitoring, and reporting.

10.2. Stakeholder roles in implementation of Project Components

Overall responsibility for Project Components

Component 1: Institutional capacity development to support the sustainable management of natural resources within the Ethiopian GGW belt

Implementation will be led by the Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD), with CIFOR-ICRAF and PENHA as co-executing entities. A national steering mechanism will ensure coordination with sectoral ministries, while regional and woreda-level committees will oversee planning and monitoring. Regional bureaus and woreda offices will be central to implementation, supported by community-based organisations.

Component 2: Promoting diversified, resilient and sustainable livelihoods to incentivize sustainable resource management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt

Implementation will be led by the project co-executing entities — EFD, CIFOR-ICRAF, and PENHA — working in partnership with regional bureaus, woreda-level offices, and community organisations. Public-private platforms will be leveraged to strengthen value chain development, while knowledge-sharing with relevant ministries will support sustainability and scale.

Component 3: Implementing integrated natural resources management practices within the Ethiopian GGW belt

These interventions will be led by EFD, CIFOR-ICRAF and PENHA in coordination with regional and woreda-level institutions, community-based organisations, and technical support partners. Monitoring systems will be used to assess ecosystem improvements and community co-benefits, ensuring continuous learning and adaptation.

Component 4: Knowledge management platform and monitoring system for accountability and proper reporting of the GGW activities

Implementation will be led by EFD, with technical support from CIFOR-ICRAF and PENHA. Collaboration with national and regional knowledge institutions, government ministries, and community groups will be essential for effective MEL and knowledge dissemination. Activities under this component will also contribute to standardised reporting at national and GGW regional levels. Gender and social inclusion considerations will be mainstreamed in MEL processes and knowledge sharing. Training, monitoring, and documentation activities will actively engage women, youth, and marginalised groups, and reflect their specific experiences and perspectives.

Across all components, gender-responsive implementation will be ensured by involving women's groups, cooperatives and gender-focused CSOs. Implementing partners will be encouraged to designate staff with gender expertise or assign gender focal points to support equitable participation, access to resources and benefit-sharing. Training and extension services delivered under each component will be gender-sensitive, and planning processes will reflect gender-differentiated needs, constraints and priorities. Partnerships with organisations that demonstrate strong gender integration in their programming will be prioritised.

Stakeholder roles in implementation

Effective implementation of the SILAGLID project relies on clearly defined roles and strong coordination among a diverse group of stakeholders operating at national, regional and local levels. Building on existing institutional mandates and community structures, the project adopts a participatory, multi-actor approach that empowers key stakeholders — including government agencies, research institutions, civil society and local communities — to contribute their expertise, resources and contextual knowledge. Table 4 outlines the specific responsibilities of each stakeholder group in delivering the project's components and activities. Detailed information on implementation arrangements and project governance is presented in Section 9 above, and in Appendix 4.

Table 4. List of relevant stakeholders and their role in the project.

Stakeholder	Role in the project	Stakeholder description	Role in the project
Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD)	Executing Agency	The EFD is an autonomous federal institution under the Ministry of Agriculture. It was established in 2022 through the merger of the Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute (EEFRI) and the forestry sector of the Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Commission (EFCCC). Its funding is allocated directly by parliament. The EFD operates through its HQ office and regional bureaus that report to it.	EFD will closely collaborate with UNEP and all responsible parties to ensure that project resources are effectively managed and utilised, in accordance with UNEP and GEF policies. EFD will be responsible for the oversight and coordination of the project implementation process, efficient and effective implementation of all activities and the respective interventions and tracking and reporting of project results. EFD will be responsible to coordinate different platform including Steering Committee relevant to the project.
Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD)	Project partner for oversight and monitoring	The Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD) is instrumental in Ethiopia's sustainable growth and socio-economic transformation. It facilitates cross-sectoral coordination, including the integration of climate change adaptation initiatives.	MoPD will be responsible for ensuring alignment, coordination, and oversight of the project. Additionally, MoPD will play a key role in the project's Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes. It will monitor project performance, track progress, and evaluate outcomes every six months. MoPD will also collaborate and support EFD during project development, implementation and reporting and in mobilizing addition resources that will leverage scaling up of the planned interventions to the rest of the GGW districts.
Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)	Project partner for oversight	The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is responsible for ensuring food security, managing water use and infrastructure, promoting agricultural development, and conserving natural resources, including forests.	MoA will be responsible for providing oversight of the project's on-the-ground activities through participation in the Project Steering Committee. Its regional counter parts such as Agricultural Bureaus will collaborate with EFD in implementing the project activities.
Relevant Regional bureaus	Project implementers	Environmental Protection and Agriculture Bureaus at all level and districts administrations of the beneficiary districts are responsible to implement projects in collaboration with federal entities such as EFD	Relevant regional offices are responsible to mobilize communities, select project beneficiaries, implement, monitor and evaluate project activities effectively and efficiently and report to EFD
Local Communities	Project beneficiaries	The project will closely involve local communities in the selected project areas, and community level institutions such as cooperatives and natural resource management committees.	Local communities are responsible to own the project activities, assign land to be managed, collaborate with key entities in planning, implementing, joint monitoring evaluation of project progress and share benefits of the project and ensure sustainability of the NbS.
Ethiopia Biodiversity Institute	Stakeholder	The Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI) is a federal institution responsible for the conservation, sustainable use, and research of Ethiopia's biological resources.	EBI will participate in various platforms organised to review the progress of the project

Stakeholder	Role in the project	Stakeholder description	Role in the project
Ethiopian Meteorological Institute (EMI)	Project partner for providing climate information	The Ethiopian Meteorological Institute (EMI) analyses atmospheric data, provides weather forecasts, and issues early warnings on the adverse impacts of weather and climate in Ethiopia. Its responsibilities include: i) Establishing and managing the national meteorological network. ii) Collecting, exchanging, publishing, and disseminating meteorological data and forecasts. iii) Providing advanced early warnings and sharing advisory and educational information. iv) Monitoring and controlling air pollution. The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) will collaborate with EMI to effectively integrate climate and weather data into adaptation planning and interventions.	EMI will collaborate with EFD in providing cascaded climate information and also in establishing/strengthening climate monitoring infrastructure at the beneficiary districts
PENHA	Co-Executing Agency	PENHA (Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa) is an international NGO dedicated to sustainable development in the Horn of Africa. It has extensive experience in strategy development, livelihoods improvement, landscape restoration, and monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management.	PENHA will be responsible for implementing project activities that are assigned to it. This will include
CIFOR	Co-Executing Agency	CIFOR is an international organization with extensive expertise in monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management. It works closely with government agencies, research institutions, civil society, and the private sector to support the transformation of rural livelihoods in Ethiopia's agricultural and forest landscapes.	CIFOR will be an implementing partner in executing project activities to be assigned to it.
NGOs and CSOs	Potential project partners/active in relevant sectors	SUNARMA, a civil society organization that have been already working with local communities within the GGW Belt	To serve as an operational level implementing partner for project activities and provide support in on-the-ground implementation of project activities.
Cooperative offices at Woreda level	Potential project partners/active in relevant sectors	Cooperative Offices at the Woreda level are local government entities responsible for supporting and regulating cooperatives within their districts. They facilitate the formation, registration, and capacity-building of cooperatives, ensuring compliance with national policies. These offices provide technical assistance, promote cooperative-based economic activities, and support access to finance and markets, playing a crucial role in strengthening rural livelihoods and community-driven development.	Cooperatives will play a key role in implementing the project's agriculture and agroforestry interventions, working with EMI to enhance the use of climate information in agricultural livelihood planning. They will support communities in adopting climate-resilient agricultural practices and strengthening the sustainability of related value chains.
Media	Awareness raising	The media plays a key role in raising awareness of the GGW initiative.	Regional TVs

Stakeholder	Role in the project	Stakeholder description	Role in the project
Private sector actors engaged in FLR, in plantation forestry, in value addition and marketing of tree and forest products	Potential project partners	Private sector actors will play a key role in the project's implementation, particularly in scaling up adaptation finance and resource mobilization under Component 1 to address barriers to private sector investment in adaptation. They will also support value addition and market linkages for agricultural and nature-based products, facilitate access to finance, and provide capacity development and mentorship on financial management and entrepreneurship under Component 3.	Relevant private sector for instance these working in value addition of NTFPs and the like will be encouraged to engage and support the project financially

10.4. Coordination and cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects

An assessment was done of baseline and ongoing investments in the project target areas — including both GEF and non-GEF (detailed in Appendix 18: Project Baseline Situation). The objective of the assessment was to identify alignment with other initiatives, lessons learned from their implementation, and alignment with national priorities, — thereby facilitating the selection of effective adaptation activities for replication within the SILAGLID project and mitigating the risk of maladaptation. Additionally, the evaluation of baseline projects and initiatives will optimize the project's budget by leveraging existing investments, scaling them at the landscape level, and driving transformative change. Information on regional and national baseline projects and initiatives is presented Appendix 18: Project Baseline Situation. A list of key related projects is presented in Appendix 23: Project baseline/ongoing and planned projects and initiatives

In assessing synergies with ongoing initiatives, attention will be paid to identifying and building on projects that have demonstrated effective gender-responsive approaches. Where possible, coordination will include sharing lessons and best practices related to gender equality and social inclusion. Collaboration with initiatives that have established gender expertise, strong community engagement practices or successful models of women-led natural resource management will be prioritised to enhance impact and sustainability.

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

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

No, UNEP will only play the role of Implementing Agency.

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)

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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)
40000	0	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)
				0.00		

Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
40000	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
		Others	40,000.00	0.00					

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)
22000	22000	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)
Cropland		2,000.00		

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)
	20,000.00		

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)
Woodlands	22,000.00	0.00		

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)

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
62000	40000	0	0

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
62,000.00	40,000.00		

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

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

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

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

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	8,120	8,120		
Male	12,180	12,180		
Total	**20,300**	**20,300**	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 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices' was selected for tracking of the 40,000 hectares of natural forests and other critical ecosystems put under participatory and sustainable management practices to enhance biodiversity conservation and emission reduction (Output 3.1). 'Core Indicator 1: Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management' was not selected because the sub-indicators require information on formally registered protected areas. However, the SILAGLID project will not target formally registered protected areas or create any new protected areas. Rather, SILAGLID will support sustainable land management by improving practices to reduce the degradation of exiting natural forests in the four districts (sub-indicator 4.3: Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems). Although these forests are not formally registered protected areas, but they are nonetheless protected under Ethiopian law. In the Ethiopian context, protected areas refer to only to national parks or reserves, which SILAGLID will not target. Target areas will be selected in participatory manner during project implementation, with communities organized to manage them through participatory forest management (PFM), from open access to more regulated access, and from only government management to decentralized management system.

The 22,000 ha target for 'area of land and ecosystems under restoration' is an expression of the country's own contribution and commitment to the GGW Initiative's overall target to restore 250 million ha. The proposed figure is based on the assessed level of land degradation within the Ethiopian GGW belt where the SILAGLID project will be implemented. The 40,000 ha target for landscapes under improved practices reflects the country's commitment to ensuring that by 2030, Ethiopia's biodiversity and ecosystems are conserved and sustainably utilized by all sectors to enhance its contribution to food security, poverty eradication and improved quality of Ethiopians. The project will ensure that remaining natural forests in the target districts are sustainably managed. During project implementation, specific forests within the target communities will be selected in participatory manner, with communities mobilised to manage them through a PFM scheme. The project will change the management regime of these existing forests from open access to more regulated access, and from only government management to decentralized management system. In total, through the support of GEF resources 62,000 ha target area of landscapes under improved practices represents the government's ambition to promote improved and sustainable practices in production landscapes within the GGW zone of the country. The proposed figure considers the planned activities, and the size of the resource envelope.

The project aims to benefit 20,300 people (females 8,120 or 40%; and males 12,180 or 60%) living along the GGW belt in Ethiopia. The target takes into account the demographics in the target regions, and more particularly the level of women involved therefore with experience in the agricultural-related activities within the GGW zone. The government's rationale is to start with the ones

with experience to demonstrate their role so that they can inspire others. It is acknowledged that women play a key role in the use of natural resources, but also in management. This strengthens the call to incrementally empower them in making informed decisions in the use of resources to build resilience and overall contribute to socioeconomic wellbeing and generation of global environmental benefits.

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Moderate	Extreme climate events may affect project infrastructure investments, including potential impacts of floods and droughts. Droughts and floods may also affect interventions focused on reforestation and restoration, as well as those centered on livelihood diversification. All project interventions take into account the potential impacts of climate change under future scenarios, as described under Simple Future Narratives.
Environmental and Social	Moderate	Several potential environmental and social risks may arise during project implementation. Considering that the project will restore several thousand hectares, this may include the possibility of accidental introduction of invasive alien species. Measures will be in place to avoid such introductions, including pre-restoration site assessments and risk analysis, using certified or verified indigenous plant material, implementing strict maintenance protocols and avoiding topsoil or mulch transfers from unknown sources. Furthermore, some waste may be generated from upstream production areas, as well as from processing along the value chains. Fertilizer application may occur for fruit and seedling productions and for irrigation purposes. The project has been explicitly designed to address environmental and social issues in the target areas, and all interventions selected based on a thorough problem and barrier analysis.
Political and Governance	Low	The project will enhance coordination between stakeholders and overcome identified challenges as described in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	Institutional capacity for enhanced natural resource management in the GGW belt of Ethiopia remains limited, which will potentially affect the project's implementation. However, Institutional capacity building has been included as

		a cornerstone of the project strategy and will therefore inherently strengthen the prospects of achieving the project outcomes.
Technological	Moderate	Technological issues may arise that inhibit the achievement of project outcomes, particularly as IT infrastructure age over time. This risk will be mitigated by undertaking regular maintenance of infrastructure.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	Challenges related to financial and business models may arise that inhibit project success. Given that the finance mechanisms and business models proposed in the project will largely be developed during implementation, there remains a possibility of issues such as insufficient stakeholder cooperation and involvement, and a lack of engagement by the private sector.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Moderate	Although institutional capacity gaps exist, GoE stakeholders have extensive experience in the implementation of such projects in the target region. Project execution will be ensured through close collaboration between executing entities and implementing partners. Appropriate provisions have been made in the project budget to address implementation capacity challenges.
Fiduciary	Low	No unforeseen risks expected.
Stakeholder	Low	There remains a risk that some stakeholders may not support or buy into project-supported changes proposed under SILAGLID. However, stakeholders have been extensively consulted during project preparation and indicated strong support for the project. No unforeseen risks expected.
Other	Low	No other unforeseen risks expected.
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	Overall, the significant unforeseen risks as expected during project implementation that may inhibit the achievement of project outcomes will be mitigated through the stated mitigation measures.

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)

1. Alignment with GEF Programming Strategy

The SILAGLID project is fully aligned with the GEF-8 Programming Strategy under the Biodiversity (BD-1), Land Degradation (LD-1) and Climate Change Mitigation (CCM1–4) focal areas, and directly supports the objectives of the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) as outlined in the GEF-8 Programming Directions.

- **Biodiversity (BD-1):** The project contributes to BD-1.1 by expanding the area of terrestrial ecosystems under effective and equitable protection and conservation through the participatory management of 40,000 ha of natural forests and critical ecosystems in Ethiopia's drylands. This aligns with GEF-8's aim to reduce pressures on biodiversity and ecosystems through integrated landscape approaches, including Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs).

- **Land Degradation (LD-1):** In the Land Degradation focal area, the project contributes to LD-1.1 by restoring 22,000 ha of degraded lands — including 2,000 ha of degraded ecosystems and 20,000 ha under sustainable agroforestry systems — using ecosystem-based and community-led approaches. This directly supports GEF-8 priorities to scale up the implementation of integrated land management practices that contribute to Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN), improve soil health, and increase carbon sequestration. By building climate-resilient livelihoods, strengthening land governance, and supporting nature-based solutions, the project responds to the GEF-8 emphasis on systemic transformation and integration of environmental, social, and economic benefits.

- **Climate Change Mitigation (CCM-1 to CCM-4):** The project also contributes to the GEF-8 Climate Change Mitigation programming directions listed below.

    - **CCM-1** (Reduce net emissions from land-use and forest management): SILAGLID will increase forest cover and biomass through afforestation, reforestation, and improved forest management, contributing to carbon sequestration and emission reductions in dryland landscapes.

    - **CCM-2** (Promote low-carbon and resilient agriculture): The project advances sustainable agricultural practices including agroforestry, integrated soil fertility management, and drought-resilient cropping systems, which reduce emissions intensity and enhance climate resilience.

    - **CCM-3** (Accelerate clean energy transitions): Through the promotion of clean cooking technologies such as improved biomass stoves and briquette-based fuels, the project supports household-level energy efficiency and reduces GHG emissions associated with unsustainable fuelwood use.

    - **CCM-4** (Foster enabling conditions for low-emission climate-resilient development): SILAGLID builds institutional and community capacities for landscape-level climate planning, strengthens cross-sectoral coordination, and establishes monitoring systems for land-use emissions and removals, in line with Ethiopia's climate and LULUCF reporting requirements.

The project is nested within the regional GGWI platform and contributes to the achievement of its objectives to restore degraded lands, enhance biodiversity, and create green jobs. It builds on lessons from prior GEF investments under the GGW framework and reflects the GEF's long-standing role in supporting countries to fulfil their obligations under the Rio Conventions—namely, the CBD, UNCCD, and UNFCCC. In doing so, SILAGLID helps deliver multiple Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs) (see Section B), while addressing the interlinked crises of desertification, biodiversity loss, and climate vulnerability in dryland regions.

In addition, the project's gender equality and social inclusion (GESI)-responsive approach aligns with the following international targets, plans, and frameworks:

- **CBD Targets 21–23** – by enhancing the full, equitable, inclusive, and gender-responsive participation of women and girls in biodiversity decision-making.

- **UNFCCC Gender Action Plan** – by ensuring gender-responsive climate action across all project components.

- **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction** – by integrating gender considerations into climate risk planning and early warning systems through participatory approaches and inclusive monitoring.

- **UNCCD Gender Action Plan** – by promoting equal access to land, forest resources, and restoration benefits, and by recognizing women as agents of change in combating land degradation and desertification.

These alignments are operationalized through the project's Gender Plan of Action (Appendix 5b), which provides specific measures, indicators, and institutional responsibilities to ensure coherence with national and international gender and environmental goals.

Additional national and regional priorities that the SILAGLID Project will align with are listed below.

- **Bonn Challenge, AFR100 & Ethiopia's Land Restoration Pledge:** Ethiopia has committed to restoring 22 million hectares of degraded land by 2030, including 15 million ha under the Bonn Challenge and AFR100. SILAGLID will directly contribute to this target by restoring 22,000 ha of degraded land and improving the management of 40,000 ha of forests and ecosystems.

- **National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA, 2007):** The project aligns with several of the 11 priority adaptation options identified in Ethiopia's NAPA. Under agriculture and food security, SILAGLID promotes the use of drought-tolerant crops, enhanced soil fertility through composting and agroforestry, and sustainable pest and disease management. Under water resource adaptation, it supports improved water availability through integrated watershed management, construction of small water harvesting structures (ponds, swales), and natural water retention measures. These interventions directly build community resilience to climate variability and extreme weather events in Ethiopia's drylands.

- **Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy (2011):** SILAGLID aligns with Pillars I and IV of the CRGE, by improving land productivity, promoting climate-smart agriculture, and expanding forest cover to contribute to both mitigation and adaptation goals.

- **National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 2015):** The project supports key NBSAP objectives, including ecosystem restoration, sustainable forest and dryland management, and integration of biodiversity into local development planning.

- **National Forest Sector Development Programme (2016–2025):** The project promotes afforestation, reforestation, community-based forest management, forest-based value chains (e.g. gums, resins, honey), and builds capacity for sustainable forest governance.

- **Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Target Setting Programme (2017):** SILAGLID contributes to Ethiopia's LDN commitments by promoting sustainable land management, enhancing soil and water retention, and reversing degradation in the country's vulnerable dryland zones.

- **National Adaptation Plan (NAP, 2019):** The SILAGLID project contributes to eight of the 18 major adaptation options identified in Ethiopia's NAP, including enhancing food security through climate-resilient agriculture and agroecological practices; strengthening natural resource management by restoring forests and rangelands; improving soil and water retention through biophysical conservation measures; enhancing ecosystem resilience by conserving dryland biodiversity; promoting sustainable forest management; building social protection through livelihood diversification; developing efficient value chains for dryland products such as gums, resins and honey; and reinforcing adaptation learning through a digital knowledge platform, participatory monitoring, and community-to-community learning.

- **UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2020–2025):** The project contributes to Outcome 3 ('an inclusive, resilient and sustainable economy') and Outcome 4 ('a society resilient to environmental risks and adapted to climate change') of this framework.

- **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC, 2021):** The project directly supports adaptation priorities in Ethiopia's Updated NDC across agriculture, forestry, land-use and natural resource management, water, and energy sectors. This includes promoting climate-smart agriculture and agroforestry; advancing afforestation and community-based forest governance; applying integrated watershed and land management approaches; enhancing water availability through soil and water conservation and rainwater harvesting; and reducing reliance on biomass through clean energy technologies such as improved stoves, briquettes, and solar dryers.

- **Ten-Year Perspective Development Plan (2021–2030):** The project supports national objectives to increase forest cover from 15.5% to 30% and expand biodiversity protection areas, while contributing to rural employment, food security, and carbon sequestration.

- **Strategic Investment Framework for Sustainable Land Management (SIF-SLM):** SILAGLID supports this AUDA-NEPAD-aligned framework by scaling up SLM practices, strengthening local governance, and fostering public-private investment in land restoration.

- **Ethiopian National Action Plan on Gender Equality (NAP-GE):** The project contributes to national gender equality goals by actively promoting women's participation in land restoration, forest governance, and climate-resilient livelihoods. It addresses gender-based barriers to resource access, enhances the inclusion of women in decision-making structures, and ensures that women and marginalized groups benefit equitably from project interventions, in alignment with national commitments under NAP-GE.

- **Ethiopia Drought Response Plan (DRP; revised in 2022):** The SILAGLID project will contribute to Ethiopia's 2022 Drought Response Plan (DRP) by strengthening the resilience of communities and ecosystems in the Great Green Wall belt, particularly in drought-prone and food-insecure areas. Through its integrated landscape management approach, the project addresses key DRP priorities, including food and nutrition insecurity, water scarcity, and loss of productive assets. Activities such as sustainable land and forest restoration, the introduction of climate-resilient and diversified livelihoods, improved water harvesting and irrigation systems, and community-based natural resource management directly align with the DRP's focus on urgent multisectoral support. By targeting vulnerable populations and strengthening local capacities to manage climate shocks, the project supports both immediate drought recovery and longer-term resilience, complementing national efforts such as the Productive Safety Net Programme and planned resilience initiatives in the Somali Region.

- **Ethiopian Dryland Restoration Strategy (2022):** The SILAGLID project aligns closely with Ethiopia's 2022 National Drylands Restoration Strategy by promoting sustainable land management, restoring degraded forests and rangelands and supporting alternative livelihoods. Its integrated, community-driven approach reflects the strategy's emphasis on ecological restoration, climate resilience and improved livelihoods in dryland areas.

- **Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP; 2021–2025):** The SILAGLID project aligns with Ethiopia's PSNP-5 by complementing its objectives of building community and household resilience to climate shocks through productive and sustainable land use. SILAGLID supports key PSNP-5 priorities such as watershed management, natural resource rehabilitation and the promotion of climate-smart and diversified livelihoods. Its activities — particularly reforestation, soil and water conservation, agroforestry and value chain development — enhance the productive base of vulnerable households while reinforcing PSNP-5's focus on shock-responsive systems, public works and alleviating food insecurity. Additionally, the SILAGLID project strengthens institutional coordination and capacity at local levels, contributing to PSNP-5's goal of integrated, sustainable rural development.

No contradictions with existing national legislation or strategies have been identified. If emerging risks of policy misalignment are detected during implementation — for example, land tenure reforms or decentralization restructuring — the SILAGLID project will engage proactively with relevant authorities and partners to ensure coherence and adaptive management.

3. Contribution to Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets

The project will contribute to the following targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework:

Table 5. Project contribution to Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Targets.

Target	Contribution to the project
Target 1: Ensure all areas are under participatory, integrated, and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes to reduce biodiversity loss.	SILAGLID promotes participatory, integrated landscape planning and inclusive natural resource governance across four districts in Afar, Amhara, and Tigray. The project will strengthen institutional coordination and implement community-led management plans for forests and ecosystems covering 40,000 ha.
Target 2: Restore at least 30% of degraded ecosystems by 2030 to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions.	The project will restore 22,000 ha of degraded land, including dryland forests, rangelands, and agroforestry systems, using ecosystem-based and community-led approaches such as FMNR, soil and water conservation, and afforestation with native species.

Target	Contribution to the project
Target 3: Ensure 30% of terrestrial areas are conserved through protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs).	Through participatory forest management and protection of critical ecosystems, SILAGLID will improve conservation outcomes over 40,000 ha. These areas will function as OECMs under community-led governance structures.
Target 9: Ensure sustainable use of wild species while safeguarding livelihoods.	The project supports sustainable harvesting and value addition of NTFPs such as gums, resins, honey, and medicinal plants, ensuring biodiversity use is ecologically sound and economically beneficial.
Target 10: Promote sustainable agriculture, forestry, and food systems that conserve biodiversity.	SILAGLID promotes biodiversity-friendly agriculture and agroforestry, with improved crop diversity, organic composting, and tree-based systems. It will also support sustainable livestock and rangeland management through regenerative grazing practices.
Target 11: Restore and enhance nature's contributions to people, including water regulation, pollination, and disaster risk reduction.	Restoration and agroecological interventions will improve watershed health, enhance pollination services, reduce erosion, and buffer communities against droughts and floods — demonstrating the application of nature-based solutions.
Target 20: Strengthen capacity-building, access to technology, and cooperation for biodiversity conservation.	SILAGLID includes technical training, institutional capacity development, and knowledge-sharing platforms to strengthen local capabilities in restoration, biodiversity monitoring, and climate-smart land use planning.
Target 21: Improve data, knowledge, and access to support equitable governance and biodiversity monitoring.	A long-term monitoring and knowledge platform will be established under Component 4, integrating traditional and scientific knowledge and enhancing local decision-making capacity.
Target 23: Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the Framework.	Gender equality and social inclusion are integrated across all components. The project prioritizes women's access to land, leadership in local governance, and participation in sustainable value chains, while addressing structural inequalities.

4. Alignment with UNEP Programme of Work

The proposed project contributes directly to the following 5 outcomes under the Nature action subprogramme of UNEP's Programme of Work for 2022-2023:

- 2.3 Productive land- and seascapes and fresh water are sustainably managed
- 2.7 Natural assets are valued, monitored and sustainably managed
- 2.9 Institutional capacity to adopt and act on national and international commitments is enhanced and accountability frameworks are strengthened,
- 2.13 Commitments and actions to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems are enhanced
- 2.14 Fair and equitable access and benefit-sharing frameworks are advanced.

4.1. Comparative advantage of UNEP in delivering this project

UNEP's comparative advantage with regards to the proposed project centres around its position as the lead agency for environmental issues within the UN network, with a mandate to provide guidance for the world on environmental issues and assist with environmental best practices in the UN. As such, UNEP brings extensive experience in addressing land degradation and

implementing restoration-focused interventions, particularly through its work on ecosystem-based adaptation, sustainable land management, and integrated natural resource management. This extensive experience means that UNEP can effectively build on a wealth of lessons learned across its portfolio of projects and continuously improve performance in its projects to bring greater efficiency and effectiveness in implementation.

Additionally, UNEP has a strong track record of successful project implementation in Ethiopia and is the lead agency on the TALSISI-GGWI programme. It has partnered with EFD, the Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD), CIFOR, and PENHA to develop and submit a GEF LDCF project with thematic and structural similarities to the current proposal. UNEP also supported EFD and PENHA in conducting a baseline assessment of Ethiopia's GGW belt, which has directly informed the design and prioritisation of interventions for the proposed project. UNEP also implemented the GDP Project entitled '*Integrated Land Management in Peri-Urban Areas for Land Degradation Neutrality and Income Creation in Ethiopia',* demonstrating its practical experience in land restoration, local capacity development, and multi-stakeholder coordination with national institutions.

By building on these relevant partnerships and lessons learned, UNEP is well positioned to deliver a technically sound and context-specific project that enhances national capacity, supports policy coherence, and accelerates progress toward Land Degradation Neutrality and the goals of the Great Green Wall Initiative in Ethiopia.

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;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor;

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"?

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).

Yes

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 ($)
UNEP	GET	Ethiopia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	221,858.00	19,967.00	241,825.00
UNEP	GET	Ethiopia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-1	Grant	2,573,550.00	231,620.00	2,805,170.00
UNEP	GET	Ethiopia	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: CCM-1-4	Grant	1,641,748.00	147,757.00	1,789,505.00
Total GEF Resources ($)						**4,437,156.00**	**399,344.00**	**4,836,500.00**

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($)
UNEP	GET	Ethiopia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	7,500.00	675.00	8,175.00

UNEP	GET	Ethiopia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-1	87,000.00	7,830.00	94,830.00
UNEP	GET	Ethiopia	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: CCM-1-1	55,500.00	4,995.00	60,495.00
Total PPG Amount ($)					**150,000.00**	**13,500.00**	**163,500.00**

Please provide Justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total($)
UNEP	GET	Ethiopia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	262,500.00
UNEP	GET	Ethiopia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	2,888,892.00
UNEP	GET	Ethiopia	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	1,848,608.00
Total GEF Resources					**5,000,000.00**

Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Co-financing($)
LD-1	GET	2,573,550.00	5000000
BD-1-1	GET	221,858.00	5000000
CCM-1-4	GET	1,641,748.00	5000000
Total Project Cost		**4,437,156.00**	**15,000,000.00**

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($)
Recipient Country Government	Government of Ethiopia	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	5000000

Recipient Country Government	Regional Governments	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	3000000
Recipient Country Government	Regional Government	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	3000000
Recipient Country Government	Regional Government	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	3000000
Others	Pastoral & Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	300000
Others	CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY RESEARCH, ETHIOPIA OFFICE	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	700000
Total Co-financing				**15,000,000.00**

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

EFD will commit USD 5 million in co-financing (co-financing letter available here), of which USD 3 million will be in kind and USD 2 million will be in cash, including USD 1.5 million allocated from the Green Legacy and Degraded Landscape Restoration Special Fund, and USD 500,000 from the Climate Investment Fund NPC project. The regional governments will provide a combined total of USD 9 million. Each of the three regions — Afar National Regional State BoANRD; Amhara Environmental, Forest and Wildlife Protection and Development Authority; and Tigray Regional Interim Administration Bureau of Agriculture and Natural Resources — will provide USD 3 million in co-financing, covering salaries and wages of government staff at regional, zonal, district and kebele levels who will be involved in implementation of the project. Supply office space along its utilities, provide transport means including fuel and maintenance costs, allocate land for nursery development, mobilize communities to participate in different activities. (co-financing letters available here).

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENT

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Coordinator	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	6/20/2025	Ersin Esen	41229178196	Ersin.esen@un.org
Project Coordinator	6/20/2025	Nancy Soi	254721891626	Nancy.soi@un.org

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 OFP	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Mr. Mensur Dessie Nuri	GEF OFP	Ministry of Planning and Development	4/10/2023

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.

Project Objective	#	Objective level Indicators	Baseline	Targets and Monitoring Milestones		Means of Verification	Assumptions & Risks	UNEP MTS reference* Relevant Programme of Work (PoW) Outcomes	Relevant SDG target(s) and indicators
Restored degraded landscapes, enhanced biodiversity, and strengthened resilient livelihoods in the drylands of Ethiopia	1	Number of direct beneficiaries (disaggregated by gender)	0	*End of project Target*	23,000 (8,120 women; 12,180 men)	Project reports; Focus group discussions, key informant interviews and surveys of project beneficiaries and stakeholders	Assumes the relevant project activities generate the anticipated land restoration benefits. Assumes behaviour change amongst beneficiaries toward using sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural and natural resource management practices.	2. 3 Productive land- and seascapes and fresh water are sustainably managed 2.13 Commitments and actions to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems are enhanced	SDG 13.1 ; SDG 15.3
				Mid-Point Target	10,000				
Project Outcome		**Outcome Indicators**	**Baseline**	**Targets and Monitoring Milestones**		**Means of Verification**	**Assumptions & Risks**	**Relevant PoW Outcome(s) and indicator(s)**	**Relevant SDG target(s) and indicators**
Outcome 1. Institutional capacities at national and sub-national levels developed to support the sustainable management of natural resources within the Ethiopian GGW belt	1	Change in Institutional capacity score for NRM structures created and operationalised under Output 1.1 and 1.3, with explicit consideration of gender and youth inclusion mechanisms in governance, participation, and decision-making	**1 – low:** Structure exists but have severe capacity and operational limitations, including limited gender- and youth-responsive policies, poor female representation in leadership and decision-making roles, and insufficient systematic inclusion of gender considerations in NRM planning and coordination	*End of project Target:*	5 – strong: Structure is functional, with adequate skills, resources, and coordination. Including formal integration of gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) criteria into ToRs and mandates	Institutional Capacity Assessment Tool (ICAT), validation workshops, training records	Assumes stable political environment and retention of trained staff. Risk: staff turnover or institutional restructuring.	2.9 Institutional capacity to adopt and act on national and international commitments is enhanced and accountability frameworks are strengthened	SDG 15.3.1; SDG 17.9
				Mid-Point Target:	3 – moderate: Structure functions but with notable gaps in staff, tools, or coordination. Including evidence of gender-responsive training and budgeting				
	2	Change in interministerial and Interagency committee members' understanding and decision-making confidence in LDN policies, implementation and M&V	**1 – low:** Most committee members — including women where present — have limited understanding and confidence in implementing	*End of project Target:*	5 – strong: 80%+ of committee members report improved decision-making confidence and practical	Pre/post-training surveys, committee meeting records, key	Assumes continuous engagement and attendance. Risk: inconsistent participation or weak buy-in.	2.9 Institutional capacity to adopt and act on national and international	SDG 15.9.1; SDG 17.14

	in Ethiopia in the GGW (including LDSF) disaggregated by gender, and reflecting inclusion of gender-responsive and socially inclusive approaches	and monitoring LDN commitments. No formalised training, sex-disaggregated data systems, or mechanisms for integrating gender and social inclusion in LDN-related decision-making are in place.		application of LDN and LDSF concepts.	informant interviews		commitments is enhanced and accountability frameworks are strengthened	
			Mid-Point Target:	3 – moderate: 50%+ of committee members report improved decision-making confidence and practical application of LDN and LDSF concepts.				
Outcome 2. Diversified and resilient livelihoods promoted leading to sustainable resource management practices	3 Percentage of beneficiary households reporting increased income stability and food security from diversified, climate-resilient livelihood sources. Disaggregated by gender of household head and youth where possible — with explicit tracking of improvements among female-headed, youth-headed, and vulnerable households.	**Low -** ~15% of households report[1][45] stable income from diversified, climate-resilient sources (e.g., improved agriculture, agroforestry, small-scale irrigation, NTFPs. Female-headed and youth-headed households are significantly underrepresented in such activities, with limited access to inputs, training, finance, and land, and are thus less likely to report stable or improved income or food security.	*End of project Target:*	70%+ of households report increased income stability from diversified, climate-resilient sources. Including at least 50% of female-headed households and at least 40% of youth-headed households	Household survey (baseline and yearly thereafter), focus groups in Participatory Rural Appraisal	Assumes market access and climate events remain manageable. Risk: climate shocks or input shortages	2. 3 Productive land- and seascapes and fresh water are sustainably managed	SDG 2.3.1; SDG 1.5.1
			Mid-Point Target	20% households report increased income stability from diversified, climate-resilient sources. Including at least 15% of female-headed households and at least 10% of youth-headed households	Project progress reports			
	4 Percentage of beneficiary households reporting adoption of at least one sustainable resource management practice as a result of livelihood interventions, disaggregated by gender of household head and youth where possible.	**Low** - ~20% of households in the target GGW districts report[2][46] practicing sustainable resource management (SRM), such as soil and water conservation, tree planting, or contour farming. Female-headed households, in particular, face barriers to adopting SRM practices due to limited access to land, tools, training, and extension services.	*End of project Target:*	At least 70% of beneficiary households report sustained adoption of at least one SRM practice including at least 50% of female-headed households and at least 40% of youth-headed households	Household surveys or focus group discussions (baseline, and yearly thereafter) Field monitoring documentation	Assumes technical support is consistent. Risk: cultural barriers or lack of sustained incentives.	2. 3 Productive land- and seascapes and fresh water are sustainably managed	SDG 2.4.1; SDG 15.3.1
			Mid-Point Target	At least 40% of beneficiary households report sustained adoption of at least one SRM practice, Including at least 15% of female-headed households and at least 10% of youth-headed households	Extension worker or NGO partner reports			
Outcome 3. Integrated natural resources management practices supported, leading to improved ecosystem	5 Area (ha) of land under improved NRM practices with evidence of maintained or improved productivity (per LDN indicators), including land accessed and managed by women, youth, and marginalised groups.	0 ha under improved NRM practices in the project area. Currently, women and youth have limited or insecure land tenure and face restricted access to extension services and inputs, reducing their ability to manage land productively under sustainable practices.	*End of project Target*	62,000 ha, of which: 40,000 under improved practices, 22,000 under restoration	LDSF data and remote sensing (e.g., NDVI, biomass cover)	Assumes cooperation of local communities and favourable weather. Risk: political instability, land tenure disputes or extreme drought.	2. 3 Productive land- and seascapes and fresh water are sustainably managed	SDG 15.3.1
			Mid-Point Target	31,000 ha, of which: 20,000 under improved practices,				

services and community resilience				10,000 under restoration				
	6 Increase in percentage of community members reporting increased access to and benefits from restored or sustainably managed ecosystems (e.g., water, fuelwood, fodder, NTFPs, improved soil), disaggregated by gender, age, disability status, and household headship where possible.	0. To be established in baseline survey. Initial community consultations indicate that women, especially in female-headed households, and youth face greater barriers in accessing restored ecosystems and often derive fewer direct benefits due to limited tenure rights, lack of participation in restoration planning, and unequal workload burdens.	*End of project Target*	At least 60% of community members report increased access and benefits, including at least 50% of women and at least 40% of youth reporting meaningful improvements in access to ecosystem goods and services, with increased participation in local resource management structures.	Participatory rural appraisals (PRAs)	Assumes restoration efforts are timely and visible, communities recognize benefits of ecosystem services. Risk: degraded ecosystems take longer to recover.	2.14 Fair and equitable access and benefit-sharing frameworks are advanced.	SDG 15.1.2; SDG 6.6.1
			Mid-Point Target	At least 20% of community members report increased access and benefits, including at least 15% of women and at least 10% of youth reporting positive change in access and benefit-sharing from restored ecosystems.				
Outcome 4. Platform to facilitate KM and monitoring system in place to enhance reporting and accountability	7 Percentage of project stakeholders actively using the KM platform for decision-making or reporting purposes, disaggregated by stakeholder type, gender, and institutional level where possible.	0% (platform not yet established). There is no current mechanism that systematically includes or supports gender-responsive access to and use of project-generated knowledge among women's groups, youth, or marginalised stakeholders.	*End of project Target*	80% of project stakeholders are actively using the KM platform, including at least 50% of female stakeholders and 40% of youth stakeholders	Platform user logs or analytics; FGD with government agencies representatives, technical staff and other NRM bodies at community level	Assumes ICT infrastructure and digital literacy are sufficient. Assumes platform offers good UX. Risk: lack of follow-through in data input or platform maintenance.	2.7 Natural assets are valued, monitored and sustainably managed.	SDG 17.18.1; SDG 12.8.1
			Mid-Point Target	20% of identified project stakeholders are actively using the KM platform, including at least 15% of female stakeholders and 10% of youth stakeholders				

[1] See Appendixes 16 and 17.

[2] See Appendixes 16 and 17.

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
1200 CONSULTANTS 1201 Environmental/NRM Specialist 1203 Institutional, legal framework Specialist 1204 Information	82,000.00	47,000.00	35,000.00

Systems / Knowledge Management Expert 1205 Gender Specialist 1206 National Project team leader 1207 International Consultant PD Expert			
1600 Stakeholder consultations workshops	68,000.00	68,000.00	0.00
Total	150,000.00	**115,000.00**	**35,000.00**

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
Metema	12.95479	36.15549	330,789

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Chilga	12.5265	36.9525	340,770

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Raya Azebo	12.66667	39.75	7,670,652

Location Description:

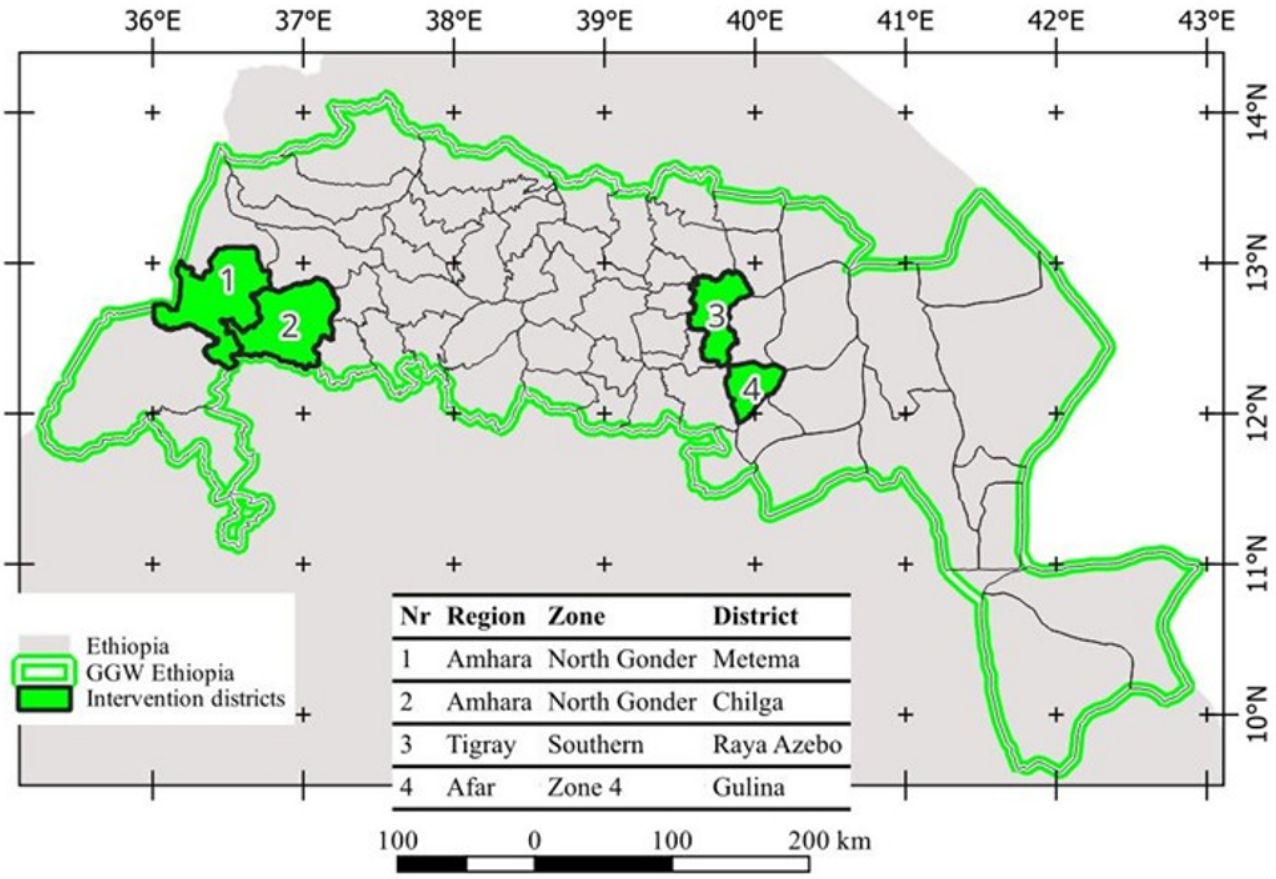
Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Gulina	12.25	39.98	8,643,589

Location Description:

Activity Description:

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



Nr	Region	Zone	District
1	Amhara	North Gonder	Metema
2	Amhara	North Gonder	Chilga
3	Tigray	Southern	Raya Azebo
4	Afar	Zone 4	Gulina

Figure 7. Locations of the target GGW Regions and four focal woredas for the proposed project, situated within the Ethiopian GGW belt[37].

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

SILAGLID_Appendix 15 - SRIF_GEF Submission 2_12 Aug 2025-for resubmission

ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

Appendix G: Indicative Project Budget Template

Appendix G: Indicative Project Budget Template										
		Component (USDeq.)								Responsible Entity
Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	*Component 1*	*Component 2*	*Component 3*	*Component 4*	*Sub-Total*	*M&E*	*PMC*	Total (USDeq.)	(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
Works	n/a									
Goods	Goods and equipment for field demonstrations and ii) starter kits for nature-based alternative livelihoods, to be determined by PMU and project Steering Committee based on consultancy results conducted under 2.1.1.		85,000	-	-	85,000			85,000	EFD
	CBNRM manuals and toolkits (lump sum), and other knowledge and stakeholder engagement products necessary under Outputs 2.1 and 2.2., as determined by EE		10,000			10,000			10,000	EFD
	Goods (lump sum per district) for CBEs and cooperatives for value-add creation, such as harvesting, processing, packaging and quality testing machinery etc		308,254			308,254			308,254	EFD
	Training materials, visual aids, and quick-reference guides in local languages and English for all user groups under components 2 and 3, as well as graphic design, translation and distribution of knowledge products, inter alia policy briefs, posters, etc under Output 4.3				25,000	25,000			25,000	CIFOR
	Data collection goods (tablets, chargers, etc) for project monitoring				40,000	40,000			40,000	CIFOR
	IT equipment for the PMU (lumpsum)					-		18,000	18,000	PENHA
Vehicles	n/a									
Grants/ Sub-grants	n/a								-	
Revolving funds/ Seed funds / Equity	n/a								-	
Sub-contract to executing	Capacitate community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) groups			151,000		151,000			151,000	EFD

partner/ entity	including training and awareness campaigns on participatory forest management; Develop and implement integrated forest management plans that incorporate biodiversity conservation targets, emission reduction strategies, and sustainable resource use practices in support of local livelihood, informed by spatial data and community input. (Output 3.1)									
	Identify, implement and monitor integrated landscape restoration practices tailored to the specific degradation types and site conditions (Output 3.2)			450,000		450,000			450,000	EFD
	Implement and monitor agro-forestry practices on smallholder farmers and pastoral community's land holdings (Output 3.3)			454,934		454,934			454,934	EFD
	Establish and operationalise a cross-sectoral coordination mechanism; Implement and monitor inclusive capacity, knowledge and skills in natural resources management planning at all levels. (Output 1.1 and 1.2)	188,850				188,850			188,850	EFD
	Policy, legal, institutional frameworks aligned, and implemented, and sustainable financing mechanisms created for scaling up sustainable natural resource management (Output 1.3)	114,000				114,000			114,000	EFD
	EE to i) undertake participatory identification and prioritization of new innovative nature-based livelihood diversification options and establish/strengthen community cooperatives;(Output 2.1) ii) Market linkages and value chains developed and strengthened for forests and climate smart agricultural products to enhance community resilience and facilitate private sector investment (Output 2.2)		667,500			667,500			667,500	EFD

	Participatory assessment and stakeholder mapping (Output 1.1); Develop a M&E framework with core indicators and MoVs for NRM programmes according to GGWI, Ethiopian policies and programmes (Output 4.2);	70,000				70,000			70,000	PENHA
	Develop a robust digital Knowledge management platform to collect, archive, process and share data and information on the project progress and result; Manage the system to track progress and facilitate evidence-based decision-making in natural resources management and land degradation. (Output 4.1)				100,000	100,000			100,000	CIFOR
	EE to 1) review M&E database, compile success stories, policy briefs etc under Activity 4.2.1; and 2) organize awareness campaign on project (e.g. GGW day) for knowledge dissemination at national level under Activity 4.3.2				30,000	30,000			30,000	CIFOR
	Communications services for design, strategy and dissemination of culturally appropriate outreach materials (e.g., radio jingles, posters, illustrated flyers) to promote community on project landscape restoration plans.			20,000		20,000			20,000	EFD
	Videomakers to capture lessons learnt with project team and project participants. Outputs will include videos for dissemination in social media, conferences, and traditional media				60,000	60,000			60,000	CIFOR
	Consultancy fees for Mid-Term Review					-	20,000		20,000	CIFOR
Contractual Services – Company	Consultancy fees for Terminal Evaluation					-	20,000		20,000	CIFOR
	Project Audits (1 per year) @ 4500$ each					-		22,500	22,500	PENHA
Contractual Services – Individual	NRM Policy Specialist to financial landscape of NRM financing, including private, public and blended financing flows, and host round table on sustainable financing mechanisms	30,000				30,000			30,000	PENHA

	GIS Specialist to support biophysical assessments, GIS mapping, and develop mapping templates and spatial layers, develop restoration maps and generate baseline condition reports across selected sites. Includes pre-/post-analysis and integration into project GIS			9,000		9,000			9,000	EFD
	Results and Learning consultant to i) review project development reports, ii) facilitate learning and adaptive management decision-making meetings with relevant stakeholders at woreda level and at project management level throughout the project duration and iii) Learning consultant to design and support participants knowledge exchange visits over 3 years				20,000	20,000			20,000	CIFOR
	Graphic/visual facilitator to document CBNRM learning processes and outcomes, at mid-term and at end-term				32,000	32,000			32,000	CIFOR
Salary and benefits / Staff costs	Project Coordinator (Full time)	-	52,000	-	-	52,000	-	104,000	156,000	EFD
	Finance Coordinator Officer (Part time)	-	-	-	-	-	-	52,800	52,800	EFD
	M&E Specialist	-	-	-	-	-	90,000	-	90,000	EFD
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	Meetings for the establishment of the CNRM Committee for the GGW	1,750				1,750			1,750	PENHA
	10 Planning Workshops in target Woredas, 5 per Woreda over 4 years	20,000				20,000			20,000	PENHA
	Workshop for multi-stakeholder dialogue events at regional and woreda level, 2 per year under Activity 1.1.3	15,000				15,000			15,000	PENHA
	Workshop days for ToT under Activity 1.2.2.	6,250				6,250			6,250	PENHA
	Consultation meetings and validation workshops integrated NRM plan.	7,000				7,000			7,000	PENHA
	Workshop for alignment of NRM financing with local development plans	2,500				2,500			2,500	PENHA
	Workshop days for local government and CSO training on proposal writing, fund management and	10,000				10,000			10,000	PENHA

	private sector engagement.									
	Roundtable on sustainable financing mechanisms to develop NRM financing strategy, such as local, regional and national budget reviews, financing mechanisms and funding sources	15,000				15,000			15,000	PENHA
	Workshop days for the participatory development of scaling up plans		750			750			750	EFD
	Workshop days for i) farmer field schools (10 workshop days/ year per district) and ii) livelihood diversification, demonstrated by extension officers in Woredas (15 workshop days/ year / districts)		100,000			100,000			100,000	EFD
	Workshop days for CBE/MSME/Coop research and related stakeholder engagement		5,000			5,000			5,000	EFD
	Workshop for i) Coop / CBE establishment and capacity building for interested parties over 4 years		87,500			87,500			87,500	EFD
	Capacity building workshops for SMMEs and CBEs on value chain integration		10,800			10,800			10,800	CIFOR
	Forum workshops (days) for multi-stakeholder forum on value chain development (focus group discussions, marketing concept development, business plan development)		10,000			10,000			10,000	CIFOR
	Capacity building workshops for SMMEs and CBEs on business planning, marketing and value addition, economic modelling, negotiation, investment, contracts, etc (5 days workshop x 4 regions x 2 years)		18,000			18,000			18,000	EFD
	Training workshops of Extension workers on development and strengthening of VSLA and Community-based revolved funding to support CBEs, SMMEs and cooperatives, and iii) Workshops and woredas on VSLA and Community-based revolved funding to support CBEs, MSMEs and Cooperatives for local economy strengthening		45,000		40,000	85,000			85,000	EFD

	Meeting budget for i) extension officers to host awareness raising sessions on VSLAs and Community Revolving Funds for community financial empowerment ii) 12 yearly VSLAs and Community Revolving Fund set up meetings with interested groups and iii) roundtables with VSLAs and CRF with MFIs for scaling up investments in GGW-belt CBEs and cooperatives, and iv) other stakeholder engagement meetings		85,000			85,000			85,000	EFD
	EE-led trainings for extension officers and initial community-based awareness campaigns and workshops to build capacity for CFMGs and CBNRMs and sustainable land use. Includes venue and refreshments. Consultant to support extension officers on awareness raising for CFMGs/CBNRMs as established in the stakeholder engagement plan.			7,000		7,000			7,000	EFD
	Workshop-days for mobilization efforts to engage elders, women, and youth in the formation and validation of CBNRM groups			20,000		20,000			20,000	EFD
	CBNRM group meetings and validation workshops. Includes venue hire, refreshments			4,200		4,200			4,200	EFD
	Meetings for i) review participatory maps, agree on ecosystem boundaries, and document local use zones and ii) knowledge exchange between CBNRMs (Activity 3.1.2.), ii) Multi-stakeholder workshops (regional level) to develop IFMP objectives, rules, enforcement, and monitoring with participation from local communities, CBNRMs and other informal user associations, forestry authorities, and CSOs,(under Activity 3.1.3) and iii) Based on CBNRM groups mapped under Activity 3.1.1., engagement with the relevant CBNRMs for			22,510		22,510			22,510	EFD

	restoration work, including awareness raising on integrated landscape restoration, co-development of roles, responsibilities, legal framework (under Activity 3.2.1) , and other. Includes refreshments and venue hire (if necessary)									
	Workshop days for stakeholder engagement on restoration plans and implementation			22,500		22,500			22,500	EFD
	Training sessions for community groups and kebele development agents on restoration techniques and low-cost monitoring.			7,500		7,500			7,500	EFD
	Agroforestry identification and awareness events among community groups in the local languages			3,000		3,000			3,000	EFD
	Meetings at woredas to discuss, select plots, clarify roles and land user rights, and validate agroforestry interventions plan			3,000		3,000			3,000	EFD
	Knowledge exchange events between CBNRMs involved in agroforestry and restoration under the project, led by extension officers			3,000		3,000			3,000	EFD
	Demonstration trainings on agroforestry maintenance, monitoring and management, led by extension officers			7,500		7,500			7,500	EFD
	Community nursery establishment and maintenance capacity building workshops for agropastoralists and farmers			10,000		10,000			10,000	EFD
	Multi-stakeholder workshops i) for platform co-design, user input gathering, and pilot feedback sessions in target districts, and ii) Regional and woreda-level inclusive training workshops for technical staff, CBNRM groups, youth, women, and community data collectors on digital system usage. Workshops will be adapted for varying literacy and language needs.				45,000	45,000			45,000	CIFOR

	Monitoring and evaluation sessions, such as Outcome Harvesting Workshops, focus group discussions with CBNRMs, farmers groups, agropastoralists, women, youth, extension workers, project staff, government staff and other stakeholders at national and at woreda-level, including structured reflection sessions with team members, etc.				40,000	40,000			40,000	CIFOR
	Lump sum for i) knowledge exchange meetings between CBNRMs, agropastoralists and cooperatives and ii) Woreda-level feedback meetings after field visits to discuss results and jointly identify adaptive management actions.				35,000	35,000			35,000	CIFOR
	Knowledge exchange events on land degradation projects in the GGW (online and in-person), including s peer-to-peer learning webinar with GGW stakeholders every year				20,000	20,000			20,000	CIFOR
	Inception workshop					-	3,115		3,115	CIFOR
	Annual project meetings hosted by the PMU, such as project planning meetings. Annual lumpsum of $2500					-		12,500	12,500	PENHA
Travel	Travel for workshop participants and dialogue events	40,000				40,000			40,000	PENHA
	Travel ToT workshops participants	10,100				10,100			10,100	PENHA
	Travel budget lump sum for Roundtable participants, in particular CSOs and local governance	3,050				3,050			3,050	PENHA
	Travel budget for participatory livelihood strategy research and CSO participation in Scaling Up Strategies workshops		12,000			12,000			12,000	EFD
	Travel budget for field research, livelihood diversification capacity building and knowledge exchange under Activity 2.1.2		10,000			10,000			10,000	EFD
	Travel budget for consultant to conduct CBE/SMSE/Coop mapping and assessment		5,200			5,200			5,200	EFD

	Travel budget for participants to join i) CBE/MSMEs assessment workshops, ii) CBNRM strengthening workshops and CBE/MSMEs/Cooperative strengthening workshops under Activity 2.1.3		15,000			15,000			15,000	EFD
	Travel budget for field research on value chain assessment under Activity 2.2.1		2,000			2,000			2,000	CIFOR
	Travel budget (lump sum) for participants of multi-stakeholder value chain forums under Activity 2.2.1		4,000			4,000			4,000	CIFOR
	Travel (lump sum per district) for i) participants and extension officers of VSLAs and community-based revolved funding and extension officers, ii) CBE members in capacity building workshops under Activity 2.2.2		48,000			48,000			48,000	EFD
	Travel budget for baseline assessment on forest dependent communities and informal forest user groups, including DSA @ Daily rate of 210 USD			3,900		3,900			3,900	EFD
	Travel budget for participants and field visits during IFMP development, and implementation including DSA and logistics for coordination meetings under Output 3.1			71,550		71,550			71,550	EFD
	Travel budget for i) funding CBNRM participants to join awareness raising workshops and ii) project staff and extension officers to conduct awareness raising under Output 3.2.			15,000		15,000			15,000	EFD
	Field travel by consultants and project staff to remote degraded areas for mapping, certification, and consultation. Includes DSA.			4,320		4,320			4,320	EFD
	Travel and DSA for technical experts and government counterparts during consultations and site condition assessments.			2,700		2,700			2,700	EFD
	Budget for agropastoralists			2,500		2,500			2,500	EFD

	beneficiaries to participate in activities									
	Travel for knowledge exchange activities between CBNRMs across the 4 woredas			3,000		3,000			3,000	EFD
	Travel for participants of agroforestry capacity building across the 4 woredas			3,000		3,000			3,000	EFD
	Travel for i) stakeholder engagement on KM platform development and validation ii) platform consultant, iii) KM capacity building workshops and other activities under Output 4.1, iv) Project Officer and other project staff to participate in regional knowledge exchange conferences representing SILAGLID				70,000	70,000			70,000	CIFOR
	Travel budget for i) project participants to join results meetings, ii) district officers joining workshops on lessons learnt and adaptive management, iii) Results and Learning consultant and visual facilitator to conduct learning exchange visits with participants groups and iv) Biannual field monitoring visits to each target woreda, covering diverse interventions and including technical, gender, and community engagement teams.				22,616	22,616			22,616	CIFOR
	Travel for Project Officer to participate in regional knowledge exchange conferences representing SILAGLID				50,000	50,000			50,000	CIFOR
	PMU travel to meetings, project sites, etc. Includes flights, vehicle hire, fuel, accommodation, etc. $9,400 contingent to be allocated as needed.					-		9,400	9,400	PENHA
Office Supplies	Office supplies for capacity building activities under Output 1	500				500			500	PENHA
	Office supplies for data collection, assessment, mapping and validation under Activity 3.2.2.			900		900			900	EFD
	Yearly office supplies restock for printing materials, reports, etc to support evidence-				15,000	15,000			15,000	CIFOR

	based decision making.									
	Office supplies as needed for knowledge exchange (lump sum)				957	957			957	CIFOR
	Cost for annual PMU office supplies (expendable). $450 per year					-		2,250	2,250	PENHA
Other Operating Costs	Lump sum available for any software licensing necessary for project knowledge generation (GIS, graphics, video, cloud storage, etc)				20,000	20,000			20,000	CIFOR
Grand Total		**534,000**	**1,581,004**	**1,302,014**	**665,573**	**4,082,591**	**133,115**	**221,450**	**4,437,156**	

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

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.

#	Specific comments by STAP	Agency Response
1	STAP suggests that, the project build a baseline that integrates climate and non-climate drivers into two or more future narratives that illustrate plausible futures the outcomes of this project will have to address. Further guidance on this topic can be found in the STAP Brief on Simple Future Narratives and the STAP advisory document on Exploratory Future Narratives.	During Project Preparation, a detailed baseline/situation analysis was undertaken to assess the project problem, the root causes and drivers of the problem (non-climate and climate-related). This analysis is presented in Appendix 18. In addition, a detailed assessment of Simple Future Narratives was undertaken, following the guidance provided by GEF in the STAP Brief on Simple Future Narratives and the STAP advisory document on Exploratory Future Narratives (presented in Appendix 20).
2	For the climate information, STAP recommends updating the future climate projections to the latest versions of the models referenced in the PIF, as recent findings in the sensitivity of the climate system to greenhouse gas emissions suggest that some earlier model outputs have been revised down.	As noted above, the analysis of the project problem included a detailed assessment of climate change impacts in the project target areas. The information used for the climate assessment was derived from a recently completed LDCF project, implemented in several districts across the country. During that project's development, detailed climate analysis was undertaken, using the most up-to-date datasets. In addition, the SILAGLID project's climate assessment was

		validated and substantiated with inputs from the national team.
3	STAP suggests that stakeholder consultations be expanded to include representatives from the communities facing food insecurity and multidimensional poverty, to ensure that project goals and interventions align with local needs. Given the amount of adaptation work already undertaken under GLI Phase 1, STAP assumes that there already exists a great deal of information about local needs and intervention uptake, and suggests the project build on that foundation.	The Project Preparation phase of the SILAGLID project included extensive consultations at community level. This included an initial socio-economic baseline review conducted by the national team (presented as Appendix 16) for the development of projects within the GGW belt. In addition, the national team, in collaboration with EFD, conducted a baseline assessment for project preparation in each of the four target districts (presented as Appendix 17).
4	STAP also recommends a revision of the innovation section, which should be streamlined and focused on those measures that are truly innovative.	Detail on the innovativeness of the proposed project has been added under CEO ER Section B.8: Innovativeness of the project strategy.

Comments from STAP on PFD	Agency Response
Given the Sahel's vulnerability to climate change, economic instability, conflict, population growth, and possibly other key drivers, STAP highly recommends that each country project to develop simple future narratives that describe interactions between the key drivers and uncertainties, as well as response measures that ensure the proposed interventions are necessary and sufficient to achieve the proposed GEBs and climate adaptation benefits. This process is rooted in applying resilience thinking through project interventions to ensure they are robust to different plausible futures. STAP recommends its advice on future narratives as well as the World Bank's resilience methodology.	During project preparation, an assessment of Simple Future Narratives was undertaken (presented as Appendix 20), building on a detailed baseline/situation analysis (Appendix 18). This was done following the available GEF STAP guidance on developing Simple Future Narratives (Brief and Primer).
The PFD lists several ongoing and past initiatives as part of the baseline. In each of the individual projects, STAP recommends that the appropriate links be made, demonstrating how learning will be leveraged between this project and ongoing, or past, initiatives.	A full assessment of ongoing and past initiatives has been conducted during the Project Preparation phase, and is presented in the relevant sections of the CEO Endorsement Request. In addition, information on best practices and lessons learned from these projects has been added to the document under Section 5.2 of Appendix 18: Baseline/situation analysis

For each individual project, it is necessary for the theory of change to identify assumptions tied to each outcome, and which will be verified and tracked to ensure the GEBs and adaptation outcomes are realized. There are multiple assumptions made, including on farmers and communities changing mindsets to adopt new sustainable land management, or ecosystem-based management practices, which will need to be confirmed and monitored, potentially leading to adaptive management of the proposed interventions. This learning should be reflected in the overall Program's theory of change and knowledge management, as innovation and scaling are dependent on learning. STAP also recommends strengthening the narrative describing the theory of change, as this is currently weak. STAP's theory of change primer is a useful resource for project developers to use.	The Project Preparation phase of the SILAGLID project included a detailed theory of change development, following the guidance provided in STAP's Theory of Change Primer. In addition, assumptions tied to the project outcomes have also been added, based on a detailed baseline assessment done in the run-up to the Project Preparation. This information is presented under Appendix 16: Final Socioeconomic Baseline Review Report.
STAP encourages the project proponents to develop a separate theory of change on scaling. This process will provide close attention to changes and innovation in policies and governance arrangements (tied to component 1 and 2), changes in cultural norms and values (component 2 and 3), and other powerful levers for scaling and transformation. Furthermore, STAP encourages the adoption of steps similar to those in a policy cycle, outlined in STAP's policy coherence paper. These steps help with a policy analysis process (component 1), which can contribute to identifying coherence and incoherence between policies supporting climate resilience, sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation. For component 2 and 3, close monitoring of changes in land management practices and cultural values and norms, will be necessary. While STAP embraces innovative financing mechanisms, such as Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), as incentives to adopt and scale a nature- positive practice, STAP recommends validating (test, monitor, and learn for scaling purposes) key assumptions affiliated with PES adoption and GEB and climate adaptation impacts.	Although a dedicated ToC for scaling has not been included in the Child Project design, detail on the project's strategy for scaling is presented in the CEO Endorsement Request under Section B.6. 6. Project sustainability, replicability and scalability.

To design and implement component 4, focused on the regional integrated knowledge management platform (IKMP), STAP recommends collaborating and coordinating with existing Pan-African open- access platforms, such as Digital Earth Africa. A successful transformative approach goes beyond technological and financial innovation. This effort also requires partnerships of knowledge with local stakeholders such as African Universities of the Sahel. Scaling up, resilience and sustainability of outcomes could be further enhanced through partnerships with organisations such as the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA). STAP agrees with the recommendations of a 2022 Danish report on The Great Green Wall: An Overview and Lessons Learnt that emphasizes "… Collaboration with national-level organisations that understand contextualised livelihood vulnerabilities is also recommended; …. promote improved coordination of activities and consistent monitoring across partner countries and subprojects; …More qualitative analyses of project site contexts should also be included among monitoring tools". STAP recommends that the proponent consult its 2022 document titled 'Understanding South–South Cooperation for Knowledge Exchange" and the recent paper of Goffner et al (2019), "The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative", as sources for understanding how to create knowledge management and adaptive learning systems that enhance resilience in the Sahelian landscapes and livelihoods.	N/A
STAP agrees the Program has substantial potential to generate socioeconomic co-benefits. Several of these benefits will be deemed as pre-requisites for achieving GEBs (e.g., improved food security through improved soil fertility as a result of improved sustainable land management) and climate adaptation benefits (e.g., increased resilience to climate change via mixed income sources that reduce economic risks). STAP recommends thinking of potential co-benefits (both prerequisite and non-prerequisite) when designing the projects and their logic chains. STAP's advice on co-benefits	As noted above, the SILAGLID project's development included a detailed problem analysis (under Appendix 18: Baseline/situation analysis). This problem analysis distinguished clearly between the different root causes of the problem, allowing the project to address these root causes rather than the symptoms of the problem itself. In addition, the project development process also considered specific issues that need to be addressed to overcome these root causes (i.e. the barriers to sustainable land management), which is presented in Appendix 21: Detailed Barrier Analysis. Collectively, these analyses provided

can be a useful resource for the Program.	a robust backdrop for the design of the project in terms of delivering key benefits and co-benefits to the targeted communities. The specific GEBs delivered by the project are discussed in the CEO Endorsement Request under Section B.5 Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs).