



Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Land and Natural Resource Management

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10007

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

Project Title

Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Land and Natural Resource Management

Countries

Sao Tome and Principe

Agency(ies)

UNDP

Other Executing Partner(s):

Ministry of Infrastructure, Public Works, Natural Resources and Environment / General Directorate for Environment

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Influencing models, Stakeholders, Gender Equality, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Forest, Forest and Landscape Restoration, Biodiversity, Species, Threatened Species, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Mainstreaming, Infrastructure, Forestry - Including HCVF and REDD+, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Tourism, Financial and Accounting, Conservation Finance, Conservation Trust Funds, Biomes, Tropical Rain Forests, Rivers, Mangroves, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Sustainable Livelihoods, Sustainable Forest, Income Generating Activities, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Demonstrate innovative approach, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Beneficiaries, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Participation, Information Dissemination, Consultation, Communications, Education, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Local Communities, Private Sector, SMEs, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender-sensitive indicators, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Capacity Development, Access to benefits and services, Access and control over natural resources, Innovation, Enabling Activities, Knowledge Generation, Learning, Indicators to measure change

Rio Markers**Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 1

Duration

66In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

404,943

A. Focal Area Strategy Framework and Program

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
BD-1_P1	Outcome 1.2: Improved management effectiveness of protected areas	GET	2,419,957	2,183,500
BD-4_P9	Outcome 9.2: Sector policies and regulatory frameworks incorporate biodiversity considerations	GET	928,458	1,738,500
LD-2_P3	Outcome 2.2: Improved forest management and/or restoration	GET	757,934	1,523,500
LD-3_P4	Outcome 3.1: Support mechanisms for SLM in wider landscapes established	GET	156,210	778,500
Total Project Cost(\$)			4,262,559	6,224,000

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

Safeguard globally significant terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems services by strengthening national capacities and frameworks for biodiversity and natural resource management, integrated land use planning and environmental law enforcement as well as enhancing protected area management and the sustainability of charcoal production

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
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Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Enhancing systems and enforcement for biodiversity conservation and integrated landscape and natural resource management	Technical Assistance	<p>1.1 Individual capacities and systemic frameworks enhanced for biodiversity and integrated land management</p> <p>1.2 Nationally adapted environmental law enforcement system agreed and emplaced</p> <p><i>For indicators and targets</i></p>	<p>1.1 Frameworks on biodiversity conservation, land-use planning and charcoal strengthened and streamlined</p> <p>1.2 Environmental sustainability and biodiversity considerations mainstreamed in land-use planning and investments</p> <p>1.3 Framework and delivery system for integrated environmental surveillance and enforcement emplaced</p> <p>1.4 Capacity developed on environmental law surveillance and enforcement</p>	GET	960,800	1,018,592

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Management, monitoring and financing of PAs and adjacent key biodiversity and forest areas	Technical Assistance	2.1 Management effectiveness of two existing PAs enhanced	2.1 Management effectiveness of protected areas and adjacent High Conservation Value areas enhanced	GET	1,491,500	2,228,081
		2.2 Finance for biodiversity conservation and PA management increased	2.2 Capacity developed on biodiversity, zoology/botany, ecosystem services, conservation and PA management			
		<i>For indicators and targets see the PRF in Annex A</i>	2.3 New technologies, systems and tools for information-based biodiversity and PA management emplaced			
			2.4 Proven structures and tools to capture and distribute new finance for the national system of protected areas and biodiversity created			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3: Reducing forest degradation and ecosystem loss from unsustainable charcoal-making	Investment	<p>3.1 Forest degradation from charcoal making reduced and compensated</p> <p>3.2 Prevalence of traditional high-impact charcoal-making livelihoods reduced in favour of more sustainable options</p> <p><i>For indicators and targets see the PRF in Annex A</i></p>	<p>3.1 Charcoal supply and value chain analysis prepared to identify further options for reducing wood-based charcoal extraction drivers</p> <p>3.2 More sustainable charcoal kilns and charcoal sources mobilised</p> <p>3.3 Awareness raised and capacity developed on more sustainable charcoal production and alternatives</p> <p>3.4 Fast-growing native charcoal tree species planted in degraded forests and shade plantations</p> <p>3.5 Community stakeholders consulted and sustainable livelihoods introduced and adopted</p>	GET	1,252,450	2,372,187

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 4: M&E, Knowledge Management and Gender	Technical Assistance	4.1 M&E, knowledge management and gender work fully and successfully implemented <i>For indicators and targets see the PRF in Annex A</i>	4.1 M&E and knowledge management plans implemented 4.2 Gender strategy and action plan operationalised to guide project implementation, monitoring and reporting	GET	354,830	245,938
Sub Total (\$)					4,059,580	5,864,798
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
				GET	202,979	359,202
Sub Total(\$)					202,979	359,202
Total Project Cost(\$)					4,262,559	6,224,000

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount(\$)
Government	Directorate General for Environment / MOPIRNA	In-kind	516,000
Government	Directorate for Forests and Biodiversity / MAPDR	In-kind	306,000
Government	Regional Government of Príncipe	In-kind	282,000
CSO	Birdlife International	Grant	4,550,000
CSO	Birdlife International	In-kind	250,000
Private Sector	Valudo	Grant	225,000
Private Sector	Valudo	In-kind	75,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	20,000
Total Co-Financing(\$)			6,224,000

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	NGI	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
UNDP	GET	Sao Tome and Principe	Biodiversity		No	3,348,415	318,099
UNDP	GET	Sao Tome and Principe	Land Degradation		No	914,144	86,844
Total Grant Resources(\$)						4,262,559	404,943

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

PPG Required

☐

150,000

14,250

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	NGI	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
UNDP	GET	Sao Tome and Principe	Biodiversity		No	100,000	9,500
UNDP	GET	Sao Tome and Principe	Land Degradation		No	50,000	4,750
Total Project Costs(\$)						150,000	14,250

Core Indicators

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	32,454.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	32,454.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
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Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Parque Natural do Príncipe	125689555592842	SelectNational Park		7,180.00			46.00		<input type="checkbox"/>
Akula National Park Parque Natural Obô de São Tomé	125689124355	SelectNational Park		25,274.00			35.00		<input type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

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

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

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

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	
Akula National Park Marine part of Principe Biosphere Reserve	125689 na	Select		0.00			<input type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

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

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
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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)
0.00	12414.00	0.00	0.00

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	6,207.00		

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

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

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
6,207.00			

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

Title	Submitted
HCV Justification	

Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female		1,000		
Male		1,000		
Total	0	2000	0	0

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

(a): Increased from 30,000 ha at PIF stage to 32,454 ha because of improved calculations. (b): Reduced from 11,199 ha at PIF stage to 0 ha because the core marine biodiversity area of the Príncipe Biosphere Reserve to be declared MPA was removed from the project scope. Noting that the project was from the start conceived as a BD & LD MFA, the PPG concluded (after an exhaustive situation analysis and a priority threat and baseline assessment during the PPG that involved 6 weeks spent in country by the lead expert) that integration of the marine environment (marine biodiversity, marine protected areas) was an overreach. The project now focuses on terrestrial ecosystems to address priority threats. This was

decided because the 2 existing terrestrial PAs continue to struggle in terms of basic management and financing, and the last years have seen renewed encroachment by agricultural developments and severe (illegal) selective logging. Expanding the PA system to include a marine component therefore appeared premature, in spite of all the need and interest to address this challenge too. Work on the legal framework under Output 1.1 can prepare the ground for future marine PA gazettelement and consider also the local specificities on Principe, yet the project does not intend to deliver actual MPA gazettelement and operationalisation as it would require a significantly different approach in technical, investment and outreach terms. The PPG concluded that a separate standalone follow-up project – under GEF-7, GEF-8 or via another donor – should take this on, yet focusing on marine biodiversity more widely, by mainstreaming of biodiversity into 1-2-3 key sectors (fisheries, oil & gas, sand mining) and the creation and operationalisation of marine PAs. The PPG also found a few emerging NGO-led projects on marine biodiversity that include work on community-based fisheries pilots and marine PA identification that can prepare the ground for such more important work in the future. (c): Reduced from 17,767 ha at PIF stage to 12,414 ha (sum of (d) and (e) below) because the former had included the (poorly defined and demarcated) “buffer zone around protected areas”, whereas the new calculation now is more precise and focuses on the HVA forest areas instead that are a better reference for the areas outside the PAs in which sustainable management or conservation regimes should be applied. (d): Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity: estimated to 50% of 10,913 ha of HCV in Sao Tome (the half not under avoided loss below) + 50% of the HCV areas to be identified on Principe (1,500 ha estimated before studies, so 50%=750 ha; the half not under avoided loss below). (e): Avoid loss of HCV Forests: estimated to 50% of 10,913 ha of HCV in Sao Tome (the half not under better management above) + 50% of the HCV areas to be identified on Principe (1,500 ha estimated before studies, so 50%=750 ha; the half not under better management above; the objective is not to avoid wholesale conversion but to avoid HCV trigger status loss from forest degradation by unsustainable selective logging and natural resource exploitation. (f): Guarda Ambiental 20; Community surveillance 20; capacity-building and direct engagement: 100 govt technicians; 40 politicians, 60 technicians, 500 community members + charcoal makers; 17 academics/interns; 30+ eco-guides; 10 Valudo employment; 20 tree planting; c. 1200 incl. co-beneficiaries through c. 30 household livelihood and value chain micro-grants @ avge household size of 4. Total estimate c. 2000.

PART II: Project JUSTIFICATION

1. Project Description

1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description)

1. During the PPG a comprehensive situation analysis was conducted that involved 6 weeks spent in-country by the lead expert. The PRODOC therefore provides far more details than the PIF on threats, past achievements and remaining barriers. The most notable changes in terms of priority threats was the need to find a solution to the forest degradation caused by largely illegal charcoal making. Given the framing of the PIF, it was decided to tackle one fragment of the supply side, rather than the demand side (efficient stoves, different energy source) or an international approach to the supply side (importation of charcoal from nearby Africa, which only relocates the problem), which would have been entirely different projects. In addition, the conclusion was that a more dedicated effort on environmental law enforcement was necessary to accompany the work on
2. This *inter alia* addressed also requests from GEF Secretariat, Council and STAP by updating information on forest cover.
3. Please refer to PRODOC Sections 1.5 and 2.4 for the description of challenges, root causes and barriers.

2) the baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

4. In line with the above, the description of the baseline of past, ongoing and planned investments and interventions provided in the PRODOC is far more comprehensive than what was included in the PIF and therefore more detailed.
5. Considering the baseline project durations and their relevance of the interventions described above, the baseline investment for the project was estimated as follows: For the donor funded-projects, USD 5,862,515 for forest management and environmental law enforcement, and USD 7,217,119 for protected area management and environmental mainstreaming, for a total of USD 13,079,634. In addition, the baseline contributions by the three lead government agencies relevant to the project, DGA, DFB and RSED, amount to an estimated USD 516,000, USD 306,000 and USD 282,000 over the duration of the project. The total project baseline therefore is estimated to USD 14,183,634.
6. Please refer to PRODOC Sections 2.2 and 2.3 for the description of the baseline scenario.

3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project:

7. On the basis of the above-mentioned exhaustive situation analysis prepared during the PPG, and fully considering the comments received at PIF stage from GEF SEC, STAP and Council but also GEF eligibility requirements, the project was reframed on several aspects and at several levels (Title, Objective, Outcomes, Outputs, etc.):
 - Noting that the project was from the start conceived as a BD & LD MFA, the PPG concluded (after an exhaustive situation analysis and a priority threat and baseline assessment during the PPG that involved 6 weeks spent in country by the lead expert) that integration of the marine environment (marine biodiversity, marine protected areas) was an overreach. The project now focuses on terrestrial ecosystems to address priority threats. This was decided because the 2 existing terrestrial PAs continue to struggle in terms of basic

management and financing, and the last years have seen renewed encroachment by agricultural developments and severe (illegal) selective logging. Expanding the PA system to include a marine component therefore appeared premature, in spite of all the need and interest to address this challenge too. Work on the legal framework under Output 1.1 can prepare the ground for future marine PA gazettement and consider also the local specificities on Principe, yet the project does not intend to deliver actual MPA gazettement and operationalisation as it would require a significantly different approach in technical, investment and outreach terms. The PPG concluded that a separate standalone follow-up project – under GEF-7, GEF-8 or via another donor – should take this on, yet focusing on marine biodiversity more widely, by mainstreaming of biodiversity into 1-2-3 key sectors (fisheries, oil & gas, sand mining) and the creation and operationalisation of marine PAs. The PPG also found a few emerging NGO-led projects on marine biodiversity that include work on community-based fisheries pilots and marine PA identification that can prepare the ground for such more important work in the future.

- The project now more explicitly integrates LD-elements across the project components 1 and 3 and their outcomes and outputs, correcting a BD-bias in the PIF. This includes new or reinforced workstreams under Component 1 on land use planning and management, environmental law enforcement that will benefit LD-relevant concerns as much as BD-relevant concerns; and workstreams under Component 3 on sustainable charcoal to reduce forest degradation, planting of fast-growing charcoal tree species, and sustainable livelihoods. Enhanced conservation of HCV forests under Component 2 is also new.

8. These changes do not affect the project's eligibility under LD or BD, but the project elements become more focused and concrete and better embedded in ongoing work. The PIF and PRODOC project frameworks (components, outcomes) are juxtaposed in the following:

Comparative analysis of changes in Results Framework	
In PIF	In PRODOC / CEO Endorsement Request
Project title	
Enhancing Capacity for Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Area Management	Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Land and Natural Resource Management <i>The marginally adjusted new title reflects the fact that “enhancing capacity” is only part of the proposed outcomes, because the project has also concrete interventions on PA management, enforcement, mainstreaming activities and work in the wider landscape. In addition, the prior title suited a BD-only project but did not make reference to LD aspects – this was improved by the inclusion of sustainable land and NR management to reflect the use of GEF LD resources.</i>
Project objective	
Systemic, institutional and operational capacity at national and site levels strengthened for protected area management and sustainable land management, to safeguard globally significant terrestrial and marine flora and fauna and ensure environmentally sustainable livelihoods	Safeguard globally significant terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems services by strengthening national capacities and frameworks for biodiversity and natural resource management, integrated land use planning and environmental law enforcement as well as enhancing protected area management and the sustainability of charcoal production <i>The marginally adjusted new objective reflects more explicitly the concrete interventions/ outcomes of the project, while removing the marine workstream now excluded from the project, as explained above.</i>
Components / Outcomes	

<p>Component 1. Systemic and institutional capacity for protected area management and biodiversity conservation</p>	<p>Component 1: Enhancing capacities and frameworks for biodiversity and natural resource management, integrated land management and environmental law enforcement</p> <p><i>The marginally adjusted new Component 1 title reflects the fact that the work on systemic and institutional capacity covers more than just PA management and biodiversity conservation but also aspects relevant under LD; it is also a bit more specific.</i></p>
<p>Outcome of Component 1. Operational policy, institutional, and financial framework and capacity strengthened to protect terrestrial and marine habitats that are of key importance for biodiversity conservation</p>	<p>Outcome 1.1 Individual capacities and systemic frameworks enhanced for biodiversity and integrated land management</p> <p>Outcome 1.2 Nationally adapted environmental law enforcement system agreed and emplaced</p> <p><i>The PIF Outcome was broken into two, again adding elements relevant under LD (integrated land management) and the concrete standalone Outcome on environmental law enforcement that gained more weight in the project. The workstream dedicated to finances was moved into Component 2 (Output 2.4). The reference to marine habitats was removed also here, for the reasons explained above.</i></p>
<p>Component 2. Effectiveness of biodiversity conservation and PA site management actions</p>	<p>Component 2: Management, monitoring and financing of PAs and adjacent key biodiversity and forest areas</p> <p><i>The marginally adjusted new Component 2 title now includes a reference to financing that was moved here from Component 1. It also adds the notion of forest areas to announce work on HCV forest areas.</i></p>

<p>Outcome of Component 2: Improved protection of vulnerable species through sustainable management of STP's PAs and buffer zones covering 23,500 ha on São Tomé, 6,500 ha on Príncipe and 11,198.55 ha coastal and marine habitats</p>	<p>Outcome 2.1 Protection of the two existing PAs and adjacent HCV forest areas enhanced</p> <p>Outcome 2.2 Finance for biodiversity conservation and PA management increased</p> <p><i>The PIF Outcome was broken into two to add a standalone Outcome on the important workstream on PA financing that was moved here from Component 1. The reference to marine habitats was removed also here, for the reasons explained above.</i></p> <p><i>The reference to buffer zone was replaced with a focus on HCV forest areas. The PPG concluded that while the buffer zone exists in theory, the legal basis is weak (unclear boundaries) and its implementation on the ground non-existent. There are no differences in terms of economic activities between areas “outside the buffer zone” vs “inside the buffer zone”. In addition, the PPG concluded, based on analyses by BirdLife on Sao Tome, that some areas of the “buffer zone” under intense agricultural production cannot be reconverted to more sustainable practices, while other areas clearly outside the “buffer zone” contained important forest areas deserving conservation management. This was summarised in the HCV Forest assessment prepared by BirdLife. The project therefore focuses more on the sustainable management of these HCV areas (vs “buffer zones”) including through the creation of new management models such as private sector concessions – and community-based participatory systems as suggested by STAP.</i></p> <p><i>While the PIF remained vague regarding the PA financing mechanisms it planned to mobilise during the project, the PPG concluded that the project should establish a Conservation Trust Fund for STP under this Component and run a campaign for its capitalisation; noting that no GEF resources will be used to capitalise the CTF endowment fund.</i></p>
<p>Component 3. Integrated, environmentally sustainable land management in multi-use buffer zones</p>	<p>Component 3: Reducing forest degradation and ecosystem services loss from unsustainable charcoal-making</p> <p><i>GEF STAP suggested to “move beyond platitudes of SLM, SFM, CFM, IGAs ... to technically feasible interventions”. The PPG decided after a through analysis of threats and ongoing other interventions to focus on the threat from charcoal-making, merging synergistic BD/LD work on reducing forest degradation and reducing pressures on PAs. This is reflected across the Component 3 title, outcomes and outputs. It does not affect eligibility under either BD or LD. It reflects a move away from sustainable agricultural land management in the PIF, which remained vague, to sustainable forest management in a more concrete manner.</i></p>

Outcome of Component 3: Enhanced environmental sustainability of economic activities in buffer zones	<p>Outcome 3.1 Forest degradation from charcoal making reduced and compensated</p> <p>Outcome 3.2 Prevalence of traditional high-impact charcoal-making livelihoods reduced in favour of more sustainable options</p> <p><i>These reformulated Outcomes reflect the reframing of the work under this component, as described above. It is more concrete, and also more clearly linked to LD than the PIF Outcome.</i></p>
Component 4. Knowledge Management & Communication	Component 4: M&E, Knowledge Management and Gender
Outcome of Component 4: Good practices and lessons learned by the project, including through participatory M&E are used to guide adaptive management and to share knowledge in support of awareness raising, outreach and upscaling.	<p>Outcome 4.1: M&E, knowledge management and gender work fully and successfully implemented</p> <p><i>Marginal reformulation that reflects the inclusion of a dedicated gender workstream under this Component.</i></p>

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

9. While the overall alignment to BD and LD was maintained like also the resource allocation between BD (USD 3,348,415) and LD (USD 914,144), the above-explained reframing of the project also led to slight changes in the alignment at the GEF focal-area programme and outcome levels. Please see PRODOC Section 3.3 *Alignment with GEF focal area strategy*, and the following table for a summary of the changes:

Comparative analysis of changes in alignment with GEF focal area strategies				
In PIF		In PRODOC / CEO Endorsement Request		
BD 1-1: Improve Sustainability of Protected Area Systems	3,348,415	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Objective BD-1: Improve sustainability of protected area system - Programme 1-1: Improving financial sustainability and effective management of the national ecological infrastructure. - Outcome 1.2: Improved management effectiveness of protected areas 	2,419,957	Sum 3,348,415
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Objective BD-4: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes and seascapes and sectors - Programme 4-9: Managing the human-biodiversity interface. - Outcome 9.2: Sector policies and regulatory frameworks incorporate biodiversity considerations 	928,458	
LD-2-3: Landscape Management and Restoration	914,144	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Objective LD-2: Forest landscapes: generate sustainable flows of forest ecosystem services, including sustaining livelihoods of forest dependent people. - Programme 2-3: Landscape management and restoration. - Outcome 2.2: Improved forest management and/or restoration 	757,934	Sum 914,144
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Objective LD-3: Integrated landscapes: reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses in the wider landscape - Programme 3-4: Scaling up SLM through the Landscape Approach. - Outcome 3.1: Support mechanisms for SLM in wider landscapes established 	156,210	

5) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTE, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing

10. Given the changes outlined in the sections above, the incremental cost reasoning changed as well.
11. The project is timely as the increased investments that took place in the past two decades contributed to establishing a foundation on which this project aims to build in synergy with ongoing interventions to facilitate enhanced environmental sustainability through enhanced biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of forest lands.
12. The baseline and alternative scenarios are juxtaposed in the following table. The principal baseline interventions that can be considered here are the activities that the relevant Government agencies (most notably DGA, DGF and RSESD) are able to implement with their own limited domestic resources; the activities by the DFB/FAO-GEF-6 project relating forest landscape restoration; and the interventions by BirdLife International with their projects financed by EU/ECOFAC, CEPF, etc.

Baseline Scenario	Alternative Scenario
Component 1	

There would be some work on the legal framework proposed by BirdLife who recently prepared a legal assessment that concluded that the legal and institutional setup for biodiversity and PAs is largely incomplete and dysfunctional; however, there is some hesitation by government to consider proposals from NGOs on legal framework improvements, which would also be limited to these topics. There would be no work on the environmental funds, no work on the regulatory framework for charcoal and no work on improving the framework for land-use related development investments.

Some work is expected on the institutional framework, namely ad hoc plans to give DGA in its current form more institutional autonomy, which would however not look at the functions and improvement potential that could result from a streamlined and more empowered institute. There would be no attempt to create an upgraded unit/institute for Nature Conservation and PAs.

There would be a downgraded unit left after the land use planning project (PNOT) ends in 2020, with no attempts to integrate environment and biodiversity into the currently available land use plan, with limited capacity to monitor sector compliance, and without capacity or ambition to proactively mainstream environment and biodiversity in sector activities; noting that the conservation NGOs in STP engage key sector stakeholders and monitor developments, but they often become aware of plans late in the process and do not offer a government-internal process.

There would be no serious attempt to agree on and much less to emplace and capacitate a consolidated environmental law enforcement system, with DFB & RSED and their c. six Forest Guards remaining the sole official agents, poorly resourced, rarely in the field and with questionable effectiveness.

There would be some, but limited capacity development opportunities provided by BirdLife and FFI for the NGOs they are working with most importantly OIKOS and Fundacao Príncipe. But there would be no internship opportunities and advanced dedicated training opportunities aimed, and no work on strengthening CBOs.

The revision of the legal and regulatory framework will be more comprehensive in scope, as it will include the National Environment Fund and the Special PA Fund, the frameworks for charcoal and land-use related development investments. Work on those issues already planned by BirdLife regarding the biodiversity and PA framework would be more impactful because conducted under a project led by government agencies – the reason why the work under this component here remains almost exclusively (except NGO training) under the national implementing partner/executing agency.

The revision of the institutional framework will ask more fundamental questions on the effectiveness of the current system on biodiversity and PAs on the one hand, and on land use planning and management on the other hand. The national consensus discussion is expected to lead to the setup of two agencies/institutes with clearer mandates and at least some financial autonomy, one on Nature Conservation and PAs (possibly including Forests), and another on Environment and Land Management. This streamlined complementary setup is expected to be more empowered and operational by project-end given the parallel critical work on capacity and finance.

The project provides a platform under which the land use planning unit will be maintained after mid-2020 and capacitated (via the Environment Mainstreaming Officer) to integrate environment and biodiversity into the currently available land use plan and to monitor sector compliance including on environment and biodiversity, to prevent in early stages large scale developments and investments that could harm natural and productive ecosystems in an undue manner – several such projects are have been proposed in the past and are still in the pipeline and not clearly assessed: the construction of hydro-dams in the NPs and of a road around the entire island of São Tomé crossing steep inaccessible parts of the NP in the SW, the creation of tax free zones in the mangroves in southern São Tomé etc.

The project aims to significantly strengthen if not transform environmental law enforcement in STP. It will establish a national platform and consensus-building process informed by international technical assistance to define a national system bringing together the current and potential further stakeholders – from forestry, environment and PAs, coast guard, military, police, communities, etc. It will then emplace the newly created guard and equip and train it so it becomes operational. The work on the environment funds is key for the system's sustainability post-project.

The project will significantly strengthen NGOs in STP, reaching a far wider range of beneficiaries than under the baseline; this will include CBOs, which is linked to the community work under Component 3. Capacity development will take place via a regular series of workshops but also through subsidised internships in the project and well-run foreign NGOs such as in Brazil, Guinea Bissau or in English speaking countries to promote essential language skills.

Component 2	
<p>There would be good progress on PA strengthening: rehabilitating PA infrastructure and tourism trails, training and fielding eco-guides, management presence in the NPs, setting up participatory governance and consultation platforms for the NPs, finalising the HCV studies for São Tomé, updating the management plans in 2020 and 2025, preparing an economic valuation of ecosystem services, tourism flow management, defining basic PA finance and business plans, collection of tourist park fees, and establishing a transect-based PA and biodiversity threat monitoring system. There would also be a National Forest Monitoring System prepared by DFB and others.</p>	<p>The project reinforces many of the baseline activities on enhancing biodiversity conservation and PA management effectiveness on the ground by adding resources and capacity, but also extends their lifetime to beyond the expected duration of the current principal baseline project, ECOFAC-6, which will close at the end of 2022; noting that activities of the project(s) in the BirdLife pipeline (investment mobilised) will build on the achievements of the coming 1-2 years and remaining gaps. The project will extend the HCV work on enhanced recognition and conservation of recently defined HCV forest areas, as a better focus for sustainable management outside the NP areas than buffer zones that are poorly defined and implemented; to further this goal, the project will work on introducing management models new for STP and their formalisation, regarding concessions and the involvement of the private sector and NGOs, co-management, community-based management that can be linked to sustainable agroforestry (e.g. for new NTFP value chains), etc.; the project proponents may eventually decide to integrate some of the HCV areas in the NP, but this isn't defined as an objective of the project at this stage.</p> <p>Emplacing a SMART Management Oriented Biodiversity Monitoring System to monitor status and threats to ecosystems and biodiversity is another complementary component supporting enhanced management.</p> <p>Another key additional result under this Component is the raising of awareness and technical capacity about biodiversity and PA management, across a variety of stakeholders in STP: technicians, decision-maker, politicians, parliamentarians, NGOs, communities etc. Technicians have requested advanced trainings (e.g. on remote sensing) rather than beginner or intermediate level content. The project will conduct a consensus building training needs assessment to orient these. This will also include an attempt to build a small new cohort of competent national conservationists by subsidising four undergraduate or diploma studies abroad.</p> <p>The work on PA/biodiversity financing will be significantly upgraded under the alternative scenario, following the conclusions of the PPG missions that questioned. The project will conduct a PA finance needs and gap assessment to inform future financial planning and fundraising, and then focus on the setup of an international independent Conservation Trust Fund for STP and a campaign to capitalise its endowment fund, as the currently most promising new option for raising sustainable income.</p> <p>Several of the workstreams/outputs under this component will be led by the Responsible Party BirdLife International given the ECOFAC funding baseline the existing technical capacity – but close engagement of government agencies is expected.</p>

Component 3	
<p>Although the DFB/FAO/GEF-6 project could be expected to cover some of what is proposed here, the interpretation on the ground leaves specific gaps that are being addressed by the here-proposed parallel GEF-6 project.</p> <p>The DFB/FAO/GEF-6 project clearly targets the one most important driver for forest degradation in STP: selective logging for timber (the vast majority of which is illegal); this project therefore focuses its interventions on the timber value chain, engaging loggers; it provides more efficient portable saws to reduce waste, and its work on replanting and livelihoods is focused on agroforestry and already-established NTFP; the National Platform for Forest Landscape Restoration would be created and a National Forest Landscape Plan prepared. There are however no plans to address the 2nd-most important driver, charcoal-making. Charcoal is a lead bioenergy source in urban households especially, and there would be no sufficiently relevant work on making this value chain more sustainable – except a small-scale proposal by Bo Energy to use wood shavings (from illegal logging operations!) to create charcoal briquettes, which appears misguided. Further baseline work would entail the ongoing issuing of extraction licenses and occasional field monitoring by DGB/RSESD technicians. There would be no training of sustainable charcoal, no demonstration of improved kilns, and no attempts to use more sustainably sourced plant materials to produce charcoal. There would also be no livelihood work for charcoal-makers and no combination with the legal enforcement (Comp 1) that is judged critical in shifting behaviours.</p>	<p>Under this Component, the project will introduce and establish new approaches, technologies and value chains to reduce rampant forest degradation and ecosystem loss by charcoal-making. It will achieve this by targeting the supply side – the unsustainable and often illegal sourcing of wood. This workstream is almost entirely incremental to a weak baseline on this topic.</p> <p>The project will introduce, demonstrate and provide training on improved charcoal kilns to enhance the efficiency of traditional charcoal making, which will be required during at least a transitional phase for social reasons. In addition, and more importantly for the medium and long term, the project will establish a new value chain on coconut-based charcoal, working together with STP's dominant coconut-product manufacturer/trader Valudo, who will enter a PPP with Government, receiving technical assistance and technology in return for providing and collecting the plant waste material, producing and selling the charcoal on the national market.</p> <p>This workstream will be accompanied by essential dedicated livelihood work for charcoal-maker households and communities in combination with environmental law enforcement (Comp 1) to initiate a transition period away from unsustainable practices.</p>
Component 4	
<p>While STP has a good gender strategy and also a dedicated National Institute for the Promotion of Gender Equity, there is little awareness amongst the government agencies relevant to this project and no structured approach to engaging and empowering women.</p> <p>The DFB/FAO/GEF-6 project itself will implement its gender strategy that focuses especially on livelihoods and NTFP. There would also be some implicit ad-hoc work on gender by international NGOs.</p> <p>There would be no structured sharing of international experience and lessons on the topics proposed by the project amongst relevant stakeholders, except for what BirdLife and related NGOs provide in terms of technical assistance on biodiversity and PA management.</p>	<p>The project will fully implement its gender strategy working with national counterparts, ensuring good participation by women in decision-making platforms, employment by project and government, trainings, and sustainable livelihood diversification.</p> <p>Besides the KM and M&E work internal to the project in terms of lessons sharing and result dissemination, the project will create a project website to communicate its results and establish a biodiversity clearing house mechanism for STP.</p>

13. Project co-financing changed considerably, as detailed in the following table, dropping from USD 11,757,908 to USD 6,204,000. This is due on the one hand to the reframing of the project away from i) the sustainable management of agricultural lands, which removed the large blocks of co-finance from the Ministry of Agriculture and IFAD mentioned in the PIF, and ii) work on marine environment which removed the co-finance from FFI/Blue Action Fund. Instead, new co-finance investment was mobilised via BirdLife International.

Co-financing Source	Co-financing in PIF (USD)	Co-financing in PRODOC / CEO Endorsement Request (USD)
Directorate of Environment/ MOPIRNA	516,000 in-kind	No change, 516,000 in-kind
Directorate of Forests (and Biodiversity) + Directorate of Natural Parks	396,000 in-kind + 306,000 in-kind	306,000 in-kind. Given that DFB already provided much of their available recurrent budget to the FAO/GEF forest landscape restoration project, it was considered more appropriate to consider only resources for the Natural Parks and charcoal licensing and monitoring interventions, to avoid double reporting of co-finance.
Regional Government of Príncipe	282,000 in-kind	No change, 282,000 in-kind
Birdlife International	2,488,821.59 grants	4,800,000 (4,750,000 grant, 250,000 in-kind)
Valudo	N/A	300,000 (225,000 grant, 75,000 in-kind)
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development	Grants 4,050,000	Dropped because the project will not anymore work on sustainable agriculture per se anymore, which was implicit in the PIF and the reason this co-finance was included, but this cannot be maintained anymore
UNDP	Grants 241,500	20,000 grant. The UNDP Country Office is not in the position to assign more resources anymore, and this co-finance is made available specifically for the purchase of critical transport means.
IFAD	Grants 1,000,000	N/A. There are no SLM/agriculture-related activities anymore in the project, and also IFAD will to use their incoming follow-up project (COMPRAN) as cofinance for a new project to be submitted under GEF-7.
Flora & Fauna International	Grants 2,332,586.42	N/A. This was mainly funding from Blue Action Fund for work on marine PAs and could therefore not be included anymore to what is now purely a terrestrial project, also under the expectation/hope that STP would seek a marine biodiversity project under GEF-7
Oikos	Grants 145,000	N/A. This PIF-stage co-finance was by accident included twice – also under the BirdLife International co-finance. This was now all pooled only under the BirdLife International co-financing above.
TOTAL	11,757,908	6,224,000

	GEF Resources in PIF (USD)	GEF Resources in PRODOC / CEO Endorsement Request (USD)
Component 1	1,000,000 BD	960,800 (BD 800,667, LD 160,133)
Component 2	1,259,580 BD	1,491,500 BD
Component 3	1,600,000 (BD 754,386, LD 845,614)	1,252,450 (BD 650,726, LD 601,724)
Component 4	200,000 (BD 175,000, LD 25,000)	354,830 (BD 257,958, LD 96,872)
PMC	202,979 (BD 159,448, LD 43,531)	202,979 (BD 147,564, LD 55,415)

Total	4,262,559	4,262,559
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6) global environmental benefits (GEFTF)

14. In line with the changes described above, there are also changes in the GEB expected from the project.

15. Firstly, the 11,199 ha of core marine biodiversity area of the Príncipe Biosphere Reserve to be declared MPA were removed from the project scope. Noting that the project was from the start conceived as a BD & LD MFA, the PPG concluded (after an exhaustive situation analysis and a priority threat and baseline assessment during the PPG that involved 6 weeks spent in country by the lead expert) that integration of the marine environment (marine biodiversity, marine protected areas) was an overreach. The project now focuses on terrestrial ecosystems to address priority threats. This was decided because the 2 existing terrestrial PAs continue to struggle in terms of basic management and financing, and the last years have seen renewed encroachment by agricultural developments and severe (illegal) selective logging. Expanding the PA system to include a marine component therefore appeared premature, in spite of all the need and interest to address this challenge too. Work on the legal framework under Output 1.1 can prepare the ground for future marine PA gazettelement and consider also the local specificities on Príncipe, yet the project does not intend to deliver actual MPA gazettelement and operationalisation as it would require a significantly different approach in technical, investment and outreach terms. The PPG concluded that a separate standalone follow-up project – under GEF-7, GEF-8 or via another donor – should take this on, yet focusing on marine biodiversity more widely, by mainstreaming of biodiversity into 1-2-3 key sectors (fisheries, oil & gas, sand mining) and the creation and operationalisation of marine PAs. The PPG also found a few emerging NGO-led projects on marine biodiversity that include work on community-based fisheries pilots and marine PA identification that can prepare the ground for such more important work in the future.

16. Secondly, the area of terrestrial protected areas under improved management were increased from 30,000 ha to 32,454 ha because of improved calculations.

17. Thirdly, the 17,767 ha of “buffer zone around protected areas” to which SLM would be applied under LD, was replaced by a different and more realistic formula. Firstly, because the “buffer zone around protected areas” is poorly defined and demarcated and needs to be revisited; and secondly, because not all of the “buffer zone” could realistically be subjected to SLM given the land use. The new calculation now is more realistic and precise, by aiming to achieve improved practices and avoided loss in the 12,414 ha of HCV forest areas that are a better reference for the areas outside the PAs in which sustainable management or conservation regimes should be applied.

18. Please refer to PRODOC Section 3.4 *Incremental Cost Analysis (Baseline vs Alternative Scenario) and Global Environmental Benefits* and the GEF Core Indicators in PRODOC Annex 6 and CEO-ER Annex F below.

7) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

Innovation

19. The design of this project is innovative in the STP context in several respects. Innovations in technology will be realized through activities such as the demonstration of improved charcoal kilns that are more efficient, and the introduction of charcoal briquettes made from coconut shells and fiber and thus reduce the reliance on wood.

20. Innovations in finance are reflected in activities such as the creation and campaign for capitalization of a Conservation Trust Fund for STP to diversify the funding available for the conservation of the country’s terrestrial and marine biodiversity and protected area management. The services of an experienced international expert with a proven track record in CTF creation and fundraising will be procured. While there is some risk associated with this, discussions with stakeholders in the PPG phase confirm that this is an acceptable risk to secure transformational change in STP’s capacities to secure PAs given limitations and uncertainties in terms of other alternatives (e.g., too limited potential from tourism, from

REDD+ carbon credit sales, or from oil & gas sector offset payments). There will be a need to follow up with additional support in the future should there be some initial success during the project in terms of endowment fund capitalisation.

21. Innovations in business models will be realized through the establishment of a PPP between Government and Valudo (the largest private company in STP involved in coconut-based products) to make the charcoal value chain more sustainable through a greater reliance on coconut-based inputs in the manufacture of charcoal briquettes. This new business model involving the government and a private sector company is expected to help realize a more sustainable charcoal value chain with the latter contributing through collection and transport of coconut and other plant waste material to the charcoal production facilities, including manpower, health, safety & security procedures; insurance and maintenance of equipment; production of plant-based charcoal briquettes especially from coconut shells and fiber (all costs of productions and storage); and the promotion, distribution/transport to sales point(s) and sale of more sustainable charcoal.

22. The project will also lead to innovations in policy specifically in policy frameworks related to land use planning and environmental law enforcement: environmental sustainability and biodiversity considerations will be integrated into STP's National Land Use and Management Plan that was recently completed, and an internationally benchmarked but nationally adapted national environmental law enforcement strategy and action plan will be implemented. An additional innovation will be the carrying out of a Human Rights Risk Assessment and implementation of a Human Rights Action Plan to ensure the respect of human rights in the implementation of the policy framework for environmental law enforcement.

23. The project also promotes institutional innovation insofar as it will work to streamline the existing institutional framework for biodiversity, forests, and land-use planning and management by creating suitable autonomous agencies/institutes for i) nature conservation and protected areas, and ii) environment and land management. In addition, the project will promote innovative institutional management/ partnership models in PAs and HCV areas such as concessions (tourism concessions, biodiversity-friendly farming concessions, etc.) and NGO co-management, as well as mixed government-NGO implementation arrangements for the project. It will strengthen PA institutions by emplacing a Management Oriented Biodiversity Monitoring System, based on a Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool, and this will help to provide institutions with a better basis for environmental M&E.

Sustainability

24. With c. 95% of the national budget coming from ODA, the government will continue to have only limited domestic resources available for its PA system and sustainable land/forest management, and related efforts will presumably continue to depend on external funding for another while. That said, the project will take important strides towards sustainability by focusing on the inter-related factors of building stakeholder trust and motivation, putting in place important measures that can help with sustaining capacity and financing after the project, and building resilience in outcomes, as noted in the GEF-STAP paper on durability. The design of the project has also been based on extensive stakeholder engagement (please see Annex 9 *Stakeholders consultations during project design* and Annex 10 *Stakeholder Engagement Plan*). This was done through several international missions of altogether nearly two months to the country (to both São Tomé and Príncipe islands), working directly with different government agencies, the UNDP country office, several national and international NGOs and private sector companies and further partners present in the country. Several consultation meetings and workshops were held with key government agencies and partners, and communities and rural stakeholders, to identify needs and priorities and align these through the project with GEF eligibility criteria. The same

participatory approach applied during project design will be carried forward during implementation. This includes a host of engagement strategies that are fully embedded in each of the project components.

25. Further, in addition to emphasizing stakeholder engagement, the project invests significantly in capacity building of stakeholders ranging from communities (e.g., those involved in the charcoal value chain, reforestation, PA work), government staff, technicians, private sector operators (Valudo), NGOs and CBOs. This includes activities such as demonstrations of more efficient charcoal kilns at the community level, as well as specialized workshops for capacity building and knowledge exchange arranged at the community level and national level covering environmental law enforcement, planning/ management of NGOs and CBOs, biodiversity/ PAs, sustainable forest management, sustainable agriculture, land use planning, sustainable charcoal value chains, etc. Together with the development and implementation of a knowledge management strategy, these efforts will help sustain capacity beyond the lifetime of the project.

26. In terms of sustaining financing for the actions initiated under the project, the project will establish a Conservation Trust Fund as a sustainable financing mechanism for biodiversity conservation and PA management; will establish a PPP to carry this work on coconut-based charcoal forward; and will provide low-value grants to communities to help them in establishing financially viable, sustainable, alternative livelihood ventures; will pilot new models for HCV forest areas that could introduce sustainability through concessions and co-management schemes.

27. To build resilience into project outcomes, and for increasing the opportunities for scaling up project successes, the project dedicates significant resources to monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management through a dedicated M&E, KM and Safeguards Officer, an M&E plan and a KM plan. The project team will ensure extraction and dissemination of lessons learned and good practices to (i) promote learning and adaptive management within the project, and (ii) facilitate upscaling or replication at local and global scales.

Upscaling

28. In terms of specific opportunities for scaling project actions, the partnership between the project and Valudo, the dominant coconut-product manufacturer/trader in STP, is a case in point. Through this PPP, the project will introduce and establish a coconut-charcoal (briquette) value chain. Valudo will provide co-finance but will also benefit from technical assistance on charcoal kiln technology and subsidies for the purchase of a semi-industrial kiln to launch production at scale. The project's experience with innovative institutional management/ partnership models in PAs and HCV areas such as concessions and NGO co-management also offer the potential for scaling. For supporting transfer of project successes and potential replication in other areas, results and case studies or stories from project activities that could facilitate the design and implementation of similar interventions will be codified and disseminated nationally and regionally through existing information sharing networks and forums. Equally, mutual exchange of information will be maintained between this project and other projects of a similar focus. The project has a vast amount of capacity development activities that will be a key avenue for sharing lessons and experience under the wider KM objectives (see KM Plan in PRODOC Annex 15).

A.2. Child Project?

If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

N/A

A.3. Stakeholders

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Please see the attached Stakeholder Engagement Plan, UNDP 5881 GEF-6 10007 SaoTomeP_PRODOC Annex 10 Stakeholder Engagement Plan.docx

Documents

Title	Submitted
PRODOC Annex 10 Stakeholder Engagement Plan	
UNDP 5881 GEF-6 10007 SaoTomeP_Annex 10 Stakeholder Engagement Plan	

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement.

1. Throughout the design of the project, extensive efforts were made to engage all relevant stakeholders. This was done through several international missions of altogether nearly two months to the country (to both Sao Tome and Principe islands), working directly with different government agencies, the UNDP country office, several national and international NGOs and private sector companies and further partners present in the country. Several consultation meetings and workshops were held with key government agencies and partners, and communities and rural stakeholders, to identify needs and priorities and align these through the project with GEF eligibility criteria. The most important baseline projects were engaged several times to ensure additionality.
2. The same participatory approach applied during project design will be carried forward during implementation. This includes a host of engagement strategies that are fully embedded in each of the project components. One of the objectives of this project is to improve cross-sector coordination and streamline existing structures to enhance efficiencies and informed management decision-making.
3. Please refer to PRODOC Section 3.8 *Stakeholder engagement and partnerships*, Annex 9 *Stakeholders consultations during project design* and Annex 10 *Stakeholder Engagement Plan*.

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier; Yes

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

N/A

A.4. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

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

The project will adopt a participatory approach for maximum impact through the inclusion of all relevant social groups, including marginalized people (e.g. unemployed youth), with attention to the participation and inclusion of women whilst respecting the norms, values and customs of targeted communities. A Gender Analysis and an ambitious Gender Action plan were prepared during the PPG. There are two gender indicators in the project results framework, one of which is a summary indicator rating the achievement of the 54 gender micro-indicators listed in the Gender Action Plan. The project will employ 2 gender-focused community organisers to ensure that especially the work with communities involves women effectively. In addition, the project will train all project staff on gender issues and ensure gender mainstreaming throughout the different workstreams wherever appropriate – in recruitment, the setup of consultation platforms, the streamlining of government agencies, engagement of decision-makers, training, empowerment, risk assessments, livelihood activities, etc. The project will endeavour to provide direct and indirect benefits to men and women in an equitable manner, wherever possible given the existing prevailing bias (e.g., there are fewer women in lead government roles). Please see PRODOC Annex 3 for the detailed S&E Screening.

2. Please refer to PRODOC Section 3.9 *Gender equality and empowering women* and the attached Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan, UNDP 5881 GEF-6 10007 SaoTomeP_PRODOC Annex 11 - Gender AP.docx

Documents

Title

Submitted

PRODOC Annex 11 - Gender AP

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

Yes

If yes, please upload document or equivalent here

Please see the attached Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan, UNDP 5881 GEF-6 10007 SaoTomeP_PRODOC Annex 11 - Gender AP.docx

If possible, 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; Yes

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

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

Yes

Please see the attached Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan, UNDP 5881 GEF-6 10007 SaoTomeP_PRODOC Annex 11 - Gender AP.docx

Please also see Component 4 in the Project Results Framework

A.5. Risks

Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being, achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.

1. Please refer to the Risk Log in CEO-ER Annex H (identical to PRODOC Annex 4), which details the social and environmental impacts the project may inadvertently cause, on the one hand, and the risks that could undermine a successful implementation of the project, on the other hand. Altogether 42 risks were identified in an exhaustive analysis, including three Critical Risks to project success, and mitigation measures were identified that have been mainstreamed across the project.

Annex H: UNDP Risk Log (same as PRODOC Annex 4)

*: Social / Environmental, Financial, Operational, Organizational, Political, Regulatory, Strategic, Other

#	Risk Description	Date Identified	Risk Category*	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mgmt. response	Risk Owner	Status
Social and Environmental Risks and Mitigation Measures							

#	Risk Description	Date Identified	Risk Category*	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mgmt. response	Risk Owner	Status
1	SES Risk A: The emplacement of systems for integrated environmental surveillance and enforcement (forests, agriculture, PAs, land use, coastal, etc.) could impinge on the livelihoods of rural communities, potentially restricting access to some resources; possibly resulting in economic displacement for specific user groups such as loggers and charcoal makers.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 3 P = 3	<p>The project includes a comprehensive set of measures allowing greater capacity and resources for effective law enforcement; while minimizing the associated risks for vulnerable populations, namely by (a) informing why law enforcement is critical and how it will be done, (b) capacitate and support alternative activities and compensation measures. This includes:</p> <p>(i) Preparation of an internationally benchmarked but nationally adapted national environmental law enforcement strategy and action plan, process that will be supported throughout the project by a Biodiversity and Law Enforcement Advisor;</p> <p>(ii) Strengthening of legal and regulatory framework on environmental protection, compensation measures and related enforcement;</p> <p>(iii) Human rights awareness raising and capacity building for the environmental guards recruited under the project, for politicians (government, MPs), for state officials and for target audiences;</p> <p>(iv) Consultation of all stakeholders (comprehensive Stakeholder Action Plan has been developed under the PPG and is included in the PRODOC Annexes); especially target groups that are potentially at risk (e.g., charcoal makers and loggers). An inclusive participatory platform will be proposed to facilitate the debate on law enforcement strategies.</p> <p>(v) Communication on sustainable forest management, biodiversity and protected areas. Several comprehensive national campaigns will be launched in 2020, following the development of the strategy on sustainable management, preservation and conservation of forests, biodiversity, PA and ecosystems (e.g., Information HUB proposed by GEF6-funded FAO-led TRI project). The project will capitalize on and support these initiatives, by endorsing environmental education programs and providing expertise on the issues addressed by the project (e.g., integrated environmental surveillance and enforcement);</p> <p>(vi) Direct involvement of communities and user groups in law enforcement, through the development of a community-based surveillance.</p> <p>The project will conduct risk assessments on Economic Displacement and Human Rights (to include the risk of Violent Conflict) - and develop a Livelihood Action Plan and a Human Rights Action Plan before the implementation stage, to avoid, mitigate and/or compensate for any impacts from these risks.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

#	Risk Description	Date Identified	Risk Category*	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mgmt. response	Risk Owner	Status
2	SES Risk B: While the project does not propose the gazettement of new formal protected areas, restrictions on natural resource access in newly identified HCV Forests could impinge on the livelihoods of nearby communities.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 3 P = 3	<p>HCV identification takes into account management issues such as access to and use of natural resources by local populations and groups of users within HCV. Evidence based ToRs will be defined for each of the HCVs, to ensure due protection of specific species and habitats; not limiting, or partially limiting destructive activities, towards a sustainable management model, in constant consultation with all stakeholders (i.e., Output 2.1 - Internationally benchmarked innovative management/partnership models in HCV areas (PPP, concessions, community-based, co-management, work with APCI))</p> <p>Most stakeholders recognize that the zoning of the country is anarchic and carried out by various state institutions without coordination. If the Government is currently working on a National Land Use and Management Plan (<i>Plano Nacional de Ordenamento do Território</i> - PNOT), there is no coherent approach yet to land-use. There is a need for greater coordination to allow spatial and land use planning compatible with current laws, sustainable development initiatives and conservation efforts; in particular for the Natural Parks, as described in the Law nº6/2006 and 7/2006, as well as their buffer zones, for the PNOT, etc. The HCV model used by the project will make it possible to coordinate the land use model by integrating biodiversity and habitat protection practices.</p> <p>As mentioned under Risk A, the project will also conduct risk assessments on Economic Displacement - and develop a Livelihood Action to address this risk before the start of the activities.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
3	SES Risk C: Support for the establishment of a structure to facilitate the spatial & land use plan could have an intrusive effect on local populations regarding access to land and resources.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 3 P = 2	<p>This action results from a direct recommendation of the execution cell of the PNOT under development because the government wishes to ensure the continuity of the actions carried out.</p> <p>The project will ensure that biodiversity and wider environmental considerations are embedded in land planning and land use initiative by recruiting an Environment Mainstreaming and Safeguards Officer.</p> <p>The ToRs of the EMS Officer include the responsibility to ensure that any social risks to local populations arising from land planning and land use interventions are avoided or mitigated for.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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4	SES Risk D: Mobilization of more sustainable charcoal kilns and charcoal sources could lead to significant competition for charcoal producers, marginalized groups, who are economically dependent on this activity.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 2 P = 4	<p>An obvious trend in Sao Tomé and Príncipe is the reduction of tree stocks for charcoal production. As population is growing, the demand is increasing, and charcoal is being produced more and more in-land due to lack of wooden resources thus increasing its costs (transport, effort). Most of the production is opportunistic (agricultural expansion and plot cleaning) and only a few producers are oriented towards this trade (evaluate a maximum of 500 individuals). There are no traditions of charcoal production, its primary use is for cooking. And charcoal buyers are mostly peri-urban and urban populations.</p> <p>To address the social risks, rural charcoal production will first be improved, giving producers an opportunity to adopt more sustainable production methods, through improved charcoal kilns in selected pilot sites and communities in Sao Tomé and Príncipe. Second, the project will introduce sustainable alternatives to charcoal makers. These measures include:</p> <p>(i) Involvement of communities and user groups (i.e., charcoal makers) in the establishment of law enforcement and monitoring, through development of a community-based surveillance.</p> <p>(ii) Screening and distribution of low-value grants for sustainable livelihoods and sustainable charcoal initiatives, to individuals and/or group of individuals (e.g. charcoal makers), including vulnerable groups (e.g. women) for sustainable kilns, briquettes, biogas, NTFP, apiculture, sustainable forestry;</p> <p>(iii) Involvement of charcoal makers in planting of fast-growing charcoal tree species;</p> <p>(iv) Direct employment through project and Public Private Partnership between Government and Valudo.</p> <p>By convening a National Sustainable Charcoal Platform, the project will give continuity to the in-depth consultations undertaken during the PPG, and optimize the consultation process, by giving the most at-risk population the opportunity to share their opinions and propose alternatives. The project field team permanently on the ground, will allow for a continuous capacitation and communication flow between community / users and decision makers / implementation parties. Coconut-based charcoal manuals will also be produced and disseminated to facilitate self-learning.</p> <p>As mentioned under Risk A, the project will before the start of activities conduct risk assessments on Economic Displacement and Human Rights (to include the risk of Violent Conflict) - and develop a Livelihood Action Plan and a Human Rights Action Plan to avoid, mitigate and/or compensate for any impacts from these risks.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

#	Risk Description	Date Identified	Risk Category*	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mgmt. response	Risk Owner	Status
5	SES Risk E: Industrial charcoal production could lead to competition involving prices decrease of charcoal on national market while maintaining the levels of charcoal production produced by tree felling, resulting in a decrease in producers' incomes and the economic non-viability of the proposed PPP. In the worst-case scenario, the implementation of more sustainable charcoal kilns could lead to increased pressure on native forests with, on one side, export of coconut and other plant waste material produced coal, and, on the other side, decrease in the income of small producers, which could increase their production to reach their usual economic profitability level.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 4 P = 2	<p>It is very unlikely that the approach, following the recommendations of the main stakeholders consulted during the PPG, will not lead to a significant reduction in charcoal production through indiscriminate logging. However, increased monitoring and evaluation work and ongoing consultation of stakeholders (platform) will minimize this risk. Alternative income-generating activities must be entirely oriented towards producers (see above).</p> <p>An economic viability study will be conducted pre-project, following the value chain study, to ensure the economic sustainability of the initiative by focusing on the inclusion of charcoal makers and environmental benefits at a landscape level. The project will also support a charcoal supply and value chain analysis to identify further options for reducing wood-based charcoal extraction drivers that will guarantee efficiency of intervention.</p> <p>As for the risks linked to the unprofitable nature of the PPP, it was confirmed during the PPG that (i) the government is particularly favorable to PPPs, that they are promoting and facilitating in the sectors of agriculture (e.g. medium-sized enterprises) and energy (e.g. small hydroelectric power plants). (ii) that the largest charcoal buyers are large retailers (e.g. Super CKDO, Coconut) and hotels (e.g. Pestana group, Club Santana, HBD), and that they are seeking for alternative to charcoal produced by indiscriminate tree felling, mainly image reasons, at regional, national and international level for hotels. The “clean” coal proposed under the PPP has thus great demand potential.</p> <p>Implementation of this specific PPP, pilot for the country, will be based on the in-depth review and streamline legal and regulatory framework for exploitation of charcoal, licensing regulations, taxation, production and trade [complementing emerging work by DFB-FAO], proposed in output 1.1. This package will strengthen that no export of coal is allowed; therefore, obligating Valudo to stick to the national market. Valudo sees coconut clean coal as a non-profit product; this approach offers them an opportunity to value waste, create green jobs (a must for certification processes; e.g., fair-trade, ecocert).</p> <p>The transparent management of the PPP, regularly monitored by the above-mentioned platform, will additionally ensure the economic, environmental and social sustainability of the proposed PPP.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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6	SES Risk F: Project could exclude potentially affected stakeholders, in particular charcoal makers and communities, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 3 P = 2	<p>STP political-investment into participatory planning for natural resource is growing, due to an increasing recognition of its unique natural patrimony as a source of income. With the resulting extensive donor support that the country is receiving (see baseline investment), it is anticipated that the risk will be addressed – also with support from this proposed project, which aims to ensure that policy and corresponding capacities, enforcement and communication mechanisms are adequately strengthened.</p> <p>Mechanisms will be put in place to secure integration of all stakeholders into the decision-making process while offering study-based information to guide the discussions. The project will have a strong focus on enhancing capacity of targeted stakeholders to ensure that they have the required knowledge and skills to actively participate in project interventions, incorporate lessons learned, and uptake good practices.</p> <p>The set-up of the project involved various stakeholders including the Government - mainly through the Ministry of Public Work, Infrastructures, Natural Resources and Environment (General Directorate for Environment) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development (Directorate for Forest and Biodiversity) - an international conservation NGO (BirdLife International), whose intrinsic objective is strengthening greater participation of civil society in sustainable environmental management, and the development focused United Nations Development Programme agency, will guarantee the legitimacy of the decision-making processes with adequate integration of local communities consultation.</p> <p>BirdLife International, leading a consortium of NGOs, will bring its expertise with community participation gained through its current positive experience working with a network of community promoters and focal groups in relevant communities in the framework of the EU-funded ECOFAC VI project.</p> <p>A comprehensive Stakeholder Action Plan has been developed under the PPG and is included in the PRODOC Annexes.</p> <p>As mentioned under Risk A, an Economic Displacement Risk Assessment and a Human Rights Risk Assessment will be undertaken prior to the launch of project activities, that will produce a Livelihood Action Plan and Human Rights Action Plan, respectively, for the project, and will also define an appropriate project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism, if required.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

#	Risk Description	Date Identified	Risk Category*	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mgmt. response	Risk Owner	Status
7	SES Risk G: The Project could potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats, ecosystems, ecosystem services, environmentally sensitive areas, legally protected areas, areas proposed for protection, to critical habitats, including legally protected areas (Sao Tomé Obô Natural Park – PNOT and Príncipe Natural Park – PNP), as well as areas proposed for protection. The project could potentially pose risks to endangered species and promote the distribution of already-introduced taxa through activities related to land-use planning, planting, or harvesting of Natural Resources.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 2 P = 5	<p>The project is specifically designed to have a positive impact on biodiversity conservation and land management in critical habitats, improved management of existing PAs & HCVs. All activities will be designed and implemented in the most risk-averse way possible, integrating biodiversity in all decision-making.</p> <p>The project will streamline the institutional framework and create a suitable autonomous agency for environment and land management (Output 1.1). The project will further integrate environmental sustainability and biodiversity considerations in the recently concluded PNOT (Output 1.2). Considering that the PNOT does not yet take into account environmental aspects, the project by its only existence will have a positive impact.</p> <p>The project will, among others:</p> <p>(i) Provide with resources, technical assistance and NGO engagement, involving key agencies (e.g., APCI - <i>Agencia de Promoção do Comercio & Investimento</i> whose role is to guide investment) and the Protected Areas responsible agencies.</p> <p>(ii) Support, through a multi-sectoral approach, integration of environmental sustainability and biodiversity considerations, land-use planning, land allocation, land management and investment decisions, ensuring these are aligned with the National Land Use and Management Plan; specifically including the APCI, attending and supporting investors, and guiding them to line up investment with national expectations. The support will be all the more important in terms of further advancement, management and expansion of internationally benchmarked innovative management/partnership models in PAs and HCV areas (PPP, concessions, community-based, co-management),</p> <p>This will be facilitated especially by the Environment Mainstreaming and Safeguards Officer hired by the project, who will have a key role in preventing/managing harmful impacts from larger-scale changes such as infrastructure developments or agricultural rezoning.</p> <p>Biodiversity mainstreaming and adaptive integration will also be promoted through:</p> <p>(iii) Development of a Management Oriented System and further implementation of the annual transects surveys will secure regular monitoring, improvement of knowledge and adaptability of actions;</p> <p>(iv) Supporting long-term sustainability of evidence-based environment considerations nationally through capacity building - on biodiversity, zoology/botany, ecosystem services, conservation and Protected Areas management – and integration of scientific knowledge in policy making</p> <p>Reviews of the Parks management plan fall into BirdLife International co-finance to the action; this will include scientific evidence-based zoning, to ensure appropriate and realistic management of protected areas, in line with existing management plans</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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8	SES Risk H: The expected outcomes of the project could be sensitive to potential impacts of climate change.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 3 P = 4	<p>The project will work to address anticipated impacts of climate change by increasing resilience of the target landscape, through improving management of protected areas and ecosystem functioning and secure a sustainable flow of ecosystem services. By protecting coastal PAs and mangrove forests, through sustainable livelihoods, the project will directly contribute to enhancing socio-ecological resilience to the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>In any SFM/SLM activities, climate adapted species (native) should be incorporated in the project (see Risk G).</p> <p>The project will support mobilization of more sustainable charcoal kilns through production of plant-based charcoal briquettes especially from coconut shells and fibers. Coconuts are well known for their nutrition qualities and the trees are resistant to climate change, limit coastal erosion, and act as a carbon sink. The project will indirectly incentivize the development of coconut crops and ageing coconut groves in the archipelago; which have an important role in the socio-environmental balance of the islands. Even if the interest in terms of biodiversity is low, there is no risk of extension of the actual land coverage by coconuts but rather an opportunity for renewing the existing plantations, favoring their mixture with attractive plants for local biodiversity, thus developing a value chain and jobs, while mitigating climate change.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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9	SES Risk I: The project could indirectly increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 4 P = 2	<p>In the process of biodiversity mainstreaming (see Risk C), the project will consider all relevant aspects of climate change and will advocate for integrative and adapted interpretation of the National Land Use and Management Plan; especially while planning on SLM and SFM interventions.</p> <p>Many initiatives have been and are still addressing the issue of climate change in Sao Tomé and Príncipe and strong linkages will be established with past, ongoing and future efforts to improve climate information and resilience, including the GEF5-funded, UNDP-supported project ‘Enhancing Capacities of Rural Communities to Pursue Climate Resilient Livelihood Options in the Sao Tomé and Príncipe Districts of Caué, Me-Zochi, Príncipe, Lemba, Cantagalo, and Lobata (CMPLCL)’; the GEF5-funded, UNDP-supported project ‘Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in São Tomé and Príncipe for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change’ and; the EU-funded ‘Reducing climatic vulnerability in STP’.</p> <p>Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change Action Plans have been or are being developed nationally and at district level, through the institutionalized National Committee on Climate Change (http://cnmc.gov.st/). These documents, freely available and of public use, are/will offer specific guidance that will be implemented while interpreting the National Land Use and Management Plan.</p> <p>The TORs of the Environment Mainstreaming and Safeguards Officer include the requirement to ensure climate-proof interventions, and to not inadvertently increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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10	SES Risk J: The project could affect land tenure arrangements	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 2 P = 3	<p>While this risk is judged moderate and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan, as mentioned under Risk C and G, has been prepared (PRODOC Annexes) it is potentially serious therefore special assessments, as mentioned under Risk A, will be undertaken before the start of activities and regularly updated during project implementation as follows:</p> <p>(i) Conduct a Human Rights Risk Assessment and prepare a Human Rights Action Plan and oversee adequate implementation of the Human Rights Action Plan by project staff and stakeholders;</p> <p>(ii) Conduct an Economic Displacement Risk Assessment and prepare a Livelihood Action Plan (if not yet completed by project start) and oversee adequate implementation of the Livelihood Action Plan by project staff and stakeholders.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
11	SES Risk K: The project could potentially exacerbate conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 3 P = 2	<p>In line with the proposed management measures for risks A, C, G and J, the project will, before the start of activities, conduct risk assessments on Economic Displacement and Human Rights (to include the risk of Violent Conflict) - and develop a Livelihood Action Plan and a Human Rights Action Plan to avoid, mitigate and/or compensate for any impacts from these risks. Awareness raising and capacity building activities on human rights will be provided to the environmental guards recruited under the project and will facilitate implementation of above-mentioned plans, with the support of ongoing technical assistance.</p> <p>The project will attempt to mitigate this risk to the best extent possible by increasing awareness about Pas/HCVs boundaries, while simultaneously reducing the need for illegally sourced resources thus minimizing risks for vulnerable populations (see Risks A, B, D and F).</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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12	SES Risk L: The project could affect women, generally playing important roles at the end of the charcoal value chain, for sales of the final product.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 2 P = 3	<p>At the project development phase, a gender analysis was carried out and a comprehensive gender action plan has been developed under the PPG, included in the PRODOC Annexes.</p> <p>The project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will include gender-specific indicators to assess concrete progress on transversal gender inclusion and mainstreaming. E.g., gender equitability criteria will be paramount in the selection of the low-value grants for sustainable livelihoods and sustainable charcoal initiatives and aim to involve at least 50% of female beneficiaries. The risk assessment on Economic Displacement will consider gender equality, roles and how the project would affect these; the action plans, will then promote cross-cutting gender equal opportunities.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
13	SES Risk M: The emplacement of environmental guards recruited under the project; pose a potential risk to safety of communities and/or individuals (including the guards themselves).	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 3 P = 2	<p>A Human Rights Risk Assessment will be conducted and lead to a Human Rights Action Plan (including risks of violence).</p> <p>This will be associated to the direct activities support and supervision by an highly experienced International Expert in Environmental Law Enforcement:</p> <p>(i) development of internationally benchmarked but nationally adapted national environmental law enforcement strategy and action plan;</p> <p>(ii) Advanced training of the guards, capacity development efforts for environmental law surveillance and enforcement.</p> <p>A family/health benefit/pension plan will be developed to secure environmental guards' family's income (in case of illness, injury or death of a guard in the performance of his duties).</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
14	SES Risk N: The project could potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment following potential application of pesticides on trees during forest restauration.	PPG Nov 2019	Social / Environmental	I = 3 P = 1	Nursery technicians will be trained accordingly by NPC, RP and CTA.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

#	Risk Description	Date Identified	Risk Category*	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mgmt. response	Risk Owner	Status
Risks to Project Success and Mitigation Measures							
15	Slow decision-making processes, constraints in institutional capacity and weak national staff (NPC/PM and others, and counterpart technicians) impede timely delivery of project activities and procurement of goods and services, and undermine the achievement of the stipulated outcomes	PPG Nov 2019	Operational	I = 4 P = 3 CRITICAL	<p>These are common risk in many projects, where mere oversight by UNDP CO may not be enough. The need to build professional individual and institutional capacities is widely acknowledged by the Government.</p> <p>The PPG confirmed that processes in STP can be lengthy and complex. Although not critical, delays may compromise the quality of Project outputs and affect the integrity of the Project as a whole.</p> <p>Several mitigation strategies are incorporated into the Project design: i) implementation support provided by UNDP in terms of procurement and payment; ii) route c. 30% of the budget through the RP-NGO BirdLife International, which is less exposed to such risks; iii) dedicated attention on capacity development across different target groups; iv) recruitment of a CTA and other international experts for the project to deliver and train.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
16	Weak international staff found or appointed (CTA, other international TA)	PPG Nov 2019	Operational	I = 4 P = 2	UNDP will appoint the CTA ad most of the TA, with involvement of the RTA. These will be replaced if performance is not satisfactory.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
17	Inter-agency coordination proves challenging and DGA does not appropriately delegate or facilitate activities / responsibilities to DFB and to RSED on Principe (which has often been neglected in past national projects)	PPG Nov 2019	Operational	I = 3 P = 3	Steering committees and platforms will be facilitated and receive training as required on governance and conflict resolution. Project activities are designed to encourage cooperation. The PRODOC specifies the respective responsibilities to be shared between govt agencies. In addition, on Principe only the RSED has a proper mandate, so DGA or DFB alone cannot act there, what will matter is that the designated resources are assigned to Principe. All this will be facilitated because UNDP will oversee much of the procurement and payments to be made by and for the project, which will allow the expected appropriate resourcing across govt agencies.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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18	DGA does not appropriately delegate or facilitate activities / responsibilities to BirdLife International (and by extension other NGOs in STP)	PPG Nov 2019	Operational	I = 3 P = 2	BLI – who is also a major co-financier to the project – has been designated a Responsible Party by UNDP so that the resources stipulated in the PRODOC/TBWP (c. 30%) will go directly to them.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
19	Government (DGA DFB RSED) and NGOs (BLI, Fundacao Príncipe) teams do not work well together and latent low-level conflict between Government and NGOs becomes more prominent, due to inadequate coordination, unmet expectations, jealousy, territoriality, etc.	PPG Nov 2019	Operational	I = 3 P = 3	At least on São Tomé the Government and NGO teams will be co-located in the same office space, to facilitate good coordination, exchanges and capacity development (technical and managerial), on the job learning. On Príncipe the same will be attempted, yet the island capital is sufficiently small to allow coordination also without as long as the issues receives due attention. A key aspect will be the management of expectations, which must be discussed from the start with inputs from UNDP.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
20	RP BirdLife International pulls out of the country, leaving 30% of GEF resources and a major part of the co-financing unimplemented.	PPG Nov 2019	Organizational	I = 3 P = 1	Very low risk. If this should happen the NGO-part of the project could be routes via one of the other sufficiently able NGOs in STP such as Oikos.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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21	Expectations by national project staff and government technicians that per diems be paid for activities or field trips, including for joint sorties with the project (Govt-led or NGO-led); consequent risk that activity levels (especially in the field) remain low if these expectations are not met.	PPG Nov 2019	Operational	I = 3 P = 4	Upfront discussions between IP and relevant government agencies, RP-NGO and UNDP to come to an agreement on the modality, which must meet UNDP-GEF rules and regulations.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
22	Insufficient political will and capacity to improve biodiversity conservation and sustainable land and forest management.	PIF June 2018	Political	I = 3 P = 3	With the growing recognition of the high and unique biodiversity values of São Tomé and the resulting extensive donor support that the country is receiving, it is anticipated that these risks will be addressed – also with support from this proposed project, which aims to ensure that policy and corresponding capacities, enforcement and communication mechanisms are adequately strengthened. The project will have a strong focus on enhancing capacity of targeted stakeholders to ensure that they have the required knowledge (including understanding of the economic benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services) and skills to actively participate in project interventions, incorporate lessons learned, and uptake good practices.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
23	Lack of support by senior government staff and technicians for a revision of legal and institutional frameworks for biodiversity/PAs, environment and land use planning/PNOT	PPG Nov 2019	Political	I = 3 P = 3	Ministers and other senior staff in both MOPIRNA and MAPDR expressed interest in some form of restructuring and the creation of new more autonomous agencies. The process will be fully consultative to integrate the view of technicians, but also accompanied by international technical assistance to explain the shortcomings/gaps and potential improvements. Ministers will be involved where appropriate to ensure that idiosyncratic petty concerns do not impede an improvement of public services.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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24	Lack of support by senior government staff and technicians to set up an environmental law enforcement platform and system	PPG Nov 2019	Political	I = 3 P = 3	There is a general agreement at least in MOPRINA and MAPRD about the need to create an environmental law enforcement system. There are however different views on how this should be best achieved, under what lead agency, and what should happen to existing systems (especially the forest guards) that some consider effective and others do not. The process will be fully consultative to integrate the view of technicians, but also accompanied by international technical assistance to explain the shortcomings/gaps and potential improvements. Ministers will be involved where appropriate to ensure that there are no second-grade obstacles to an improvement of public services.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
25	Too limited international benchmarking in the revision of the legal and institutional framework, in the design and emplacement of the environmental law enforcement scheme	PPG Nov 2019	Operational	I = 3 P = 3	The project will hire international TAs on environmental law and environmental law enforcement.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
26	Land use planning and management (PNOT) team collapses after the end of the current project funding (after mid 2020) such that there will be no land use planning and management platform and hence no mainstreaming opportunities	PPG Nov 2019	Organizational	I = 3 P = 3	There are two possible answers to this. Firstly, to finance a basic team to continue this work under the project by reassigning budgets; and secondly, by integrating cross-sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity and environmental matters into another section of MOPIRINA or MAPDR.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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27	Land use planning and management (PNOT) platform once maintained by govt is not open to mainstreaming environment and biodiversity	PPG Nov 2019	Political	I = 3 P = 2	There was general agreement amongst key stakeholders (MOPRINA, DGA, DFB, RSESD, NGOs) that this was a necessity. The fact that the PNOT will likely remain under MOPIRINA and DGA (reformed or not) will ensure that envt concerns are reflected in PNOT-relevant sector monitoring once the project makes the necessary resources available.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
28	Training / capacity development fatigue amongst beneficiaries (government technicians, communities, NGOs, etc.	PPG Nov 2019	Operational	I = 2 P = 4	Group trainings that in the PRODOC are presented in a fragmented way (so it responds better to the logical framework). For instance, integrate gender training in one of the other training blocks.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
29	Training / capacity development levels not appropriate – too generic, as was commented by govt technicians	PPG Nov 2019	Operational	I = 2 P = 3	Conduct an appraisal of the capacity needs and priorities at project start, to determine the topics and training levels to be covered including for advanced aspects	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
30	Regarding the forest assessment under Output 2.1, LIDAR data cannot be made available, cannot be analysed, or does not have the required data	PPG Nov 2019	Other	I = 1 P = 3	This is not a critical deliverable for the project, but a satellite benefit for DFB and any subsequent work on forest management and REDD+. If LIDAR data does not offer a suitable simplification to create a simplified forest inventory/status and stock assessment, then this will be postponed.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
31	Critical community resistance to the emplacement of environmental law enforcement	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	I = 3 P = 4	This is both a social safeguards risk but also a risk to project success. For mitigation/ management measures please see SES Risk A / SES Risk M above.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

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32	Work on Biodiversity and PA financing does not yield any success, no new financing is generated	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	I = 3 P = 3	Without this project, it is unlikely that any relevant new funding for biodiversity can be mobilised over the coming 4 years, apart from limited income that could be generated from tourists. In that sense, the setup of a conservation trust fund is a risk, a gamble, but one worth taking, and in any case it will need to be followed up by further continuing support in the future should there be some initial success during the project in terms of endowment fund capitalisation. To reduce the risk of failure, an experienced international expert with a proven track record in CTF creation and fundraising will be procured. There are a few alternative or complementary routes that could be taken in the future in case of failure: revenue from REDD+ carbon credit sales and offset payments from the oil & gas revenue that is expected to start flowing in a few years; both may be realised in the medium term but cannot yet be counted on for the present project.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
33	No suitable lands can be found for reforestation / charcoal tree planting	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	I = 3 P = 3	This issue was discussed during the PPG. There was agreement that the risk is low and that lands could be found, including already over-exploited degraded public lands, and that govt can also plant on agricultural plots / lands that are currently under lease (noting that these still are still public lands and not actual private property). In response to concrete challenges of this type, the project could move to other communities.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
34	Weak support if not opposition from politicians and charcoal traders that potentially stand to lose revenues, could block better charcoal regulation and the introduction of more sustainable charcoal	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	I = 4 P = 3 CRITICAL	As in most countries in Africa, the charcoal sector in STP is largely informal and existing regulation is ineffective and poorly enforced, even if the situation on Príncipe is far better. As with other constituent-based risks, the first line of mitigation is inclusion. Identified private-sector stakeholders will be included when possible and appropriate (at different levels) to lessen such risks and identify opportunities for growth. In addition, there is a growing awareness of the need to better regulate and enforce the sector given the gradual disappearance of resources, and once a viable alternative is found the public and government can be expected to switch – especially if livelihood solutions for charcoal-makers can be found.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

#	Risk Description	Date Identified	Risk Category*	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mgmt. response	Risk Owner	Status
35	Traditional charcoal makers could reject improved charcoal kiln technology for technical, socio-economic, or other reasons	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	I = 3 P = 4	Acceptance of sustainable charcoal technology is proposed as a key goal of project component 3. Experiences in other countries indicate this to be a great challenge, as rural users would need to see real benefits. Hence, user acceptance is critical for Step 2 (production) in the charcoal value chain. In order to mitigate this risk, the project will invest substantial resources in proposing different charcoal production pilots in a participatory manner. Extensive TA, training activities and interaction with the stakeholders are foreseen to best match user needs and expectations. This will be accompanied with livelihood engagement including low value grants and an increase in environmental law enforcement.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
36	The proposed improved charcoal kilns could not perform as expected due to technical or operational factors.	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	I = 3 P = 2	<p>Improper construction and operation of charcoal kilns translates into low conversion efficiency and higher emissions than expected. Given the rudimentary baseline technology, the introduction of more advanced charcoal kilns is very challenging for the local producers. In order to mitigate the risk of non-performance, a path of small steps (incremental improvements) will be followed. The project will aim at successfully implementing basic improved kilns first (Casamance type or equivalent). Although simple, these may reduce wood consumption by a considerable factor.</p> <p>Intensive technical assistance will be deployed to ensure that people fully understand, accept and adopt the chosen improved technologies. Lesson drawn from earlier experiences in other African countries and projects will be considered. By setting forward a modest level of ambition, and intensive support, this risk is deemed low/moderate.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
37	Incentives and livelihood alternatives for local stakeholders are insufficient to trigger behavioural change and practices away from harmful charcoal making practices, and law enforcement triggers negative reactions	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	I = 4 P = 4 CRITICAL	This is both a social safeguards risk but also a risk to project success. For mitigation/ management measures please see SES Risk D / SES Risk E above.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

#	Risk Description	Date Identified	Risk Category*	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mgmt. response	Risk Owner	Status
38	Coconut-based charcoal value chain is not deemed attractive or viable enough for the private company (Valudo) expected to sign the PPP, leaving one sources of sustainable charcoal undeveloped	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	I = 3 P = 3	Alternative models to collect the primary materials (coconut plant waste) and transport it to the centralised kilns for carbonisation and subsequent sale could be promoted involving community stakeholders or a newly setup up cooperative.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
39	The implementation of more sustainable charcoal kilns could lead to increased pressure on native forests	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	P = 2 I = 4	This is both a social safeguards risk but also a risk to project success. For mitigation/ management measures please see SES Risk E above.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
40	Inadequate mapping of actors and mechanisms would affect empowerment of women.	PPG Nov 2019	Strategic	P = 2 I = 2	<p>Although this risk is not critical for achieving GEB, there is a significant likelihood that economic and social benefits would become unevenly distributed and specifically, would not reach the most vulnerable stakeholders, especially rural women. Existing structures tend to benefit men more than women. These structures are systemic and hard to address.</p> <p>As a countermeasure, the Project will make a continuous effort to identify gender-sensitive issues during its full throughput time; it will review proposed activities and pilots to ensure a gender-neutral or gender-positive approach. As part of annual project monitoring, performance on gender-specific criteria will be assess and recommendations for corrective action will be made, as and if appropriate.</p>	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	
41	Climate change and related impacts may undermine the achievement of the project, especially for the long term	PIF June 2018	Strategic	P = 3 I = 1	While climate change is already affecting STP in terms of changing weather/ rainfall patterns, the project will work to address anticipated impacts of climate change by increasing resilience of the target landscape, through improving management of protected areas and ecosystem functioning. Through this, the project will emplace the best possible solution for natural ecosystems to face climate change through the maintenance of ecosystem resilience.	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

#	Risk Description	Date Identified	Risk Category*	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mgmt. response	Risk Owner	Status
42	A HACT Micro-Assessment of DGA in 2019 gave a Significant risk rating, determined weaknesses especially in the areas of i) organizational structure and staffing numbers (High), programme management (Significant), accounting policies and procedures (Significant) and financial reports and oversight (High); and noted that DGA does not have an financial accounting software or adequate internal control framework.	PPG Dec 2019	Operational	P = 2 I = 2	A budget is foreseen by the project to emplace financial software at DGA and ICF, and help build capacity on other of the matters highlighted by the HACT	NPD, NPC, RP, CTA, UNDP CO	

A.6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

Describe the Institutional arrangementfor project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

Please refer to PRODOC Section VI [Governance and Management Arrangements](#)

Roles and responsibilities of the project's governance mechanism

Implementing Partner

1. The Implementing Partner **(per GEF terminology: Executing Partner)** for this project is Ministry of Infrastructure, Public Works, Natural Resources and Environment / General Directorate for Environment (DGA). The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.
2. The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:
 - Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems.
 - Risk management as outlined in this Project Document;
 - Procurement of goods and services, including human resources;
 - Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets;
 - Approving and signing the multiyear workplan;
 - Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and,
 - Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

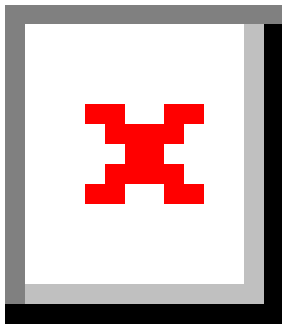
UNDP:

3. UNDP is **the GEF Implementing Agency and therefore** accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes oversight of project execution to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with agreed standards and provisions. UNDP is responsible for delivering GEF project cycle management services comprising project approval and start-up, project supervision and oversight, and project completion and evaluation. UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance role of the Project Board/Steering Committee.

Figure 16: Project Organisation Structure



Figure 16: Project Organisation Structure



Project Board

4. The Project Board (also called Project Steering Committee) is responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. In case consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the UNDP Resident Representative (or their designate) will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, will take the final decision to ensure project implementation is not unduly delayed.
5. Specific responsibilities of the Project Board include:
 - Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints;
 - Address project issues as raised by the project manager;

- Provide guidance on new project risks, and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks;
- Agree on project manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters set by UNDP-GEF, and provide direction and advice for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded;
- Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP-GEF;
- Ensure coordination between various donor and government-funded projects and programmes;
- Ensure coordination with various government agencies and their participation in project activities;
- Track and monitor co-financing for this project;
- Review the project progress, assess performance, and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year;
- Appraise the annual project implementation report, including the quality assessment rating report;
- Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project;
- Review combined delivery reports prior to certification by the implementing partner;
- Provide direction and recommendations to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans;
- Address project-level grievances;
- Approve the project Inception Report, Mid-term Review and Terminal Evaluation reports and corresponding management responses;
- Review the final project report package during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

6. The composition of the Project Board must include the following roles:

- *Project Executive*: Is an individual who represents ownership of the project and chairs the Project Board. The Executive is normally the national counterpart for nationally implemented projects. The Project Executive is: Minister of Infrastructure, Public Works, Natural Resources and Environment (Osvaldo Abreu).
- *Beneficiary Representatives*: Individuals or groups representing the interests of those who will ultimately benefit from the project. Their primary function within the board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. Often civil society representative(s) can fulfil this role. The Beneficiary representatives are: Director General for Environment MOPIRNA (Lourenço Monteiro de Jesus); Secretary for Environment and Sustainable Development of Regional Government of Príncipe (Ana Alice de Pina); Director for Forests and Biodiversity MAPDR (João José D'Alva); Head of Project Office BirdLife International São Tomé & Príncipe (Jean-Baptiste Deffontaines).

- *Development Partner(s)*: Individuals or groups representing the interests of the parties concerned that provide funding and/or technical expertise to the project. The Development Partner(s) is/are: National Project Coordinator, GEF-6 DFB/FAO/TRI Forest Landscape Restoration Project (Faustino Oliveira).
- *Project Assurance*: UNDP performs the quality assurance role and supports the Project Board and Project Management Unit by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed. The Project Board cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the Project Manager. UNDP provides a three – tier oversight services involving the UNDP Country Offices and UNDP at regional and headquarters levels. Project assurance is totally independent of the Project Management function.

Responsible Parties

7. The project will have one Responsible Party **(per GEF terminology: Technical Executing Partner)** designated by UNDP following a request by the Government/IP:

Table 11: Responsible parties, engagement modalities, roles and responsibilities

Name of RP	Engagement Modality	Role and Responsibility
BirdLife International - São Tomé Office	Responsible Party Agreement with UNDP (see Annex 19)	BirdLife International, as the executing agency for the STP component of the regional EU-funded ECOFAC project, is a major co-financier and executing agency also of the present project – in charge of delivery of several Output packages (1.5, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4 and 3.4), providing additional technical assistance to government, and liaising with other conservation and community NGOs in STP. BirdLife will be directly responsible for the work on the island of São Tomé, but will deliver the work packages under its auspices on the island of Príncipe through the locally established NGO Fundacao Príncipe (in coordination with the Regional Secretariat for Environment & SD).

8. Two government agencies will take additional lead roles in the execution of the project, upon delegation by the primary national implementing partner/executing agency DGA:
- *Directorate of Forests and Biodiversity, MAPDR*. DFB will be responsible for co-delivering several Output packages related to the charcoal/forest management interface (2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.5), and ensure that the project's activities are well coordinated with its own activities including especially those of the GEF-6 DFB/FAO/TRI Forest Landscape Restoration Project that it leads on. The national implementing partner DGA will decide if it wishes to formally designate DFB a Responsible Party under its own rules.
 - *Secretariat for Environment & Sustainable Development, Regional Government of Príncipe*. The RSESD will be responsible for co-delivering the Government/IP-led work packages (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.5, 4.1, 4.2) on the island of Príncipe. It will do so working through its technical services, in close mutual coordination also with Fundação Príncipe. The national implementing partner DGA will decide if it wishes to formally designate RSESD a Responsible Party under its own rules.

9. UNDP Partnership Capacity Assessment Tools as well as HACT[1]¹ Micro-Assessments under the were conducted to assess and determine the respective implementation capacities. The risk ratings were as follows:

Table 12: HACT and PACT capacity assessment ratings of Responsible Party Birdlife International, and of DFB and RSESD

	HACT Micro Assessment Risk	UNDP PCAT Risk
BirdLife International - São Tomé Office	Moderate	Low
Directorate of Forests and Biodiversity, MAPDR	Significant	Moderate
Secretariat for Environment & Sustainable Development, Regional Government of Príncipe	Significant	Low

Project stakeholders and target groups

10. Please refer to Section 3.8 *Stakeholder engagement and partnerships*, Annex 9 *Stakeholders consultations during project design* and Annex 10 *Stakeholder Engagement Plan*.

Project Manager

11. The Project Manager has the authority to run the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Implementing Partner within the constraints laid down by the Project Board. The Implementing Partner appoints the Project Manager, who must be different from the Implementing Partner’s representative in the Project Board.

12. The Project Manager’s primary responsibility is to ensure that the project produces the results specified in the project document, to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost. The Project Manager will inform the Project Board and the Project Assurance roles of any delays or difficulties as they arise during implementation so that appropriate support and corrective measures can be adopted. The Project Manager will remain on contract until the Terminal Evaluation report and the corresponding management response have been finalized and the required tasks for operational closure and transfer of assets are fully completed.

13. The overall and specific responsibilities of the PM are detailed in Annex 13 *Terms of References*.

6. (continued) Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

he here-proposed DGA/UNDP project was deliberately designed to be complementary to the DFB/FAO/GEF-6 project “Landscape Restoration for Ecosystem Functionality and Climate Change Mitigation in the Republic of Sao Tome e Principe” (GEF ID 9517, 2019-2023). The project is expected to work closely with that project in several ways. Firstly, under the national implementing partner DGA, DFB and the RSESD on Principe will be secondary national executing agencies for the present DGA/UNDP/GEF-6 project in charge

of the government-implemented work on PAs and forests; given the limited numbers of DFB & RSED staffing, this will therefore involve the same staff involved also in the FAO/GEF project. Secondly, the National Project Coordinator of the DFB/FAO/GEF-6 project, will participate on the present Steering Committee of the DGA/UNDP/GEF-6 project (see PRODOC Section VI *Governance and Management Arrangements*). Thirdly, the NPC of the DGA/UNDP/GEF-6 project is expected to engage and join the National Platform for Landscape and Forest Restoration created by the DFB/FAO/GEF-6 project, because of the immediate relevance of the project's forest-related work: to coordinate and streamline, exchange practices and lessons, but also because the National Platform for Sustainable Charcoal to be created by the DFB/FAO/GEF-6 project could be integrated into, or hosted by, the National Platform for Landscape and Forest Restoration. The two projects should coordinate regarding stakeholder engagement, the selection of species for replanting, the improvement of nurseries and the approaches taken to replanting/reforestation including the selection of suitable lands/plots. There are near-overlaps between the projects that need to be coordinated, but the fact that the FAO project does not target the charcoal value chain but the timber chain leaves this specific gap that the project focuses on (both projects have equivalent solutions: on the DFB/FAO side more efficient saws to reduce wood waste and replanting, on the DGA/UNDP side more efficient charcoal kilns, alternative sources and replanting specifically for charcoal purposes). The projects should also coordinate in their approaches to the mobilisation of national funds. While the DFB/FAO project will work on the National Forest Development Fund, the DGA/UNDP project will work on the National Environment Fund and Special PA Funds, where also exchanges should take place.

The project will also reach out to the MOPIR/UNDP/GEF-5 LDCF project # 5184 *Enhancing Capacities of Rural Communities to Pursue Climate Resilient Livelihood Options in the Sao Tome and Principe Districts of Caué, Me-Zochi, Principe, Lemba, Cantagalo, and Lobata*, which is closing soon but will have lessons to share on livelihoods.

The project will also engage COMIFAC and GIZ on their regional work on protected areas and sustainable forest management to ensure alignment and that tools developed are adequately used.

[1] Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers Framework, which represents a common operational framework for UN agencies' transfer of cash to government and non-governmental implementing partners. The Micro-Assessment assesses the IP's control framework, providing an overall assessment of programme, financial and operations management policies, procedures, systems and internal controls. It results in a risk rating (low, moderate, significant or high). The overall risk rating is used by the UN agencies, along with other available information (e.g. history of engagement with the agency and previous assurance results), to determine the type and frequency of assurance activities as per each agency's guideline and can be taken into consideration when selecting the appropriate cash transfer modality for an IP.

Additional Information not well elaborated at PIF Stage:

A.7. Benefits

Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)?

1. National project beneficiaries can be segregated into several groups/levels as follows:
 - Government staff (senior including politicians and parliamentarians, but especially technicians) in both the national central government and the regional government in Príncipe, which will benefit from technical training and on-the-job exposure to new approaches, methodologies and technologies/equipment regarding the legal and

institutional framework, environmental law enforcement, land use planning and biodiversity mainstreaming, biodiversity and ecosystem service science, biodiversity and threat monitoring (MOBMS), PA management, PA/biodiversity financing, improved charcoal kilns, sustainable charcoal sourcing based on coconut, as well as an access to experience from past project and experience in other countries. The economic benefits can accrue by salary increases and/or better employability post-project including in consultancy roles. The benefits to these technicians translate into benefits to all the GEB by the project, during the project itself and especially also post-project. Gender issues will be respected by ensuring that training and employment involves women in an equitable if not preferential manner.

- NGO staff and young academics, because the project aims to help build a new cohort of national biodiversity conservation specialists, through subsidised post-graduate courses, subsidised internships in the project and NGOs abroad, trainings in STP. The GEB targeted here are not bound to materialise during the project but through a project legacy that will have a favourable impact on the management of STP's globally relevant biodiversity in the long-term. Gender issues will be respected by ensuring that training opportunities are provided to women in an equitable if not preferential manner.
- At the local community level, where stakeholders will benefit from support provided by one gender-focused community organiser per island in addition to technical assistance by the wider team made up of the DGA-hosted PMU, the government agencies involved (DFB, RSED) and the Responsible Party BirdLife International. This support will involve i) strengthening of communities and CBOs; ii) demonstration and acquisition of improved model charcoal kilns; iv) employment as eco-guides and in supplementary planting of fast-growing charcoal trees; iii) capacity development on issues relating to environmental law enforcement including community-based surveillance, PA governance and biodiversity, sustainable charcoal and sustainable livelihood diversification; and iv) the issuance of micro-grants by the project for sustainable livelihood diversification (sustainable charcoal initiatives such as improved kilns, briquettes, biogas, sustainable exploitation of NTFP, ecotourism, apiculture, sustainable forestry, agroforestry, etc.). Special attention will also be given to community-level gender issues and women empowerment. These beneficiaries will be targeted in such a manner that the benefits will lead to a reduction of unsustainable natural resource exploitation most especially selective logging for charcoal-making and thereby improve the outlook for natural forests of STP and the globally important biodiversity they contain, inside and outside the 2 islands' two NPs.

A.8. Knowledge Management

Elaborate on the Knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives (e.g. participate in trainings, conferences, stakeholder exchanges, virtual networks, project twinning) and plans for the project to assess and document in a user- friendly form (e.g. lessons learned briefs, engaging websites, guidebooks based on experience) and share these experiences and expertise (e.g. participate in community of practices, organize seminars, trainings and conferences) with relevant stakeholders.

1. A dedicated Knowledge Management Plan is included in PRODOC Annex 15.
2. This project includes a dedicated component (Component 4) 4 on M&E, KM and Gender. The project has also been informed by numerous other related initiatives and will coordinate with these as already described, especially given that this is inherent in the cross-sector nature of the project. The socio-economic and environmental/ecological impacts of the project's interventions in the targeted regions and project sites will be regularly monitored following the project's M&E framework. The project will integrate important work on M&E/KM to reflect the project's multi-pronged undertaking and the need to constantly monitor the project's activities in relation to its goals and react through careful adaptive management.

3. Under Component 2 the project will introduce an innovative Management Oriented Biodiversity Monitoring System, based on a Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool. The project will thus provide a better basis for environmental M&E. Results and case studies or stories from project activities that could facilitate the design and implementation of similar interventions will be codified and disseminated nationally and regionally through existing information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and any other network that could be beneficial to the project implementation in terms of teachings. Equally, mutual exchange of information will be maintained between this project and other projects of a similar focus. The project has a vast amount of capacity development activities that will be a key avenue for sharing lessons and experience under the wider KM objectives.

4. Under KM, the project will arrange for short workshops disseminating project results to a wider interested audience at least on an annual basis. In addition, the project will assess and share experience gained in the mixed Govt / NGO implementation arrangements.

B. Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1. Consistency with National Priorities

Describe the consistency of the project with nation strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions such as NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

1. The project is consistent and fully in line with various national plans, priorities and policies. First and foremost, it is aligned with the National Commitments towards the Sustainable Development Goals 1, 5, 12, 13 and 15 (please see Section 3.7 for more detail).

2. The project is consistent with the current Second National Poverty Reduction Strategy (SNPR) 2012-2016, which focuses on achieving sustainable economic growth and making the economy more competitive by promoting agriculture, fisheries and tourism as key sectors for growth and employment, through a rational use of natural resources. In particular, the project is aligned with one of the targets from the Second Pillar of the SNPR Strategy *Promoting sustainable and integrated economic growth*, Objective 1 *Improving the primary sector*, Target 4. *Promoting a healthy environment and rational use of natural resources*, Policy measures: protect and preserve ecosystems; promote sustainable economic development; strengthen the capacity of environmental institutions; implement actions consistent with international conventions for the protection of flora, fauna, water resources, biodiversity, soils, and inherent ecosystems; implement the management plan for the national parks of São Tomé and Príncipe.

3. The general sustainable development approach of the project is aligned with all the strategic direction documents developed for the 2015-2030 period, which aim *to transform São Tomé and Príncipe into a united society based on cultural values, establishing public policies that incorporate ethical precepts and respect for others and the environment, through the prioritization of sustainable development as a broad, strategic, integrated and inclusive commitment to all groups and sectors of society*: National Consultation Report for the Post-2015 Development Agenda (2015); General Points of the Country's Development Agenda 2030 (2015); São Tomé and Príncipe 2030 Strategy (2010); São Tomé and Príncipe 2030, the Country We Want (2015); and 2030 Sustainable Development Plan for the Autonomous Region of Príncipe (2019).

4. The project is aligned with the Nationally Determined Contributions submitted to UNFCCC, which focuses not only on mitigation (to reduce national GHG emissions of 24% by 2030, and maintain the country status of a “carbon sink” according to BAU scenario), but also on the adaptation to climate change of the agriculture and forest sectors. The project

activities are aligned with different targets of the NDCs, reflected also in the National Forest Development Plan 2018-2030, as both ask for a reduction of illegal logging by 15% by 2030;

5. The project is aligned with the National Forest Development Plan 2018-2030, which promotes the contribution of the forest sector and biodiversity to the sustainable development of the country, through the preservation, conservation, development and use of forests and their resources for the benefit of present and future generations, in particular outside of the PAs. Most axis and objectives of the National Forest Development Plan are echoing the project activities:

- Axis 1 - Coherence and Coordination in the Implementation of the National Forestry Policy
 - o Target 1.1 *By 2022, Sao Tomé and Príncipe will have a policy for the forest sector, integrating COMIFAC guidelines and other regional and international agreements, as well as an appropriate legal and institutional framework.*
- Axis 2 - Development of Sustainable Management of Forest and Agroforestry Resources, for planning and zoning of forest territories; Promotion of community management of forests and other private interventions in forest production; and Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded forest areas.
 - o Target 2.1 *By 2030, the integrity of secondary forests as a productive forest protection domain will be maintained and their productivity increased; The spatial planning of secondary forests is performed, with unique and relevant ecological values identified and subject to the permanent preservation regime.*
 - o Target 2.3: *By 2025, existing resources in mangroves and savannas will be exploited in accordance with sustainable management and management rules and regulations.*
 - o Target 2.4: *By 2030, the number of young people, women and local populations participating in the development and implementation of forest policy increased by 25%.*
- Axis 3 - Forest monitoring and combating illegal logging: Strengthening and/or installing the National Forest Monitoring System; Strengthening the control and monitoring capacity of the Directorate for Forests and Biodiversity; Reducing illegal logging and chainsaw sawing to a minimum; Rationalizing the production and consumption of firewood and coal.
 - o Target 3.1 *By 2030, the integrity of São Tomé and Príncipe's forest ecosystems will be maintained and its resource exploitation and conservation activities known and monitored.*
 - o Target 3.2 *By 2030, illegal logging and chainsaw sawing have been reduced to 15%.*
- Axis 4 - Promotion of the forest economy and the timber industry: Promotion and economic valorization of the sectors (Non-Timber Forest Product, Tourism);
 - o Target 4.1 *By 2030 the forest sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will have increased by at least 25%.*
- Transversal Axis 1 – Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity.

- o *By 2030, together with other institutions involved: i) The territorial integrity of Protected Areas (PA) is fully maintained (100%); ii) The ecotourism sector contribution to GDP increased by 25%; iii) The populations of threatened species of flora and fauna is stable.*

- Transversal Axis 2 – Training, Research and Knowledge Development

- o *Target 2.1 By 2030, the number of technicians trained in forestry and biodiversity to meet the requirements of the sector will be satisfactory*
- o *Target 2.2 By 2030, the knowledge gap on forest ecosystems, on the most exploited species and on the most important social aspects linked to the São Toméan forest sector has been overcome.*

- Transversal Axis 3 – Information, Education, Communication and Sensitization

- o *Target 3.1 By 2030, the understanding and attitude of the broader São Toméan public, especially rural residents, regarding the conservation and sustainable use of forest resources will be improved.*

6. The project is aligned with the Strategy on Desertification and Land Degradation (2005), which prioritizes prevention of erosion through the extension and protection of forests. More specifically the project will help the implementation of the following key actions planned under this Strategy: i) improvement of administrative structures; ii) protection of national resources; iii) reforestation of key areas. The project does respond to the strategic guidelines (SG) of the elaboration document, by including the civil society in the implementation process as well as by developing Public-Private Partnerships to limit deforestation:

- *SG1: Strengthening of legal and institutional capacities in the fight against land degradation and deforestation;*
- *SG2: Consider non-governmental organisations, associations and civil society as fundamental to the fight against desertification; creating partnership with NGOs in the areas of awareness, training, information and reinforcement of technical and financial assistance;*
- *SG3: Involve private sector as a partner of the Government to relaunch economic growth and provide capacity building interventions, to promote awareness-raising and mobilisation actions so that interventions in productive systems do not affect soil degradation and deforestation; Engage the private sector (agriculture) to undertake appropriate technologies to combat soil degradation and deforestation.*

7. The project contributes directly to the STP's National Voluntary Targets towards Land Degradation Neutrality^[1] adopted in 2018, which inter alia commits the country to:

- By 2030, reduce to less than 5% the conversion of forests and savannas to other land uses;
- Reduce illegal logging from 85% to 15% by 2030;
- By 2025, restore about 32,000 ha of degraded forests and landscapes;
- By 2030, improve the charcoal manufacturing process by 50%, thereby improving productivity (efficiency) and reducing waste.

8. The project responds strongly to a range of elements of the National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan 2015-2020 – NBSAP II, including most importantly:
- NBSAP Strategic Objective A *Address the root causes of biodiversity loss, approaching biodiversity together with the government and society*, most notably with:
 - o Target 2 *In 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values had been integrated into national and local development, poverty reduction strategies and planning processes, and had been incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and into information systems*, which asks specifically for i) *The Government has recognized the need to strengthen aspects relating to biodiversity in government action, to ratify the CBD and to implement Projects ECOFAC, GEF-5, etc.*; ii) *Definition of about 30% of the territory of the country as “important area for biodiversity”*; and iii) *of Administration and Management Plans of the Obô Parks of São Tomé Island and Príncipe Island*.
 - o Target 4 *In 2020, at the latest, governments, companies and stakeholders, at all levels, had taken steps to achieve, or have plans in place for, sustainable production and consumption, and had kept the natural resource use impacts well within safe ecological limits*, which asks specifically for i) *adoption of legislation on the conservation of flora and fauna and protected areas*; and ii) *Training on the best techniques for the production of honey and charcoal firewood and other natural resources*.
 - Strategic Objective B: *Reduce direct pressures on biodiversity and promote its sustainable use*, most notably with:
 - o Target 5 *In 2020, at the latest, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, will be at least half, and possibly brought close to zero, and their degradation and fragmentation had been significantly reduced*, which asks specifically for i) *Enforcement of the Forest Act*;
 - o Target 7 *By 2020, at the latest, the areas of agriculture, aquaculture and forestry will be managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity*, which asks specifically for i) *Implementation of various projects of reforestation with tree species of commercial value*; ii) *projects in the fields of agriculture, aquaculture and forestry will be submitted to EIA*.
 - Strategic Objective C: *Improve the status of biodiversity by protecting ecosystems, species and genetic diversity*, most notably with:
 - o Target 11 *In 2020, at least 17% of inland water areas, and 10% of coastal and marine areas – especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and services of the ecosystem – will be adequately preserved, in a broad perspective of the whole country environment, under an approach of continuity, which takes into account the sustainability of the transition zones*.
 - o Target 12 *By 2020, at the latest, the extinction of known threatened species is prevented, and their conservation status will be improved, especially of those most endangered*.
 - Strategic Objective D: *Increase the benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services for everyone*, most notably with:
 - o Target 14 *By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including water-related services, and contribute to the health, living conditions and welfare, are restored and protected, taking into account the needs of indigenous and local communities, particularly the women and the poor and vulnerable*.

- o Target 19 *By 2020, knowledge, science and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and its preservation will be improved and as widely shared, transferred or applied as convenient, which asks specifically for In 2015, establishment of the CHM (information exchange centre on biodiversity).*
- o Target 20 *Until 2020, at the latest, the mobilization, from all sources, of financial resources for the effective implementation of the “Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020”, in accordance with the agreed and consolidated process for the Resource Mobilization Strategy, should increase substantially from current levels.*
- The project will directly contribute to Aichi Targets 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 20.

9. The project responds also to the São Tomé and Príncipe International Species Action Plans for Critically Endangered Bird Species (Dwarf Olive Ibis *Bostrychia bocagei*, São Tomé Fiscal *Lanius newtoni* and São Tomé Grosbeak *Neospiza concolor*) and Single Species Action Plan for the conservation of the Príncipe Thrush *Turdus xanthorhynchus* (BirdLife International, 2014), which aim to guide the improvement of the conservation status and knowledge on the ecology and distribution of Critically Endangered bird species through undertaking a set of actions that contribute to the following objectives: i) habitat degradation and human disturbance reduced in targeted species’ areas of occurrence; ii) priority areas of forest habitat are preserved. The project will build on and extend the approach to all recognized CR species, birds as well as other taxa, in both islands; through High Conservation Value (HCV) areas assessment and management.

Finally, the project is aligned with the vision defined in the Strategic and Marketing Plan for Tourism in São Tomé and Príncipe 2018: *In 2025, São Tomé and Príncipe is the most preserved island tourist destination in Equatorial Africa, with a unique nature and biodiversity*, which aims to promote natural capital and its preservation for local development and growth of the country.

[1] <https://knowledge.unccd.int/countries/sao-tome-and-Príncipe>

C. Describe The Budgeted M & E Plan:

1. Please refer to PRODOC Section *V Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan* but also to Component 4 in the *Total Budget and Work Plan* in *Section VIII*.
2. The project results, corresponding indicators and mid-term and end-of-project targets in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation. If baseline data for some of the results indicators is not yet available, it will be collected during the first year of project implementation. The Monitoring Plan included in Annex 5 details the responsibilities, frequency and sources of project monitoring.
3. Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP and UNDP Evaluation Policy. The UNDP Country Office is responsible for ensuring full compliance with all UNDP project monitoring, quality assurance, risk management, and evaluation requirements.
4. Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF Monitoring Policy and the GEF Evaluation Policy and other relevant GEF policies[1]. The costed M&E plan included below, and the Monitoring plan in Annex 5, will guide the GEF-specific M&E activities to be undertaken by this project.

5. In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report.

Additional GEF monitoring and reporting requirements

Inception Workshop and Report

6. A project inception workshop will be held within 60 days of project CEO endorsement, with the aim to:
- Familiarize key stakeholders with the detailed project strategy and discuss any changes that may have taken place in the overall context since the project idea was initially conceptualized that may influence its strategy and implementation.
 - Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting lines, stakeholder engagement strategies and conflict resolution mechanisms.
 - Review the results framework and monitoring plan.
 - Discuss reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E budget; identify national/regional institutes to be involved in project-level M&E; discuss the role of the GEF OFP and other stakeholders in project-level M&E.
 - Update and review responsibilities for monitoring project strategies, including the risk log; SESP report, Social and Environmental Management Framework and other safeguard requirements; project grievance mechanisms; gender strategy; knowledge management strategy, and other relevant management strategies.
 - Review financial reporting procedures and budget monitoring and other mandatory requirements and agree on the arrangements for the annual audit.
 - Plan and schedule Project Board meetings and finalize the first-year annual work plan.
 - Formally launch the Project.

GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)

7. The annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) will be completed for each year of project implementation. Any environmental and social risks and related management plans will be monitored regularly, and progress will be reported in the PIR. The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Board. The quality rating of the previous year's PIR will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent PIR.

Knowledge management

8. The project team will ensure extraction and dissemination of lessons learned and good practices to enable adaptive management and upscaling or replication at local and global scales. Results will be disseminated to targeted audiences through relevant information sharing fora and networks. The project will contribute to scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks as appropriate (e.g. by providing content, and/or enabling participation of stakeholders/beneficiaries)
9. Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention area through existing information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to the project. The project will identify, analyse and share lessons learned that might be beneficial to the design and implementation of similar projects and disseminate these lessons widely. There will be continuous information exchange between this project and other projects of similar focus in the same country, region and globally.

GEF Core Indicators

10. The GEF Core indicators included in Annex 6 will be used to monitor global environmental benefits and will be updated for reporting to the GEF prior to MTR and TE. Note that the project team is responsible for updating the indicator status. The updated monitoring data should be shared with MTR/TE consultants prior to required evaluation missions, so these can be used for subsequent ground-truthing. The methodologies to be used in data collection have been defined by the GEF and are available on the GEF [website](#).
11. The required Protected Area Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METTs) have been prepared and the scores include in the GEF Core Indicators.

Independent Mid-term Review (MTR)

12. An independent Mid-Term Review (MTR) will take place half-way through the project implementation period. The terms of reference, the review process and the final MTR report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO for GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center](#) (ERC).
13. The evaluation will be ‘independent, impartial and rigorous’. The consultants that will be hired by UNDP evaluation specialists to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the consultants should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project under review.
14. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the UNDP-GEF Directorate.
15. The final MTR report and MTR TOR will be completed, made publicly available in English and posted on the UNDP ERC by project mid-term – 33 months after GEF CEO Endorsement – i.e. tentatively by 31 March 2023. A management response to MTR recommendations will be posted in the ERC within six weeks of the MTR report’s completion.

Terminal Evaluation (TE)

16. An independent Terminal Evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance prepared by the UNDP IEO for GEF-financed projects available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center.
17. The evaluation will be ‘independent, impartial and rigorous’. The consultants that will be hired by UNDP evaluation specialists to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the consultants should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project being evaluated.
18. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the UNDP-GEF Directorate.
19. The final TE report and TE TOR will be completed, made publicly available in English and posted on the UNDP ERC by 30 November 2025. A management response to the TE recommendations will be posted to the ERC within six weeks of the TE report’s completion.

Final Report

20. The project’s terminal GEF PIR along with the Terminal Evaluation (TE) report and corresponding management response will serve as the final project report package. The final project report package shall be discussed with the Project Board during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the project’s deliverables and disclosure of information

21. To accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the GEF will also accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy^[2] and the GEF policy on public involvement^[3].

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget:			
GEF M&E requirements	Responsible Parties	Indicative costs (USD)	Time frame
Inception Workshop	Implementing Partner Project Manager/National Project Coordinator	Total: 5,000	Within 60 days of CEO endorsement of this project.

Inception Report	PM/NPC, CTA, RP	None	Within 90 days of CEO endorsement of this project.
Monitoring of indicators in project results framework	PM/NPC and CTA will oversee TA/institutions/ agencies charged with collecting results data.	No extra cost, in TA and RP TORs	Annually prior to GEF PIR. This will include GEF core indicators.
GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	Regional Technical Advisor UNDP Country Office [1] PM/NPC and CTA	None	Annually typically between June-August
Monitoring all risks (Atlas risk log)	PM/NPC and CTA	No extra cost, in PM/NPC & CTA TORs	On-going
Monitoring of: Livelihood Action Plan; Human Rights Action Plan	National M&E, KM and Safeguards Officer	1/3 of 60,000=20,000	On-going
Monitoring of stakeholder engagement plan	PM/NPC & Gender-focused conservationists-community organisers	No extra cost, in PM/NPC & Community Organiser TORs	On-going
Monitoring of gender action plan	PM/NPC & Gender-focused conservationists-community organisers	No extra cost, in PM/NPC & Community Organiser TORs	On-going
Lessons learned and knowledge generation	PM/NPC	No extra cost, in M&E/KM Officer TORs	Annually
Supervision missions	UNDP Country Office	None [2]	Annually
Oversight missions	UNDP-GEF RTA and UNDP-GEF Directorate	None ²⁴	Troubleshooting as needed
Mid-term GEF Core indicators and METT or other required Tracking Tools	BirdLife, DFB, DGA	None, covered by existing budgets under Outputs 2.3 and 4.1	Before mid-term review mission takes place.
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR) and management response	UNDP Evaluation Specialists and independent evaluation consultants	42,000	01 March 2023
Terminal GEF Core indicators and METT or other required Tracking Tools	BirdLife, DFB, DGA	None, covered by existing budgets under Outputs 2.3 and 4.1	Before terminal evaluation mission takes place

Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE) and management response	UNDP Evaluation Specialists and independent evaluation consultants.	42,000	30 November 2025
TOTAL indicative COST		USD 109,000	Noting this does not entirely reflect the M&E costs in the TBWP which are higher but cannot be easily transposed to this table

[1] Or equivalent for regional or global project

[2] The costs of UNDP CO and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee.

[1] See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

[2] See http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/transparency/information_disclosurepolicy/

[3] See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

[4] Or equivalent for regional or global project

[5] The costs of UNDP CO and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee.

PART III: Certification by GEF partner agency(ies)

A. GEF Agency(ies) certification

GEF Agency Coordinator	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
Pradeep Kurukulasuriya, UNDP	12/26/2019	Yves de Soye	+33682758944	yves.desoye@undp.org

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goals: 15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss; 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

This project will contribute to the following country outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD): “Employment and competitiveness are assured by diversifying the economy and resilience to climate Change, improving the quality of life of poor and vulnerable populations and access to financial aid and markets by youth and women”, OUTPUT 3.3 “Public and private institutions and rural communities are able to apply sustainability principles for better use of natural resources, biodiversity conservation and protection for inclusive growth”.

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target
Objective: Safeguard globally significant terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems services by strengthening national capacities and frameworks for biodiversity and natural resource management, integrated land use planning and environmental law enforcement as well as enhancing protected area management and the sustainability of charcoal production	Indicator 1: # direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people)	0	1,000 (500 men, 500 women)	2,000 (1,000 men, 1,000 women) [Guarda Ambiental 20; Community surveillance 20; capacity-building and direct engagement: 100 govt technicians; 40 politicians, 60 technicians, 500 community members + charcoal makers; 17 academics/interns; 30+ eco-guides; 10 Valudo employment; 20 tree planting; c. 1200 incl. co-beneficiaries through c. 30 household livelihood and value chain micro-grants @ avge household size of 4. Total estimate c. 2000.]
	Indicator 2: # indirect project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people)	0	11,000 (5,500 men, 5,500 women) [20% of project end target because charcoal value chain emerging only]	55,000 (27,500 men, 27,500 women) [half of population of Príncipe of 10,000 + quarter of population on ST of 200,000 benefitting from more sustainable and healthier coconut-based charcoal]

	Indicator 3 - GEF Core Indicator 4.1: Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity	0 ha	2,000 ha	6,207 ha [estimated to 50% of 10,913 ha of HCV in São Tomé (the half not under avoided loss below) + 50% of the HCV areas to be identified on Príncipe (1,500 ha estimated before studies, so 50%=750 ha; the half not under avoided loss below]
	Indicator 4 - GEF Core Indicator 4.4: – Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided	0 ha	2,000 ha	6,207 [estimated to 50% of 10,913 ha of HCV in São Tomé (the half not under better management above) + 50% of the HCV areas to be identified on Príncipe (1,500 ha estimated before studies, so 50%=750 ha; the half not under better management above; the objective is not to avoid wholesale conversion but to avoid HCV trigger status loss from forest degradation by unsustainable selective logging and natural resource exploitation].
	Indicator 5: Red List Index of endangered species of birds, mammals and terrestrial amphibians (STP Official SDG Indicator)	Total species: 150, Critically endangered species (CR): 4 / 2.7%, Endangered species (EN): 9 / 6%, Vulnerable endemic species (VU): 5 / 3.3%, Near threatened species (NT): 12 / 8%, Species of little concern (LC): 117 / 78%, Species with insufficient data (DA): 3 / 2%.	Index maintained or improved	Index maintained or improved
Component 1	Enhancing capacities and frameworks for biodiversity and natural resource management, integrated land management and environmental law enforcement			

Outcome 1.1 Individual capacities and systemic frameworks enhanced for biodiversity and integrated land management	Indicator 6: Scores obtained from the UNDP Capacity Developing Scorecard	CR1 – SCORE 0.42 CR2 – SCORE 0.48 CR3 – SCORE 0.31 CR4 – SCORE 0.45 CR5 – SCORE 0.12	+10% each	+30% each
	Indicator 7: Emplacement of new streamlined and effective institutes for i) nature conservation and protected area management, and ii) environment and integrated land use planning and management	i) There are structures/teams for biodiversity management at DFB and for environment under DGA, yet there are problems with the legal frameworks and mandates and effectiveness; ii) there is no permanent dedicated structure or team for land use planning and management	Existing structures/teams under review with alternatives for strengthening under discussion, for i) nature conservation and protected areas; ii) environment and land use planning and management	New streamlined and effective institutes agreed and legally created for i) nature conservation and protected areas; ii) environment and land use planning and management
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Output 1.1 Frameworks on biodiversity conservation, land-use planning and charcoal strengthened and streamlined - Output 1.2 1.2 Environmental sustainability and biodiversity considerations mainstreamed in land-use planning and investments - Output 1.5 Key environmental CSOs and CBOs strengthened 			
Outcome 1.2 Nationally adapted environmental law enforcement system agreed and emplaced	Indicator 8: Environmental patrolling effort: # patrol days/yr & total patrol km/yr	0 in 2019	400 patrol /yr avge (3 teams*3x/wk)	400 patrol /yr avge (3 teams*3x/wk)
	Indicator 9: % of reported cases of environmental infractions leading to due legal prosecutions	0	20%	40%
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Output 1.3 Framework and delivery system for integrated environmental surveillance and enforcement emplaced - Output 1.4 Capacity developed on environmental law surveillance and enforcement 			
Component 2	Management, monitoring and financing of PAs and adjacent key biodiversity and forest areas			

Outcome 2.1 Protection of the two existing PAs and adjacent HCV forest areas enhanced	<u>Indicator 10:</u> GEF Core Indicators 2: METT Scores for Parque Natural Obô de São Tomé and Parque Natural do Príncipe	PNOT Score 35 PNP Score 46	PNOT Score 42 PNP Score 53 Based on a full detailed analysis of the anticipated end state for each METT criterion, including after considering other parallel interventions	PNOT Score 57 (range 57-72) PNP Score 68 (68-72) Based on a full detailed analysis of the anticipated end state for each METT criterion, including after considering other parallel interventions
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Output 2.1 Management effectiveness of protected areas and adjacent High Conservation Value areas enhanced - Output 2.2 Capacity developed on biodiversity, zoology/botany, ecosystem services, conservation and PA management - Output 2.3 New technologies, systems and tools for information-based biodiversity and PA management emplaced 			
Outcome 2.2 Finance for biodiversity conservation and PA management increased	<u>Indicator 11:</u> Status of Conservation Trust Fund for STP	CTF does not exist	CTF legally established in a European Country following CFA best practices	CTF legally established in a European Country following CFA best practices
	<u>Indicator 12:</u> Financing made available for biodiversity and protected areas from sources beyond traditional external grants to governments or NGOs, and capitalisation of STP CTF endowment fund	USD 5000/yr non-grant income from tourism, 0 other sources, 0 CTF endowment capital	USD 10,000/yr non-grant income from tourism, 0 other sources, 0 CTF endowment capital	USD 50,000/yr non-grant income from tourism and related concessions, and USD 2 million launch capital attracted into the CTF endowment capital or sinking fund with resulting income distributed to biodiversity conservation interventions in STP
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Output 2.4 Proven structures and tools to capture and distribute new finance for the national system of protected areas and biodiversity created 			
Component 3	Reducing forest degradation and ecosystem services loss from unsustainable charcoal-making			

Outcome 3.1 Forest degradation from charcoal making reduced and compensated	Indicator 13: Native fast-growing charcoal-making trees planted and surviving across the forest landscape	Approx. 25 ha restored so far by DFB under different pilot actions = between 2,500-25,000 trees for low (100/ha) and high (1000/ha) planting density estimates; Príncipe plans to reforest 5,000 trees/year but is far from achieving this goal	10 per day/pax * 8 pax * 2 teams * 100 days/yr =16,000/yr in the mid-term year, with at least 60% surviving	Effort maintained throughout final years for a total of 4*16,000/yr = 64,000 planted by project end, with at least 60% surviving
	Indicator 14: Number of improved charcoal kilns effectively in use	0 improved charcoal kilns	1 semi-industrial improved kiln (ST) producing coconut-based charcoal and 10 improved traditional wood-based kilns in operation	2 semi-industrial kilns (1 ST, 1 Príncipe) producing coconut-based charcoal and 40 improved traditional wood-based kilns in operation
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Output 3.1 Charcoal supply and value chain analysis prepared to identify further options for reducing wood-based charcoal extraction drivers - Output 3.2 More sustainable charcoal kilns and charcoal sources mobilised - Output 3.3 Awareness raised and capacity developed on more sustainable charcoal production and alternatives - Output 3.4 Fast-growing native charcoal tree species planted in degraded forests and shade plantations 			
Outcome 3.2 Prevalence of traditional high-impact charcoal-making livelihoods reduced in favour of more sustainable options	Indicator 15: Number of fully-dedicated professional traditional charcoal-makers harvesting unsustainably	500 ST, 50 Príncipe	400 ST, 40 Príncipe	300 ST, 30 Príncipe
	Indicator 16: Share of household incomes based on newly adopted sustainable livelihood activities in targeted priority communities	0%	At least 30% in directly targeted households; at least 10% overall in targeted communities	At least 60% in directly targeted households; at least 20% overall in targeted communities
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Output 3.5 Community stakeholders consulted and sustainable livelihoods introduced and adopted 			
Component 4	M&E, Knowledge Management and Gender			

Outcome 4.1 M&E, knowledge management and gender work fully and successfully implemented	Indicator 17: % of female members i) in platforms and decision-making forums emplaced by the project, and ii) amongst staff recruited by and for the project	0	i) At least 30%; ii) At least 50% (esp. in enforcement, community work but also beyond)	i) At least 30%; ii) At least 50% (esp. in enforcement, community work but also beyond)
	Indicator 18: % of 52 sub-indicator targets in Gender Action Plan met	0	40%	80%
	Indicator 19: Quality of PIR completed annually by national project staff	N/A	PIRs are completed reliably but with major support from international project staff and UNDP CO	PIRs are completed reliably by national project staff
Outputs to achieve Outcome 4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Output 4.2 Gender strategy and action plan operationalised to guide project implementation, monitoring and reporting - Output 4.1: M&E and knowledge management plans implemented 			

ANNEX B: 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).

Comments from GEF Secretariat

#	GEF SEC Comment	Response
A1	Also note that the Obo National Park is a very important KBA	In fact there is a general agreement in STP that the KBA designation in the country was rather flawed and low resolution. Far more detail was included in the PRODOC, based on more recent assessments led by several NGOs and research teams, which identify specific areas on both islands (KBA, HCV areas) that merit special attention. Please see PRODOC Section 2.2 <i>Key past and ongoing interventions</i> and Annex 21.

A2	<p>During the PPG, please address the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please ensure additional details on the role of the co-financing and what specific activities will be covered by co-financing are included at the endorsement stage. 		<p>The co-financing had to be reviewed substantially during the PPG. The PPG allowed a full integration of the BirdLife International-led activities (ECOFAC especially) into the project, which are marked in the project description in the PRODOC (Section 3.1 <i>Project Description and Expected Results</i>). In addition, the co-financing is distributed and explained in the Table <i>Co-financing – sources, use and risks</i> in PRODOC Section VII Financial Planning And Management</p>
A3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include a comprehensive risk analysis. 		<p>Please see PRODOC Section 3.10 <i>Social/ environmental risks and risks to project success</i>, Annex 3 <i>UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP)</i> and Annex 4 <i>UNDP Risk Log</i></p>
A4	<p>At CEO endorsement, again, develop the reasoning to show that the GEF is completing other efforts, and there are options/ solutions for sustainability. Without this information (baseline, co-financing), it will be difficult for the GEF to finance alone infrastructures, like the Old Obo Natural Park building (output 2.3).</p>		<p>Please see the baseline analysis in PRODOC Sections 2.2 and 2.3. GEF resources assigned for infrastructure have been reduced. GEF is asked to contribute only small amounts to the rehabilitation of office spaces and the finalisation of the NP building in Principe that was already largely rehabilitated with other resources.</p> <p>On Sustainability, see answer A8 below</p>
A5	<p>A list of stakeholders has been identified. In the PPG, please include a stakeholder analysis and ensure a role of local communities, CSO (farmer organizations, cooperatives, NGOs) in the design and the implementation of the project.</p>		<p>Please see PRODOC Section 3.8 <i>Stakeholder engagement and partnerships</i> and especially the Stakeholder Engagement Plan in Annex 10.</p>
A6	<p>The points below should be addressed or improved at CEO endorsement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please ensure additional details on the role of the co-financing and what specific activities will be covered by co-financing are included at the endorsement stage. 	<p>See answer A2 above</p>
A7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need to improve the GEF reasoning (baseline, cofinancing) will be particularly important for infrastructures, like the Old Obo Natural Park building. 	<p>See answer A5 above</p>

A8	During, the PPG, please address the following points summarized below:	- Options/ Solutions for sustainability should also be proposed.	Please see PRODOC Section 3.11 <i>Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up</i> With 95% of the national budget coming from ODA, the government will likely continue to have only limited domestic resources available for its PA system and sustainable land/forest management, and related efforts will presumably continue to depend on external funding for another while. Notions of sustainability can be expected from i) selected private sector players, wherefore a PPP is engaged with the leading coconut-product producer on sustainable charcoal, ii) new models for land management such as concessions (ecotourism, biodiversity-friendly farming, etc.); iii) added flows of resources from a more operational National Environment Fund; and iv) much-hoped success in creating and capitalising a Conservation Trust Fund for STP (no GEF resources will be used to capitalise the CTF).
A9		- Include a comprehensive risk analysis.	See answer A3 above
A10		- Include a stakeholder analysis and ensure a role of local communities, CSO (farmer organizations, cooperatives, NGOs) in the design and the implementation of the project.	See answer A5 above
A11		- About the Monitoring & Evaluation (not only related to the project administration, but also the scientific monitoring, if any): please provide baseline data and quantified indicators at CEO endorsement, and do not plan to make the assessment the first year of the project.	The project results framework defines the project indicators and targets and has no gaps. Project end targets were as often as possible built on realistic calculated scenarios rather than ad hoc arbitrary estimates – e.g. on the expected METT increases. The project builds on relevant M&E and research by NGOs and academia working in STP, and the project in addition proposes to reinforce M&E capacities in the county through a SMART / MOMS system. Please see Output 2.3 as well as PRODOC Section V <i>Project Results Framework</i> and Annex 5 <i>Monitoring Plan</i> .

#	GEF STAP Comment	Response
	<p>São Tomé and Príncipe (STP) is struggling with under-managed and under-resourced protected areas (PAs) as well as lack of coordination and capacity at the national level. In addition, unsustainable land practices in the PA buffer areas is adding additional pressure, along with destructive fishing practices. The primary underlying drivers of degradation are increasing population and unsustainable economic growth tied to industries that rely on natural resource extraction, and also the growing tourism industry. This UNDP project builds on several past projects administered by the EU, IFAD, FAO and UNDP, which have led to the establishment of the PAs and some efforts to mainstream biodiversity and promote climate resilient development, among other things. However, to improve this project and its overall likelihood of success, STAP has several general observations and some specific recommendations. In general:</p>	N/A

B1	<p>Despite the high economic value of many African protected areas, they are underperforming because institutions are poorly designed administratively (e.g. the over-sight/policy agency is also the implementing agencies) and financially (e.g. finances are over-centralized). STP represents a greenfield where these future problems can be avoided. It is therefore recommended that the PPG:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake a rigorous analysis of the regulatory requirements for PA and buffer-zone institutions, and how best to institutionalize these functions, rather than following the antiquated model of a state PA agency. Regulatory goals should establish indicators for key performance areas – biodiversity status and protection, tourism and income, infrastructure and equipment, sustainable communities and community-based natural resource management (CBNRM). 2. Assess whether the regulatory agency should be a government agency, and how to make it effective and accountable to society and to achieve global environmental benefits (GEBs). 	<p>The challenges to PA management in STP are manifold and include weaknesses in individual capacity, legal gaps, institutional capacity and configuration, incentives, political will and awareness, decision-making at high government levels, application/enforcement of environmental law, and financing. The combined ECOFAC + GEF effort under the present project will try to resolve several of these.</p> <p>The PPG was unfortunately not able to conduct the “rigorous analysis of regulatory requirements for PA and buffer zone institutions” requested by STAP, noting that i) the current situation is that within those parts of government relevant to the project, the regulatory function and the implementation function are merged under the same departments (for example, the Department of Forestry and Biodiversity DFB regulates logging licenses but also controls logging operations in the field and is supposed to oversee forest conservation and restoration work); ii) any decisions on such fundamental issues like regulatory vs implementation functions, PA state agency vs other models require a lengthy participatory and political process that cannot be realistically tackled in the timeframe of a PPG; and iii) preliminary exchanges during the PPG did not indicate an openness of government agencies to abandon a state-controlled model, also as the standard reference is the situation in neighbouring countries on the African continent.</p> <p>The issues raised in this STAP comment will therefore be fully integrated in the project under Output 1.1, which is expected to revise, strengthen and streamline the legal and institutional frameworks for biodiversity conservation, land-use planning and management and charcoal.</p> <p>On PA finance, the issue of centralisation or decentralisation is not yet a major concern, because there is only limited finance – from philanthropical sources and ODA (GEF, EU, CEPF, etc.) – that is already routed to different agencies: national government, Principe regional government, several international and national NGOs and even academia.</p> <p>The proposed creation of a conservation trust fund would, if successful, create another decentralised way to capture resources – and distribute them to a diversity of stakeholders offering biodiversity solutions including different government agencies, private sector, NGOs and CBOs – which will need to be reflected in the statutes of the CTF.</p>
B2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Carefully contemplate how to separate regulatory functions from implementation functions, and consider delegating implementation functions to non-government agencies. 	<p>The comment on regulatory vs implementation function more generally was already addressed in Answer B1 above.</p> <p>The specific aspect of potentially delegating implementation functions to NGOs under a legally institutionalised arrangement will be considered under project Output 1.1. as well.</p> <p>The situation in STP currently is that due to government’s capacity constraints, much of the work on PAs (especially the more advanced work dependent on international expertise / TA) is done by NGOs, who also receive significant international funding not accessible to government. NGOs therefore already have an implementation function, albeit more in a parallel and informal manner. An exception is ECOFAC/BirdLife International, which has signed an agreement with Government for the co-management of the NPs in STP.</p> <p>The present project’s management arrangements and the fact that government accepted to route c. 30% of the GEF project funds through BirdLife (and thereby also other NGOs like Fundacao Principe), reflects this situation.</p> <p>As an extension of this, the project will under Output 2.1 explore the potential to introduce innovative management/partnership models in PAs and HCV areas including concessions and NGO co-management, which also responds to this STAP comment.</p>

B3	<p>4. Take considerable care in matching the aspirations of the PAs to their sustainable revenue potential.</p>	<p>STP is a country with limited financial resources, and with 95% of the public sector budget stemming from ODA there are limited domestic sustainable revenue generating options. The private sector is generally struggling due to the islands' isolation, poor connectivity and infrastructure, and limited market access. Agricultural companies can be expected to adopt more biodiversity-friendly practices as they target premium price niche markets, but they cannot realistically be expected to finance PA management. Tourism is also too limited and hard to harness financially at larger scale, as explained in detail in Answer B6, even though there is some potential in fee collection from tourists and the creation of tourism concessions in HCV areas.</p> <p>The PPG therefore concluded that PA financing in STP will likely for another while continue to depend largely on external grants from ODA and philanthropy routed via Government and NGOs, if the globally important biodiversity of these islands is to be maintained. The PPG therefore does not agree with the STAP request to reduce PA management aspirations to the (low levels of) sustainable revenue potential – especially if only the revenue potential of the PAs is considered, rather than sustainable revenue potential for PAs more broadly.</p> <p>The project will therefore under Component 2 emplace a robust PA management system, prepare a differentiated PA system finance needs and gap assessment, and on that basis attempt to mobilise new sources of PA financing for STP. The project will focus on the creation of a Conservation Trust Fund for STP and run a campaign to mobilise an initial start-up endowment capital to be followed up by further work in the future.</p> <p>The expected advent of income from offshore oil & gas resources could of course change the above analysis considerably, as government could have more resources available; but this isn't guaranteed, and the CTF could also be used to capture and channel resources from companies directly to conservation for corporate image reasons, or potentially under an offset scheme to be explored in the future.</p>
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Specific comments related to each of the Components are as follows:

Component 1: The use of a sound economic cost-benefit analysis to decide priorities is highly endorsed by STAP.

MOVED UP ONE PARAGRAPH:

However, it is not clear from reading evaluations of past projects that lack of capacity is the primary barrier; rather it may be a question of political will and incentive. If so, will valuation of biodiversity and improved frameworks be sufficient to give national governments and (more importantly) local people incentive to change their practices? What if the business case for conservation isn't strong enough? What valuation methods and models will be used and why? What will be the incentive for palm oil and cocoa industries to engage in a productive manner?

Weak capacity in government institutions is a key barrier and better capacity a pre-requisite for all other improvements to be emplaced in a credible and sustainable manner. The capacity limitations are individual and systemic, wherefore multi-layer capacity development is strong across the different project outputs. The capacity limitations are in addition based on a fundamental lack of resources – which links indeed with the issue raised of *incentives*: at monthly salary levels of c. USD 80, public servant technicians struggle to make ends meet, do not feel incentivised to perform their duties and resort to additional income-generating activities. The project cannot address this in a general manner across government, noting that the IMF recently imposed cuts in public service spending; however, the project will under Output 1.1 conduct an institutional review with the aim to create (more) autonomous institutes/agencies for environment and land use as well as for nature conservation and protected areas, which could allow specific improvements.

However, as STAP implies, improving individual and systemic capacity and incentives in government alone will not be sufficient. Better land use planning (1.2), environmental law enforcement (1.3-1.4), NGO strengthening (1.5), and mobilising more resources (Output 2.4) are all essential to translate the increased capacity into on the ground impacts – where the question of political will comes in:

Sao Tome and Principe show different patterns regarding political will. On ST, the national government rules directly and largely oblivious to environmental issues, with senior government figures known to have stakes in the charcoal and (illegal) timber value chains. In Principe, in contrast, political support for sustainability has been remarkable under the leadership of the President of the Autonomous Regional Government as reflected also in the island's Vision 2030 strategy.

Economic valuation results (under Output 2.3), if favourable, can be one of several arguments to be used to make a better case for a more sustainable management of natural capital on the islands, especially given the existence of champions such as the President of the Principe Government who promotes his view also amongst national-level decision-makers. This can affect development and investment decisions by government and private companies (but not small holder farmer practices). Integrating environment and biodiversity matters into land management (Output 1.2) is meant to provide oversight on such decisions; and further raising political will is linked to the strengthening by the project of the NGO sector (Output 1.5).

Already in the recent past, the raised awareness and influence by key politicians and NGOs led to the halt of biodiversity-harmful developments. The company AgriPalma obtained arbitrarily delineated concessions for oil palm plantations on both Sao Tome (4,917 ha) and Principe. After the conversion of 2,100 ha of lowland forests key for several threatened bird species in southern Sao Tome, further conversion was halted and the plans for Principe were abandoned. Today, AgriPalma appears open to support a better management of forests adjacent to the existing plantations in the interest of these bird species. Political will by some key champions, and CSO pressure were instrumental in this and will now be accompanied by enhanced planning and enforcement.

The economic valuation work with embedded cost-benefit analyses will be undertaken by BirdLife International under ECOFAC co-financing, and BirdLife intends to use the TESSA Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-Based Assessment (<http://tessa.tools>). The toolkit is designed to provide practical guidance on identifying those ecosystem services significant at a site of interest, what data are needed to measure them, what methods or sources can be used to obtain the data and how to communicate the results; the toolkit emphasizes the importance of comparing estimates for alternative states of a site (for example, before and after conversion to agriculture) so that decision-makers can assess the net consequences of such a change, and hence the benefits for human well-being that may be lost through the change or gained by conservation.

B5	<p>So is the use of management plans, noting that these can or should be limited to ten pages with a clear results chain and performance indicators, and should be developed by the agencies that will implement them (with some external facilitation) and not by short term consultants. In addition, STAP believes that it is technically sound to integrate science into planning process.</p>	<p>The Management Plans for the NPs will be redone under the project by ECOFAC/BirdLife International and DFB/Govt in 2020 and 2025 following international best practices, and these will be informed by the growing scientific data that has been produced over the last years – on threats, the distribution of endemic and threatened species of fauna and flora, botany and HCV, etc. The information generated and collected by the SMART/MOBMS system emplaced by the project under Output 2.3 will contribute directly to the 2025 PA Management Plan.</p>
B6	<p>Component 2: Irregular collection and mismanagement of park fees, along with shortage of staff and limited enforcement are major issues. If tourism shows growing potential, this sector should be brought into the process and effort should be made to show how revenue from tourism benefits local communities and businesses (does it?). STAP has developed an excel spreadsheet-based tool – Tourism Economic Model for Protected Areas – TEMPA that could potentially be used to help make the business case for greater investments in park infrastructure, for example.</p>	<p>BirdLife International is working under ECOFAC-6 on improving the park/visitor fee collection system. The fees collected in an ad hoc informal manner amounted to only c USD 600 /week (USD 30,000/year) and were often mismanaged. However, with only 30,000 tourists visiting STP (in 2018) the PPG concluded that the potential to capture significant additional revenue directly from tourists appeared limited and cumbersome or at least not very cost-efficient, wherefore no GEF resources were allocated to strengthen this workstream. To raise the PA fees substantially, substantial investments in PA infrastructure and services would be required that the PPG concluded should not be a priority for the use of GEF resources.</p> <p>Income from tourism could be leveraged through various further means, including i) the collection of voluntary contributions at (luxury) hotels, ii) levies on tourism companies, and iii) arrival/departure levies on tourists. However, none of these was judged to have considerable potential in terms of sustainable PA financing. The potential for i) was considered low because nature or wildlife do not stand out enough for mainstream nature tourists to come to STP in greater numbers. The potential for ii) was considered low because tourism companies are struggling because of poor infrastructure and services and low returns on investment. The half-philanthropic company HBD has invested heavily in infrastructure and hotels on the island of Principe but is yet to generate positive economic returns. It does not seem realistic to expect the government to impose levies on ailing tourism companies. The potential for iii) was considered very low because a tourism tax is already levied but go into national treasury, which is desperate for income given that 95% of the public budget stems from ODA; only a fraction of this revenue is returned to the tourism sector for investment; there are no chances of it contributing to protected area management at this stage.</p> <p>Having said that, the project proposes to develop a framework for private tourism concessions in HCVs if not NPs to create a new tourism product that would build on ecotourism and sustainable management of forest areas.</p> <p>On a final note on this comment, the PPG concluded like STAP that enforcement was a major challenge and made this one of the key outcomes/outputs of the project.</p>

B7	<p>Component 3: STAP endorses the focus on ten buffer zone communities. However, STAP suggests that efforts during the PPG phase give serious consideration to assisting communities to obtain land rights coupled with quality participatory collective governance, but also to move beyond platitudes of SLM, SFM, CFM, IGAs (p12) to technically feasible interventions.</p>	<p>The PPG concluded that while the buffer zone exists in theory, the legal basis is weak (unclear boundaries) and its implementation on the ground non-existent. There are no differences in terms of economic activities between areas “outside the buffer zone” vs “inside the buffer zone”. In addition, the PPG concluded, based on analyses by BirdLife on Sao Tome, that some areas of the “buffer zone” under intense agricultural production cannot be reconverted to more sustainable practices, while other areas clearly outside the “buffer zone” contained important forest areas deserving conservation management. This was summarised in the HCV Forest assessment prepared by BirdLife. The project therefore focuses more on the sustainable management of these HCV areas (vs “buffer zones”) including through the creation of new management models such as private sector concessions – and community-based participatory systems as suggested by STAP.</p> <p>The PPG spent considerable effort in analysing the land tenure situation and possible solutions. Agricultural plots on STP are long-term leases but the government still formally owns the land. There was no room during the PPG for discussing a change of this approach, which would also have far-reaching implications. In fact, in the face of land shortage and with many plots abandoned, government has for long considered revoking the leases of abandoned lands and reallocating them to other people and purposes (including reforestation). This is a politically and socially highly sensitive topic that would affect the entire population of STP. The project proposes to undertake a land plot use assessment together with and for PNOT to inform any decisions taken by the government on this issue. The project will also support the review of the legal and institutional framework on land use planning, with the expectation that a new agency for environment and land management will be created that brings together environmental management, land use planning and management, cadaster, and others. This could be a good platform or starting point to attack issues around the tenure and use of agricultural land plots.</p> <p>In terms of LD interventions, the PPG led to the definition of more concrete and tangible LD and livelihood outcomes, by focusing on the charcoal value chain from different angles: production of more sustainable charcoal based on coconut-waste and the use of enhanced kilns for traditional wood-based charcoal, and the replanting of fast-growing (native) charcoal tree species.</p>
B8	<p>Component 4: Lack of reliable data is listed as a problem: therefore, it is important for project proponents to work with science teams and others to collect and monitor relevant information during the duration of the project.</p>	<p>The project now entails under Component 2 a dedicated output on monitoring biodiversity and threats, through a (SMART) Management Oriented Biodiversity Monitoring System. This will be emplaced under the lead of the Responsible Party BirdLife International who has considerable technical capacity in-country, works well with several international and national academic groups, and is expected to deliver this well together with and for Government agencies.</p>

B9	<p>However, greater effort should be paid to understanding why past projects didn't fulfill their potential (e.g. IFAD biodiversity mainstreaming project discusses many of the same barriers so clearly not 100 % effective. How can this project learn to avoid making same mistakes?).</p>	<p>The PPG team made a thorough analysis of past and existing relevant work. It is safe to say that nationally implemented projects in this domain (GEF and prior ECOFAC cycles) largely failed to deliver their stipulated outcomes because of weak government institutions and project management teams that simply were unable deliver projects and had too-limited external technical and management support.</p> <p>The EU therefore decided to route ECOFAC-6 in STP through BirdLife International. Involvement of BirdLife in the present project assures good complementarity with the govt-led workstream and by working together several of the problems and past mistakes can be mitigated. In addition, the project will procure important additional technical assistance on several domains to deliver and build national capacity at the same time.</p> <p>The IFAD project even if a BD project focused on agricultural production and left a legacy in this sense, but there is general agreement that their projects have not delivered environmental or biodiversity outcomes, whether by design or due to weak implementation.</p>
B10	<p>STAP notes that this project is incremental to 6 stages of the EU-funded ECOFAC programme. Consequently, STAP recommends that the PPG takes great care to focus on doing a few things properly than trying to resolve all problems in a single project cycle, and shares its concerns that the proposal may already be taking on too much. These should probably be 1. Establishing the minimum enabling legal environment with project champions 2. Establishing good management systems in PAs and 3. Piloting high quality community projects.</p>	<p>The regional ECOFAC-6 project is implemented in STP by BirdLife International, and the project has now been designed to fully integrate and complement ECOFAC and other Birdlife-led projects (CEPF, etc.), wherefore BirdLife is also a key co-financier of the project.</p> <p>The PPG team took good notice of this STAP comment and agreed with this request for simplification.</p> <p>As explained in more detail in Answer D1 below, the PPG decided that including marine conservation in the present BD-LD project was an overreach and focused the project on terrestrial ecosystems only.</p> <p>In addition, the use of LD resources in the project at the same time required the inclusion of LD-eligible interventions. The project therefore decided to focus on a several closely inter-related aspects –enabling environment (as suggested), good PA management systems (as suggested) and community projects (as suggested), but complemented with work on environmental law enforcement, land use planning with biodiversity mainstreaming and sustainable charcoal.</p>

B11	<p>Finally, this PIF cites statistics on forest cover that are nearly 20 years old and which rely on the country's own forest survey. In 2018, with the abundance of freely-available satellite data on forest cover, it should be quite simple to update this information and provide a more accurate depiction of the current land cover situation. According to Global Forest Watch, tree cover constitutes 11.5% of total land area. Also this figure would not take into account recent deforestation trends – mainly due to oil palm production and commercial cocoa producers. Effort should be made in the PPG phase to sharpen these numbers to get a better sense of baseline conditions of different types of forest, among other land cover types</p>	<p>The PRODOC entails a detailed description of land cover and use that brings together old data but also recent field work providing the best available estimates on forest cover and quality. As per Tables 1 and 2 in the PRODOC, around 26-28% are native/primary forest, 27-31% secondary forest, 28-32% shade plantations and 12-14% non-forest areas. Figure 2 shows this distribution on a map. Moreover, the PRODOC includes an emerging assessment of HCV forests and their distribution (details in Annex 21). The PRODOC in Annex 20, Sections B1 and B2.1 also provides a detailed assessment of deforestation and forest degradation with maps showing the most important recent impacts. The annual rate of deforestation between 2009-2013 was 0.5%, of which most is due to the mentioned two key agricultural developments for oil palm and cocoa (see also Answer C2). Since these large conversions developments were emplaced, and further expansion plans halted by conservationist pressure, forest degradation due to selective logging has become the bigger threat to forest integrity.</p> <p>It is worth noting in this context that reliable satellite data are not readily available for Sao Tome & Principe due to almost constant cloud cover especially at upper elevations – which is evidenced in the quoted data from Global Forest Watch indicating 11.5% of total land area being tree cover; this is not only erroneous but also lacks the important distinction between different tree-cover types.</p> <p>High-resolution aerial imagery and LIDAR imagery was acquired under a recent land use study (PNOT) but is not yet publicly available.</p>
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Comments from GEF Council Members

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS RECEIVED FROM US REPRESENTATIVE [1]		
#	COUNCIL COMMENT / QUESTION	RESPONSE
C1	<p>Why is the socio-cultural side of ecosystem service demand underemphasized in the project? Component 1 (Strengthened systemic and institutional capacity for protected area management and biodiversity conservation) emphasizes that sound knowledge and scientific data will inform decision making processes relevant to the protection of STPs unique biodiversity, with emphasis on an economic valuation of PA goods and services, without reference to the collection or analysis of socio-cultural use data. These data would seem to additionally inform Components 2 and 3.</p>	<p>The project will under the co-financed work by BirdLife International conduct an economic valuation of the ecosystem services provided by the Natural Parks in STP. However, the notion of socio-cultural ecosystem services did not appear even implicitly present amongst national stakeholders. Provisioning and regulating services are those ecosystem services that figure strongly – water, timber, soil, NTFP, pollination/fructification services for agriculture – as also corroborated by the HCV analysis (see PRODOC Annex 21).</p> <p>Having said that, medicinal plants are a provisioning service sourced from forests that have also socio-cultural connotations – which can be reflected in the valuation studies to be undertaken.</p> <p>During the PPG, the addition of a dedicated Output/Outcome on the creation of innovative value chains based on medicinal and aromatic plants was considered – yet discarded because of linkages with traditional knowledge and genetic resources that required a more robust intervention more clearly focused on ABS and the Nagoya Protocol, also to avoid potential safeguards pitfalls.</p>

C2

Can the GEF provide more evidence to support the assumption made by Component 3 (Integrated, environmentally sustainable land management in multi-use buffer zones) that the agricultural activities in these buffer areas are the principal driver of biodiversity decline, and therefore must be mitigated?

In other contexts, small-scale agriculture can support biodiversity maintenance, and often the drivers of biodiversity decline may arise from associated activities (e.g. domestic dog ownership) that require mitigation in a distinct fashion from changes to agriculture.

PRODOC Section 1.5 *Threats to biodiversity and ecosystems* underpinned by the detailed assessment in Annex 20 provide a comprehensive analysis of the threats to biodiversity in STP.

The conclusion is that habitat modification linked to deforestation and forest degradation has been and continues to be the leading cause of (terrestrial) biodiversity loss – because it is the single most important threat affecting the island’s endemics[2]. Hunting is an additional threat that has specific impacts on particular species, such as the Dwarf Ibis[3].

There is ample evidence that conversion for plantation agriculture (sugarcane, cocoa, coffee) has historically been the leading driver of forest loss and degradation. A subsequent decline in agricultural production from its heights in the 1900s (and an accentuated decline since independence in the 1970s) led to the emergence of significant areas of secondary forests on abandoned plantations. In the 1990s then, land parcels were leased to smallholders and medium-sized enterprises, which caused a new wave of deforestation, especially of secondary forests.

More recently the following factors have combined to create an ever-increasing pressure on the forests of especially Sao Tome, in order of priority: i) selective illegal logging for construction timber and charcoal that has started to encroach on the natural parks given the over-exploitation in other areas of the island; ii) large-scale new agricultural plantations (AgriPalma for oil palm, SATOCAO for cocoa; the largest share of actual deforestation, which has remained relatively low at 0.5%) that led to conversion of significant impacts on key lowland forests; iii) ongoing rehabilitation of previously abandoned agricultural plantations and poorly controlled expansion of smallholder agriculture into forest areas, still mainly outside the NPs but increasingly encroaching on these; iv) urbanisation.

Smallholder agriculture in agro-forestry systems would be able to maintain a subset of the biodiversity of closed forests, yet there is limited land left to increase production area outside the PAs, and there is substantial interest in increasing open-field farming to produce pepper and vanilla and horticultural products, with greater habitat impacts.

The PPG/PRODOC differs from the PIF in its interpretation of the economic activities causing biodiversity loss, and the response measures proposed by the project. The PPG concluded that combining better PA management with enhanced agricultural practices (SLM) targeted at small-holders was insufficient. Instead the project decided to combine better PA management with enhanced law enforcement (to address illegal logging and hunting), in addition to mainstreaming of biodiversity into land use planning and management and attempting to make the charcoal value chain more sustainable (the timber value chain being covered by the FAO/GEF project).

C3	<p>The community consultation and engagement aspects of this project are relatively weak, is this an oversight that will be corrected in later stages project development? How do you intend to strengthen community consultation and engagement?</p>	<p>Community engagement is a key focus of the project and spread across all 4 components of the project: under Component 1 on i) integrated cross-sector land use planning and management where land use assessments will be conducted together with and for communities, ii) environmental law surveillance and enforcement that is expected to include notions of community surveillance, and iii) CBO strengthening; under Component 2, on iv) involvement in PA management governance bodies and the development of new management models for conservation areas (which are expected to include community-based models); under Component 3, on iv) sustainable charcoal and viii) community management and sustainable livelihoods; and under Component 4, viii) on gender mainstreaming and empowerment.</p> <p>This will be achieved through various means: consultation meetings; involvement in national platforms on environmental law enforcement and sustainable charcoal; technical workshops; community engagement and field trainings facilitated by project staff, CTA or specialist TA; but most importantly through the regular assistance provided by a gender-focused community organiser on each island.</p> <p>This is all reflected in PRODOC Annexes 9 and 10 – the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and the list of the stakeholders consulted during the PPG project design phase with summaries of community consultations regarding the project framework led by the GEF OFP.</p>
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C4	Can the GEF explain why there is relatively little private sector engagement in the project? Are there specific barriers you have identified? Or do you intend to engage the private sector later in the project cycle?	<p>Engaging the private sector at PIF stage tends to be difficult given the limited time available to prepare/design projects at that stage. The PPG however offered a more ample opportunity to address this.</p> <p>Generally speaking, the private sector in STP is not very strongly developed. The private sector stakeholders primarily relevant for the project are the exporting companies in agricultural production/trade and the internationally-marketed companies in tourism, as well as smaller-scale national enterprises linked to forestry/charcoal-making.</p> <p>Many of these companies are sensitised to environmental issues, because the relatively small size of the island, together with isolation and/or small production volumes, forces them to seek premium niche markets. Some notable exceptions occurred over the last decade when AgriPalma (oil palm) and SATOCAO (cocoa) deforested large tracts when installing their plantations but even these are more sensitised today, and both have refrained from converting the entirety of the concessions they were granted.</p> <p>The project will target these companies to varying degrees and on various topics – on formal and informal biodiversity mainstreaming, as capacity development beneficiary such as on sustainable kiln technology, as stakeholders in environmental law enforcement, as potential committed buyers of sustainable charcoal, etc.</p> <p>The PPG moreover gave rise to a partnership between the project and Valudo, the dominant coconut-product manufacturer/trader on STP, through which the project will introduce and establish a coconut-charcoal (briquette) value chain. A PPP is expected to be signed by Valudo and Government. Valudo will provide cofinance but will benefit from technical assistance on charcoal kiln technology and subsidies for the purchase of a semi-industrial kiln to launch production at scale.</p> <p>The half-philanthropic tourism company HBD on Principe Island, who set up and continues to finance the Fundacao Principe, will be engaged also regarding the proposed STP Conservation Trust Fund.</p> <p>Please see also the Stakeholder Engagement Plan in PRODOC Annex 10.</p>
C5	How is the oil sector and potential impact of oil discoveries accounted for or factored into the life of proposed activities?	See answer D1 below

C6	Can the GEF and/or Agency describe the impact of the project activities will have on enhancing long-term human capacity for conservation? This is only mentioned briefly and we would appreciate greater detail.	<p>Human capacity development goals are a key focus of the project and spread across the different components: under Component 1 on i) integrated cross-sector land use planning and management, and the mainstreaming of environment and biodiversity concerns in the process, ii) environmental law surveillance and enforcement and iii) NGO planning and management; under Component 2, on iv) biological science and biodiversity conservation and PA management, including the development of new management models for conservation areas, v) biodiversity and threats monitoring and vi) biodiversity finance; under Component 3, on vii) sustainable charcoal and viii) community management and sustainable livelihoods; and under Component 4, viii) on gender mainstreaming and empowerment.</p> <p>This will be achieved through various means: public awareness seminars for parliamentarians etc.; technical workshops facilitated by project staff, CTA or specialist TA; on the job learning; subsidised internships in-country and abroad; subsidised post-graduate or diploma training to (to build a new cohort of young conservation professionals); technology demonstrations; and community engagement and field trainings.</p>
C7	Will there be extra safeguards put in place to protect endangered or endemic species?	<p>The primary threat to STP's endemic and endangered terrestrial biodiversity is habitat loss and degradation, from agricultural conversion and logging. Hunting is a secondary threat and not too relevant for most of these species, but for instance a key threat to Critically Endangered Dwarf Ibis. IAS are a growing threat yet still not a priority in relative terms. Given this present threat situation, safeguarding forest habitats/areas of particularly high conservation value appears the best approach to safeguard endemic and endangered terrestrial species of STP; this will be accompanied with a review of the hunting legislation and better environmental law enforcement to address inter alia hunting.</p> <p>Very little detailed information was available until recently – reflected also in the fact that the whole of the two islands were designated KBAs. It is only now that distribution maps begin to emerge for specific species and High Conservation Value forests (see PRODOC Annex 21). Unfortunately, it was now found that one area in the SSE of ST important for some of the endangered bird species has been partly converted into a state-sponsored oil palm plantation (AgriPalma); work is underway to mainstream these concerns and prevent further expansion, and this will be fully integrated into the project.</p>

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS RECEIVED FROM U.S.[1]

#	COUNCIL COMMENT / QUESTION	RESPONSE
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C8	We suggest stronger coordination with the United States Government in Sao Tome and Libreville. Please reach out to Rebecca Fisher (Rebecca.fisher@treasury.gov) and Elizabeth Nichols (nicholses@state.gov) to initiate this connection.	This was not achieved during the PPG due to an oversight, but the U.S. Government representation in STP and Gabon was added to the bilateral and multilateral partners the project will coordinate and work with during implementation, with a note that this outreach should take place upon project inception – please see in PRODOC Annex 10 <i>Stakeholder Engagement Plan</i> .
C9	We would appreciate more explicit detail in the PIF on exactly how strengthened institutional arrangements and capacities will ensure sustained project activities.	The PPG invested significant efforts in defining the most promising project governance and management arrangements to achieve good implementation and some degree of post-project sustainability. In-depth capacity assessments were conducted of the lead national executing partner (DGA) and additional national government partners as well as of relevant NGOs. A blend of national government implementation and implementation via a Responsible Party NGO (BirdLife International and further NGOs assisting) was chosen. For details, please refer to PRODOC Section VI <i>Governance and Management Arrangements</i> and the section on sustainability in §257-260.
C10	We would appreciate greater detail about the abilities of the government to meet the co-financing obligations of this project.	<p>The ability for the Government of STP to provide co-financing was explained in appropriate sections in the PRODOC (§5, Table 13) and CEO ER (§13 and the subsequent table, Answer A2 responding to a comment from GEF SEC above). The Government will be able to contribute only in-kind co-financing, which is however secured as these are recurrent baseline expenditures.</p> <p>During the CEO ER resubmission process, UNDP additionally consulted Government on this matter, and the following is a consolidated response and reaction: “the Government is not in the position to provide any cash/grant financing. São Tomé and Príncipe is a SIDS with extremely low GDP and a persistent economic deceleration, especially in the last years since external financial fluxes have considerably diminished. Traditionally, the USD 150-160 million public budget depended to more than 95% on foreign support. In November 2019, the government announced that the 2020 public budget will amount to USD 159 million, with recurrent operational expenditures to be covered from internal revenue for the first time in history, thanks to the introduction of VAT as of January 2020 – while investment expenditures will continue to be covered from foreign aid.”</p>

C11	We would appreciate greater detail on the expected output of rehabilitation of critical infrastructure including the Obô Natural Park building in Principe.	The budget for infrastructure rehabilitation was much reduced in the PRODOC. Since the PIF was written in 2018, the government with support from UNDP already renovated much of an old school building to turn it into a multi-purpose seat for the regional environment administration in Principe, which will host also the NP and Biosphere Reserve Department. Given the location on the main road accessing the islands interior and NP, the building will at the same time act as headquarters and main entrance control gate for the NP. The project will complement these recent renovations with the rehabilitation of a small appendix that will be used for hosting tourists and scientists; and will provide equipment on site to build an addition and more accessibly-located nursery for the restoration work proposed by the project.
C12	We recommend that the Directorate of Tourism, Coast Guard, Directorate of Fisheries, and local authorities in Sao Tome be included in the coordination team.	<p>Given that the project will now not include dedicated work on marine biodiversity and resources (see Answer D1 above), the Directorate for Fisheries and Fishery Resources and Coast Guard will be less affected/relevant to the project – they will however both be involved in preliminary discussions about how new legal frameworks must be linked to future Marine Protected Areas, and the Coast Guard will be involved in the project’s work on Environmental Law Enforcement.</p> <p>The General Directorate for Tourism and Hospitality will be involved especially regarding the work under Component 2 (tourism practices, tourism revenue, tourism in PAs, HCV concessions, etc.). Local authorities will be involved throughout the project under all components.</p> <p>The mentioned stakeholders will hence be closely involved in the project as is reflected in greater detail in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan in PRODOC Annex 10; yet they will not be in the Steering Committee/Project Board, which involves the lead government and non-government agencies and must be limited in size to be effective.</p>

[1] <http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/work-program-documents/Compilation%20of%20Council%20Comments%20-%20June%202018%20Work%20Program.pdf>

[1] <http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/work-program-documents/Compilation%20of%20Council%20Comments%20-%20June%202018%20Work%20Program.pdf>

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS RECEIVED FROM FRANCE REPRESENTATIVE [4]⁴

#	COUNCIL COMMENT / QUESTION	RESPONSE
D1	<p>Although we support the overall objectives of the project, we believe the PIF substantially lacks of information providing the context of this project and, as a result, the project does not appear to be properly articulated to the ongoing initiatives on the biodiversity conservation in Principe. More specifically:</p> <p>There is no mention of the gas and oil exploration plans and how the project could deal with these</p>	<p>We agree with the assessment that the PIF lacked information and remained vague on the proposed intervention. The project described in the PRODOC is now far more concrete and better embedded in ongoing work and targets specific underlying drivers – this however also required a reframing of the project at several levels (Title, Objective, Outcomes, Outputs, etc.), as explained in the relevant sections of the CEO Endorsement Request.</p> <p>Given that oil and gas exploration sites in STP are located offshore – in fact far offshore – engaging the sector in conservation is directly linked with marine biodiversity & protected areas – in terms of both impact mitigation and biodiversity offsetting. In addition, the oil & gas sector is still in its infancy and no commercially viable deposits have been found to date. See:</p> <p>http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/831531562907780509/Country-Economic-Memorandum-Background-Note-4-Update-on-oil-and-gas-exploration-and-production-in-S%C3%A3o-Tom%C3%A9-and-Pr%C3%ADncipe</p> <p>https://eiti.org/sao-tome-principe</p> <p>https://eiti.org/news/more-costs-than-income-so-far-quest-for-oil-in-sao-tome-principe</p> <p>The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is supporting STP in informing the dialogue on rethinking how the sector could attract further investment while being managed in line with international best practice, in the hypothetical case that oil would be discovered in commercially viable quantities and exploitation in this area would be competitive.</p> <p>After an exhaustive situation analysis and a priority threat and baseline assessment during the PPG that involved 6 weeks spent in country by the lead expert, the present project was reframed in such a way that it now focuses on terrestrial ecosystems. Noting the project was from the start conceived as a BD & LD MFA, the PPG concluded that integration of the marine environment was an overreach.</p> <p>The PPG also found a few emerging NGO-led projects on marine biodiversity (which include work on community-based fisheries pilots, marine PA identification) that are already considering outreach to the oil & gas sector. A marginal and redundant intervention on marine work and the oil & gas sector under the present UNDP-GEF project did therefore not seem indicated.</p> <p>We believe that a separate standalone follow-up project – under GEF-7, GEF-8 or via another donor – should take this on, yet focusing on marine biodiversity more widely, by mainstreaming of biodiversity into 1-2-3 key sectors (fisheries, oil & gas, sand mining) and the creation and operationalisation of marine PAs.</p>

D2	<p>There is a mention of the Regional Directorate of Environment and Nature Conservation, but others are missing such as the fisheries, infrastructure and tourism. The legal framework may also need to link with the regional parliament as the national government has no power to legislate in Príncipe about land planning and protected areas, unless the status of the protected is a National Park. If it is intended to create a protected area, then the issue is not only capacitation of technicians and rangers but also at the institutional level it is needed to ensure institutional, legal and functional/operational capacity and understanding.</p>	<p>While the national-level executing agency will be DGA, the Government counterpart on the island of Príncipe will be the Autonomous Regional Government, most especially the Secretariat for Environment and Sustainable Development (RSED) - which encompasses the main departments targeted by the project as it is not framed: Forests and Biodiversity, Biosphere Reserve and Natural Park, and Environment and Natural Resources. The RSED will be designated lead agency or responsible party by DGA.</p> <p>The PPG concluded that the project will after all focus on terrestrial ecosystems (see answer D1 above) wherefore fisheries will not be a targeted sector anymore. Work on the legal framework under Output 1.1 can prepare the ground for future marine PA gazettement and consider also the local specificities on Príncipe, yet the project does not intend to deliver actual MPA gazettement as it would require a significantly different approach in technical, investment and outreach terms.</p> <p>The tourism sector will be one of the sectors engaged including on Príncipe, through the work on concessions and the management of tourists in the PA, and regarding sector mainstreaming (Output 1.2). In any case, the Príncipe Regional Government is sufficiently small that exchanges will take place once this project with its relatively important resources for the island, is installed.</p> <p>Members of the island parliament are specifically targeted by the project through awareness-raising and training workshops under Output 2.2.</p>
D3	<p>The existing donation scheme of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is totally ignored when it has already marine and coastal areas with the highest level of protection (core zones), including the Tinhosas Islands. No reference is made of the existing programs for the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in Príncipe that were presented officially and in public sessions at the time (and several times after) of the Scientific Expedition : BioPríncipe 2016 that was developed precisely aiming the collection of base line to support the establishment of marine protected areas. Several reports and technical papers were published already (even today a new species of marine mollusk was presented at the Portuguese National Congress of Malacology), and are ignored.</p>	<p>The contribution that UNESCO made in terms of classifying the entire island of Príncipe together with the Tinhosas Islands and other islets with their surrounding marine habitats as a Biosphere Reserve was already accredited in the PIF (see PIF footnote 8).</p> <p>However, the Biosphere Reserve has at this stage by itself no national legal status, as it has not been transposed into national law. This applies especially to the marine areas under the Biosphere Reserve. Despite the valuable work by BioPríncipe and others (OIKOS, FFI, MARAPA), and the interest of the regional government in declaring marine PAs, these marine areas do not have appropriate legal status, and adequate management systems remain to be put in place.</p> <p>Having said that, as explained in answer D1 above, the project as it is now framed to focus almost entirely on terrestrial ecosystems to avoid a premature overreach, allowing also a clearer articulation with the LD components. Information on marine ecosystems and their conservation has been integrated in the situation and baseline analyses. Work on the legal framework under Output 1.1 can prepare the ground for future marine PA gazettement and consider also the local specificities on Príncipe, yet the project does not intend to deliver actual MPA gazettement as it would require a significantly different approach in technical, investment and outreach terms.</p>

D4	<p>In resume, we think that the baseline (scientific and institutional) should be revised in order to consider the real and existing features/knowledge and in the case of Príncipe better described how the project will work, who will be the actors doing what. Other institutions may be engaged in Príncipe, namely the Insular Committee under SMILO as well as the NGO called: Amigos da Reserva da Biosfera, among others.</p> <p>Apart from these remarks, we would like to convey our strong appreciation regarding component 4, to the extent that it mentions up-scaling, promotion of innovations, and good practices sharing which are also objectives of French cooperation-supported SMILO.</p>	<p>As indicated above, we agree that the PIF remained very vague. The project described in the PRODOC now has detailed baseline and stakeholder analyses and identifies the key players that can deliver the project across the central national government, the Príncipe Regional Government and key NGOs. The focus on mainly terrestrial aspects has led to some shifts here as well.</p>
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COMMENTS/QUESTIONS RECEIVED FROM GERMANY[1]		
#	COUNCIL COMMENT / QUESTION	RESPONSE
E1	<p>Germany generally welcomes the proposal for a highly relevant project. However, Germany shares some of the minor concerns of STAP especially regarding the need for a thorough analysis of governance and management options for the marine and terrestrial protected areas of Sao Tome and Principe.</p> <p><u>Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal:</u></p> <p>As a first step, Governance Assessments should be conducted to identify appropriate governance and management arrangements among public institutions, local population and eventually other actors.</p>	Please see Answer C9 above
E2	<p>Sao Tome and Principe is member of the Central African Forest Commission. Therefore, the project should actively engage in regional dialogues on protected areas with other COMIFAC members and build on orientation and tools developed in COMIFAC with support of the Regional project “Support to the Central African Forest Commission” implemented by GIZ on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).</p>	COMIFAC and GIZ are listed in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan in PRODOC Annex 10 and CEO ER §54, with wording reflecting this suggestion/request.

[1] <http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/work-program-documents/Compilation%20of%20Council%20Comments%20-%20June%202018%20Work%20Program.pdf>

[1] As communicated to UNDP by the GEF Secretariat through Jean-Marc Sinnassamy, 20 June 2018

[2] E.g.: Ministry for Natural Resources and the Environment (2007) National Report on the Status of Biodiversity in São Tomé and Príncipe, 108 pp; Ward-Francis and Ndang'ang'a (2014) International Species Action Plan for the Conservation of Critically Endangered birds on São Tomé 2014-2018, Birdlife International, 29 pp (and references therein); Carvalho et al. (2015) Wild meat consumption on São Tomé Island, West Africa: implications for conservation and local livelihoods. Ecology and Society 20(3): 27. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5751/ES-07831-200327> (and references therein).

[3] <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/22697478/131389052#habitat-ecology>

[4] As communicated to UNDP by the GEF Secretariat through Jean-Marc Sinnassamy, 5th July 2018

ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS.

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

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: 150,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent Todate</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
- Preparatory technical reviews & studies and stakeholder consultations - Formulation of the UNDP-GEF project document, GEF CEO Endorsement Request, and mandatory and project specific annexes - Conduct the validation workshop and report	150,000	41,564.98	108,435.02
Total	150,000.00	41,564.98	108,435.02

ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)

Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)

N/A

ANNEX E: GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

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

Country: São Tomé and Príncipe UNDP PIMS 5881 / GEF ID 10007 Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Land and Natural Resource Management FY2019 Baseline GEF-7 Core Indicator Worksheet							
Core Indicator 1		Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use					32,454 ha (a)
		Hectares (1.1+1.2)					
		Expected			Achieved		
			Endorsement	MTR	TE		
		30,000	32,454				
Indicator 1.1		Terrestrial protected areas newly created					0 ha
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Expected		Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0			
Indicator 1.2		Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness					32,454 ha
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score			
				Baseline		Achieved	
				---	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Parque Natural Obô de São Tomé	124355	II National Park	25,274		35		
Parque Natural do Príncipe	555592842	II National Park	7,180		46		
		Sum	32,454				
Core Indicator 2		Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use					0 ha (b)
		Hectares (2.1+2.2)					
		Expected			Achieved		
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE	
			11,198.55	0			
Indicator 2.1		Marine protected areas newly created					0 ha
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares				

			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
Marine part of Príncipe Biosphere Reserve	N/A	N/A	11,198.55	0		
		Sum	11,198.55	0		
Indicator 2.2	Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness					0 ha
Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN category	Hectares	METT Score		
				Baseline		Achieved
				---	Endorsement	MTR
		Sum				
Core Indicator 4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)					12,414 ha (c)
			Hectares (4.1+4.2+4.3+4.4)			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			17,767	12,414		
Indicator 4.1	Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity					6,207 (d)
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			17,767	6,207 (*)		
Indicator 4.2	Area of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations					0 ha
Third party certification(s):			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			0	0		
Indicator 4.3	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems					0 ha
			Hectares			
			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			0	0		
Indicator 4.4	Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided					6,207 (e)
Documentation justifying HCVF is included in PRODOC Annex 21			Hectares			

			Expected		Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
			0	6,207 (**)		
Core Indicator 11			Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment			2000 (f)
			Number			
					Achieved	
			PIF stage	Endorsement	MTR	TE
		Female	300 (150 Households @ 4/2)	1000		
		Male	300 (150 Households @ 4/2)	1000		
		Total	600	2000		

(a): Increased from 30,000 ha at PIF stage to 32,454 ha because of improved calculations.

(b): Reduced from 11,199 ha at PIF stage to 0 ha because the core marine biodiversity area of the Príncipe Biosphere Reserve to be declared MPA was removed from the project scope. Noting that the project was from the start conceived as a BD & LD MFA, the PPG concluded (after an exhaustive situation analysis and a priority threat and baseline assessment during the PPG that involved 6 weeks spent in country by the lead expert) that integration of the marine environment (marine biodiversity, marine protected areas) was an overreach. The project now focuses on terrestrial ecosystems to address priority threats. This was decided because the 2 existing terrestrial PAs continue to struggle in terms of basic management and financing, and the last years have seen renewed encroachment by agricultural developments and severe (illegal) selective logging. Expanding the PA system to include a marine component therefore appeared premature, in spite of all the need and interest to address this challenge too. Work on the legal framework under Output 1.1 can prepare the ground for future marine PA gazettelement and consider also the local specificities on Príncipe, yet the project does not intend to deliver actual MPA gazettelement and operationalisation as it would require a significantly different approach in technical, investment and outreach terms. The PPG concluded that a separate standalone follow-up project – under GEF-7, GEF-8 or via another donor – should take this on, yet focusing on marine biodiversity more widely, by mainstreaming of biodiversity into 1-2-3 key sectors (fisheries, oil & gas, sand mining) and the creation and operationalisation of marine PAs. The PPG also found a few emerging NGO-led projects on marine biodiversity that include work on community-based fisheries pilots and marine PA identification that can prepare the ground for such more important work in the future.

(c): Reduced from 17,767 ha at PIF stage to 12,414 ha (sum of (d) and (e) below) because the former had included the (poorly defined and demarcated) “buffer zone around protected areas”, whereas the new calculation now is more precise and focuses on the HVA forest areas instead that are a better reference for the areas outside the PAs in which sustainable management or conservation regimes should be applied.

(d): Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity: estimated to 50% of 10,913 ha of HCV in Sao Tome (the half not under avoided loss below) + 50% of the HCV areas to be identified on Principe (1,500 ha estimated before studies, so 50%=750 ha; the half not under avoided loss below).

(e): Avoid loss of HCV Forests: estimated to 50% of 10,913 ha of HCV in Sao Tome (the half not under better management above) + 50% of the HCV areas to be identified on Principe (1,500 ha estimated before studies, so 50%=750 ha; the half not under better management above; the objective is not to avoid wholesale conversion but to avoid HCV trigger status loss from forest degradation by unsustainable selective logging and natural resource exploitation.

(f): Guarda Ambiental 20; Community surveillance 20; capacity-building and direct engagement: 100 govt technicians; 40 politicians, 60 technicians, 500 community members + charcoal makers; 17 academics/interns; 30+ eco-guides; 10 Valudo employment; 20 tree planting; c. 1200 incl. co-beneficiaries through c. 30 household livelihood and value chain micro-grants @ avge household size of 4. Total estimate c. 2000.

ANNEX: Project Taxonomy Worksheet

Use this Worksheet to list down the taxonomic information required under Part1 by ticking the most relevant keywords/topics//themes that best describes the project

Annex G: GEF Project Taxonomy Worksheet

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Influencing models			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transform policy and regulatory environments		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convene multi-stakeholder alliances		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demonstrate innovative approaches		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deploy innovative financial instruments		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholders			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Peoples		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Sector		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Capital providers	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Financial intermediaries and market facilitators	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Large corporations	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SMEs	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individuals/Entrepreneurs	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Grant Pilot	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Project Reflow	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficiaries		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Communities		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civil Society		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Based Organization	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Governmental Organization	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Academia	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Trade Unions and Workers Unions	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Type of Engagement		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Dissemination	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partnership	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultation	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Participation	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Awareness Raising	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Public Campaigns	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Behaviour Change	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity, Knowledge and Research			

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enabling Activities		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity Development		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge Generation and Exchange		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Research		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Learning		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Theory of Change	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptive Management	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indicators to Measure Change	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Innovation		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge and Learning		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knowledge Management	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Capacity Development	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Learning	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder Engagement Plan		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender Equality			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender Mainstreaming		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficiaries	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Women groups	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sex-disaggregated indicators	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender-sensitive indicators	

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender results areas		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access and control over natural resources	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Participation and leadership	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access to benefits and services	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity development	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Awareness raising	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge generation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Focal Areas/Theme			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Programs		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Commodity Supply Chains (Good Growth Partnership)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Commodities Production
			<input type="checkbox"/> Deforestation-free Sourcing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Screening Tools
			<input type="checkbox"/> High Conservation Value Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> High Carbon Stocks Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Soybean Supply Chain
			<input type="checkbox"/> Oil Palm Supply Chain
			<input type="checkbox"/> Beef Supply Chain
			<input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder Farmers
			<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptive Management
		<input type="checkbox"/> Food Security in Sub-Sahara Africa	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Resilience (climate and shocks)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Production Systems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Agroecosystems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Land and Soil Health
			<input type="checkbox"/> Diversified Farming
			<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Land and Water Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder Farming
			<input type="checkbox"/> Small and Medium Enterprises
			<input type="checkbox"/> Crop Genetic Diversity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Food Value Chains
			<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Dimensions
			<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-stakeholder Platforms
		<input type="checkbox"/> Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Food Systems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Restoration
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Commodity Production
			<input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Land Use Planning
			<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Landscapes
			<input type="checkbox"/> Food Value Chains
			<input type="checkbox"/> Deforestation-free Sourcing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder Farmers
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Cities	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated urban planning

			<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated urban planning
			<input type="checkbox"/> Urban sustainability framework
			<input type="checkbox"/> Transport and Mobility
			<input type="checkbox"/> Buildings
			<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal waste management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Green space
			<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Biodiversity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Food Systems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Energy efficiency
			<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Financing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Global Platform for Sustainable Cities
			<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Resilience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected Areas and Landscapes	
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial Protected Areas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal and Marine Protected Areas
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Productive Landscapes
			<input type="checkbox"/> Productive Seascapes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Based Natural Resource Management
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mainstreaming	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Extractive Industries (oil, gas, mining)

			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry (Including HCVF and REDD+)
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & agrobiodiversity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure
			<input type="checkbox"/> Certification (National Standards)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Certification (International Standards)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Species	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal Wildlife Trade
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Threatened Species
			<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife for Sustainable Development
			<input type="checkbox"/> Crop Wild Relatives
			<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Genetic Resources
			<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Genetic Resources
			<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock Wild Relatives
			<input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Alien Species (IAS)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biomes	
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mangroves
			<input type="checkbox"/> Coral Reefs
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sea Grasses
			<input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rivers
			<input type="checkbox"/> Lakes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tropical Rain Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Tropical Dry Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Temperate Forests
			<input type="checkbox"/> Grasslands
			<input type="checkbox"/> Paramo
			<input type="checkbox"/> Desert
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial and Accounting	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Payment for Ecosystem Services
			<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation Trust Funds
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation Finance
		<input type="checkbox"/> Supplementary Protocol to the CBD	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Biosafety
			<input type="checkbox"/> Access to Genetic Resources Benefit Sharing
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forests		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest and Landscape Restoration	
			<input type="checkbox"/> REDD/REDD+
		<input type="checkbox"/> Forest	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Amazon
			<input type="checkbox"/> Congo
			<input type="checkbox"/> Drylands

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Degradation		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Land Management	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands
			<input type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem Approach
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community-Based NRM
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Livelihoods
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income Generating Activities
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Agriculture
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Pasture Management
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Forest/Woodland Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Fire Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Drought Mitigation/Early Warning
		<input type="checkbox"/> Land Degradation Neutrality	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Land Productivity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Land Cover and Land cover change
			<input type="checkbox"/> Carbon stocks above or below ground
		<input type="checkbox"/> Food Security	
	<input type="checkbox"/> International Waters		

		<input type="checkbox"/> Ship	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Aquifer
			<input type="checkbox"/> River Basin
			<input type="checkbox"/> Lake Basin
		<input type="checkbox"/> Learning	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent toxic substances	
		<input type="checkbox"/> SIDS : Small Island Dev States	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Research	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Pollution	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent toxic substances
			<input type="checkbox"/> Plastics
			<input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient pollution from all sectors except wastewater
			<input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient pollution from Wastewater
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Plan preparation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Action Plan Implementation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Large Marine Ecosystems	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Marine Protected Area	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Biomes	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Mangrove
			<input type="checkbox"/> Coral Reefs
			<input type="checkbox"/> Seagrasses
			<input type="checkbox"/> Polar Ecosystems
			<input type="checkbox"/> Constructed Wetlands
	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemicals and Waste		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mercury	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Artisanal and Scale Gold Mining	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Coal Fired Power Plants	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Coal Fired Industrial Boilers	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Cement	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Ferrous Metals Production	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ozone	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Organic Pollutants	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sound Management of chemicals and Waste	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Waste Management	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste Management
			<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Waste
			<input type="checkbox"/> e-Waste

		<input type="checkbox"/> Emissions	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Disposal	
		<input type="checkbox"/> New Persistent Organic Pollutants	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Polychlorinated Biphenyls	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plastics	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Eco-Efficiency	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides	
		<input type="checkbox"/> DDT - Vector Management	
		<input type="checkbox"/> DDT - Other	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Emissions	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Open Burning	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Best Available Technology / Best Environmental Practices	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Green Chemistry	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Adaptation	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Finance
			<input type="checkbox"/> Least Developed Countries
			<input type="checkbox"/> Small Island Developing States
			<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Risk Management

			<input type="checkbox"/> Sea-level rise
			<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Resilience
			<input type="checkbox"/> Climate information
			<input type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptation Tech Transfer
			<input type="checkbox"/> National Adaptation Programme of Action
			<input type="checkbox"/> National Adaptation Plan
			<input type="checkbox"/> Mainstreaming Adaptation
			<input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector
			<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation
			<input type="checkbox"/> Complementarity
			<input type="checkbox"/> Community-based Adaptation
			<input type="checkbox"/> Livelihoods
		<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Mitigation	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land Use
			<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Efficiency
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Urban Systems and Transport
			<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Transfer
			<input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy
			<input type="checkbox"/> Financing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Enabling Activities
		<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Transfer	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer
			<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Endogenous technology
			<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Needs Assessment
			<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptation Tech Transfer
		<input type="checkbox"/> United Nations Framework on Climate Change	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Nationally Determined Contribution
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rio Markers		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Paris Agreement	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Development Goals	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Mitigation 0	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Mitigation 1	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Mitigation 2	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Adaptation 0	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Adaptation 1	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change Adaptation 2	



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