

GEF-8 WORLD BANK PCN STAGE/GEF DATA SHEET



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General Project Information

Project Title

Guinea Water and Sanitation Project

Region	GEF Project ID
Guinea	11575
Country(ies)	Type of Project
Guinea	FSP
GEF Agency(ies):	GEF Agency ID
World Bank	
Executing Partner	Executing Partner Type
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development & Ministry of Energy, Hydraulics, and Hydrocarbons	Government
GEF Focal Area (s)	Submission Date
Climate Change	3/20/2024

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Climate Change Adaptation Sector

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Least Developed Countries, Private sector, Climate resilience, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Private Sector, SMEs, Local Communities, Beneficiaries, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Partnership, Participation, Communications, Public Campaigns, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Access to benefits and services, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Knowledge Exchange

Type of Trust Fund	Project Duration (Months)
LDCF	60
GEF Project Grant: (a)	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)
10,092,000.00	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)
908,000.00	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Total Co-financing
11,000,000.00	200,000,000.00
PPG Amount: (e)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)
0.00	0.00
PPG total amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)



11,000,000.00

Project Tags

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

Project Summary

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

Guinea is a low-income country in West Africa with a population of around 13.1 million and is one of the poorest countries in the world. Economic growth in Guinea averaged 4.6 percent (2.2 percent in per capita terms) between 2000 and 2020, a rate slightly above the average for sub-Saharan Africa (4.2 percent) during the same period. Prudent fiscal management has helped support Guinea's macroeconomic stability. Nevertheless, there has been little impact in terms of poverty reduction and shared prosperity in recent years and the poverty rate declined just one percentage point per year from 48.5 percent in 2014, to 43.7 percent in 2018) (World Bank, 2021). The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated this fragility, with deep economic, poverty and health impacts.

The human capital needs in Guinea are substantial but current efforts are not enough to support the most vulnerable people. Guinea's human capital index is 0.4 as of 2020, which means a person born in Guinea today will be 40 percent as productive as if they enjoyed full education, health, and employment. The rating is particularly low for women (0.36). Marginalized groups such as the urban youth and women (particularly in agricultural areas or in the poorest quintiles) are some of the most vulnerable groups in Guinea. Guinea ranks near the bottom of the list of countries on the gender equality index (118 on 146 countries in 2022). Gender gaps start early, with girls less likely to attend school, and to drop out due to early marriage or pregnancy, while persistent gender-based violence (GBV) in many forms reduce women's opportunities and agency. Guinea has adopted several legal instruments and has ratified the majority of international legal instruments that integrate dimensions related to gender and GBV. However, gender inequality is still pronounced in Guinea across a range of socioeconomic, health, and education outcomes. All of these outcomes are aggravated by lack of reliable water supply, as women have to resort to collecting or paying for water through other sources e.g. going to neighbors who have private boreholes to fill buckets of water multiple times a day.

Although the country has adopted legal texts and ratified several regional and international genderrelated instruments, its performance in this area remains mixed. In Guinea, women devote a major part of their daily hours to the completion of unpaid care work compared to men counterpart. In fact, on average, women spent around 12 hours per week in the completion of unpaid care work compared to men who only devoted about 4 hours to those activities. Beyond the average, women declared to spent 98 hours per week, ie 14 hours per day, in unpaid care work. The maximum level of hours is of 68 per week (around 10 hours per day) for men. This clearly demonstrates that unpaid care work consumes a huge amount of time for both men and women in Guinea. In other words, these activities are crucial and highly valued by society. However, the completion of those activities is primarily assigned to women is Guinea.

Guinea is a water rich country, endowed with 1,165 rivers spread over 23 watersheds, 14 of which are shared with its neighboring countries, including the Niger, Senegal and Gambia rivers. While Guinea is a member of regional river basin authorities, including the Niger Basin Authority (ABN), OMVS and OMVG, it needs to boost its capacity to participate in these transboundary platforms in order to benefit fully from its position as an



upstream riparian and mobilize its surface water resources for multiple uses. There are also significant groundwater resources (an estimated 13,000 billion m3), but they have not been well managed, with significant gaps in knowledge about the state of the resource, as well as weak institutional capacity to monitor and exploit groundwater in a sustainable manner. While some groundwater modeling studies have been undertaken, there is little understanding of the dynamics of the proliferation of private boreholes in major urban areas and the potential impact on water resources. These challenges in terms of knowledge and institutional capacity apply for surface water management as well. Indeed, the 1,165 rivers referred to above are from a very old data and no systematic assessment of the Guinea surface water potential has been undertaken in the recent 20 years.

Water is a key aspect of Guinea's strategy for adapting to climate change. The National Water Policy (*Politique Nationale de l'Eau*) was approved in 2018 and aims to develop an integrated approach to water resources throughout the country and address the challenges of climate change. Guinea is facing a decrease in precipitation as well as increased variability of rainfall; an increase in temperatures observed since the 1990s and an increase in extreme weather events. The National Adaptation Plan (*Plan National d'Adaptation*) includes an indicator related to the percentage of the population potentially exposed to water stress.

Guinea is one of the world's most vulnerable countries to climate change, ranking the 161st out of 185 countries, according to the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative. Climate risks are projected to affect the sustainability of water resources and associated infrastructure in the future. Although Guinea is endowed with abundant water resources, significant changes in rainfall patterns have been observed in recent decades and are expected to continue in the future, coinciding with a gradual increase in temperature and rise in sea levels, with the risk of saline intrusion into freshwater supplies placing further stress on water resources. Annual precipitation has shown high variability on both interannual and interdecadal timescales, with a sharp decline around 1970 from which it has not fully recovered. Of particular concern from a runoff perspective, the largest 1-day and 5-day precipitation events have followed a similar trend since the mid-1970s, with variations ranging from 20 to 50 mm and 60 to 110 mm, respectively. At the same time, the maximum number of consecutive wet days has gradually decreased from 17 days in the 1950s to 14 days at present. Change in annual precipitation (CMCC ESM2) in the Grandes Chutes Dam upper basin for 2021-2040 is expected to continue this downward trend, diminishing significantly (by as much as 53 percent in some areas) under both SSP245 and SSP370 climate scenarios. On the other hand, under these same scenarios, the frequency and severity of heavy rainfall events are expected to increase by as much as 49 percent in the basin, resulting in more runoff and solid transport that exacerbate sedimentation in the Baneah Dam. Both phenomena, the reduced annual precipitation and the sedimentation reducing the volume of the reservoir, are increasing the risk of water shortage for the Greater Conakry water supply system.

Annual average temperatures are anticipated to increase by 1.1°C to 3.0°C by 2021-2040 under SSP245 and SSP370 scenarios, particularly in the costal, interior, and northern regions. All regions are at medium to high risk of extreme heat, with extended exposure to extreme heat likely to occur at least once in the next five years. These projected higher temperatures are relevant to the Project to the extent that they will lead to higher water consumption among Greater Conakry's population, reenforcing the need for improved access to water services in the city. Hence, in addition to protecting the country and its population better against flooding, it is also essential to secure the existing resource and diversifying the available water sources for all usages. The proposed Water and Sanitation Project in Guinea (PEAG) aims to reduce the water deficit facing the Greater Conakry area, by 1) financing water treatment production to reduce significantly the water deficit in Greater Conakry and helping improve the distribution efficiency of SEG's network; and 2) strengthening the resilience of the water source for the Greater Conakry water supply system.



The water sector is under the titular authority of the Ministry of Energy, Water and Hydrocarbons (MEHH), which sets policy related to water resources and water supply. The Ministry is comprised of several key departments, including the National Directorate of Hydraulics (*Direction National de l'Hydraulique* or DNH), which is responsible for planning and monitoring of water resources and integrated water resources management (IWRM) implementation. Despite this important role, DNH lacks a critical mass of technical staff and also lacks tools for the systematic monitoring of surface and groundwater resources. The *Service National d'Aménagement des Points d'Eau* (SNAPE) is responsible for water services in rural areas, while the *Société des Eaux de Guinée* (SEG), the national water utility in charge of providing services in urban areas.

While SEG has some good attributes, several factors have hampered its ability to fulfill its mandate. SEG is a public establishment of the Republic of Guinea created in December 2001, responsible for the distribution of drinking water to urban centers throughout the country. Annex 1 provides a brief overview of the utility's status. Tariffs have not been adjusted since 2013 and as a result, SEG does not have sufficient revenue to cover its operating costs. About 62% of water consumption is derived from public sector customers, 34% from individual household connections, 2% from industry, 0.3% from standposts and 2% from other customers (ASPA, 2020). However, public sector customers do not pay their bills consistently, which impacts SEG's operating cost ratio. While SEG undertakes some infrastructure works, it does so through donor funding and needs significant technical assistance to contract and supervise works. Its commercial operations are out of date, with paper billing, door-to-door bill collection and insufficient equipment.

In addition to its weak financial performance, SEG also suffers from organizational and operational difficulties. While SEG has autonomy in hiring personnel, it lacks a skilled workforce especially at the operational level (engineers and electro-mechanical staff). Only recently has SEG management tried to create job descriptions and clarify the promotion ladder, but this embryonic process needs to be strengthened. Organization and leadership suffer from a kind of discontinuity between the top management and the operational units, in the context of a highly centralized decision-making process. Finally, a significant area of improvement lies in the production and analysis of reliable and actionable data. Notably, SEG does not publish its annual report or audited financial statements. Its communication with its clients also needs an overhaul. The PUEG is currently financing a new customer management system, which should improve billing and other customer functions, but these efforts will need to be sustained and mainstreamed for the full impacts to be felt.

The results of a recent survey conducted by the World Bank's Water Expertise Unit on gender issues within the Société des Eaux de Guinée (SEG) are highly illustrative of the disparities and underexploitation of women. Of SEG's 929 employees, only 17.33% (161 persons) are women, compared with 82.67% men. These figures also conceal disparities in the Company's various functions. The survey data show that out of 23 engineering positions, only 17,39% (4 positions) are held by women, compared with 82,61% by men (19 positions). The same is true of managers and other corporate functions, with 31% of women against 69% of men and 16% of women against 84% of men respectively.

Access to water supply in Guinea has stagnated over recent years due to under-investment in water production and supply. The drinking water supply of the city of Conakry is 85% provided by surface water and 15% by groundwater consisting of different industrial drilling sites located in various municipalities of Greater Conakry (Table 1). In 2010, around 63% of the national population had access to at least basic water services and as of 2020, that number was 64%, showing that there was barely any increase in access to clean water. The stagnation can be explained by the lack of investment in new production in the sector. In Conakry, for example, the last major water production was completed in 2009 and there has not been any new investments



since. At the same time, rapid urbanization (estimated at 2.8 percent per year in the project area) has resulted in many new settlements in the municipalities around Conakry, and some do not have any water services at all, forcing residents to resort to drilling private boreholes and purchasing costly water from tanker trucks.

The landscape within the Baneah dam basin is a well-documented concern among water management professionals, displaying a visible deterioration attributed to deforestation, a consequence of escalating human activities, including bauxite mines, and further compounded by the increasing intensity and frequency of rainfall events associated with climatic changes. This degradation exerts two primary and interrelated impacts on the sustainability of the water resource: (1) The heightened anthropic pressure and deforestation have led to increased runoff, a phenomenon further exacerbated by changes in rainfall patterns associated with climate change. This, in turn, intensifies the transportation of solid materials, ultimately augmenting sedimentation in the Baneah dam. The result is a gradual reduction in the dam's storage capacity, impairing its long-term resource delivery. (2) The amplified runoff also results in reduced water infiltration into the ground. This diminished infiltration decreases the baseflow of the Samou river and subsequently curtails the replenishment of the main reservoir during periods outside of flood events. To address these impacts, IDAfunded interventions include: At Baneah, replacing the hydromechanical equipment of the spillway: upgrading the monitoring system; and some minor maintenance works on the concrete structure of the spillway. At Grandes Chutes, a complete refurbishment of the hydro-mechanical equipment of the spillway, upgrade of the monitoring system and minor civil works to ensure it can pass severe and extreme floods in a safe manner, thus preventing the risk of dam overtopping and failure. LDCF finance will primarily focus on implementing NBS measures designed to arrest landscape degradation within the upper basin; specifically, promoting soil stabilization in response to the increase in rainfall events, which in turn helps prevent sedimentation in the dam.

Within this basin, a substantial number of mining sites, both legal and illegal in nature, are prevalent, particularly associated with the extraction and processing of substances such as bauxite (Guinea hosts 24.9% of the world's reserves) for the production of aluminum and gallium. The absence of robust environmental and social oversight and effective regulatory enforcement has created an environment where the contamination of water in the basin with heavy metals is most certain, despite never having undergone formal investigation. Indeed, the sites engaged in the extraction and production of bauxite are notorious for their potential to cause environmental contamination, including the release of substances such as arsenic, cobalt, copper, cadmium, lead, silver and zinc contained in rock exposed in underground mines when in contact with water, or sulfuric acid. If not properly controlled, chemical pollution also occurs when chemical agents (such as cyanide or sulfuric acid are used to separate the mineral from the ore). The implications of this contamination risk in the dam basin underscore the pressing need for thorough assessment and appropriate mitigation measures to safeguard the quality and safety of the water resources in this vital area. The water treatment solution designed for the Greater Conakry water supply system effectively addresses the removal of suspended solids through flocculation and filtration processes, as well as the eradication of bacteriological contaminants via chlorination. However, it should be noted that this solution does not encompass the mitigation of the specific type of contamination mentioned previously. Climate change exacerbates these human activities, as more flooding events lead to more runoff and overflow. Since mining facilities fail to contain the contaminated water, runoff from excessive rainfall carrying the contaminated water flows to the reservoir much more often than in a scenario without climate change. As rainfall continues to increase in parts of the basin, if no mitigating actions are in place, contaminated runoff will also continue increasing. This Project aims to support these facilities to contain the runoff water, via technical assistance and subsidies.

There is an urgent need to enhance water supply in order to relieve the burden of inadequate water on vulnerable populations. Because cooking and laundry require a fuel source and water, they impose double burdens on women and girls, who are primarily responsible for fetching wood, charcoal and water. Women and girls also disproportionately bear the burden of fetching water for households. A study by the Women's Fund



for Gender Equality found that one of the main reasons that women worked less than men was because they were already dedicating 82 hours a week to housework, childcare and fetching wood and water (UN Women, 2017). While the maternal mortality ratio in Guinea has improved from 1,020 in 2000 to 576, it is still higher than its regional average, 534 (WB, 2017). Improving water services is expected to contribute to economic growth and long-term human resources enhancement by allowing children (especially girls) to attend school, and adults (especially women) to engage in additional productive activities instead of spending several hours each day searching for water.

The energy and water regulator has focused mostly on energy up to now but could do more on water. While there is a water and energy regulator, the *Autorité de la Regulation de l'Energie et Eau* (AREE), which is tasked with developing tariffs for Cabinet's approval, it has only been operational since 2018 and does not have sufficient capacity and sway to monitor and report on SEG's performance and service delivery outcomes. A recent change has put the AREE under the authority of the Presidency, rather than MEHH, but the implications of this change have yet to be seen. Nevertheless, given SEG's operational challenges, there is a need to consider how the sector regulator can be a catalyst for improved sector performance and accountability. AREE has already benefited from technical assistance and support from the IDA-funded Electricity Access Project (P164225) but this support was limited to the energy sector. There is a need to build on this initial capacity reinforcement to expand the regulator's interventions in the water sector.

The sanitation service delivery model and overall governance arrangements need to be revised. The wastewater treatment system in Guinea comprises a non-functional and rudimentary sewerage network in a few districts of the capital Conakry and a degraded onsite sanitation system comprised of household latrines and septic tanks that requires improvements and the construction of fecal sludge treatment stations. Sanitation (onsite and wastewater) are under the authority of the Ministry of Housing, Urbanization and Territorial Development (*Ministère de l'Habitat, l'Urbanisme et d'Aménagement de Territoire*, MUHAT) while solid waste is under the Ministry of Decentralization. DATU (*Direction Nationale de l'aménagement du territoire et de l'Urbanisme*), a department within MUHAT, is responsible for setting policy and provides oversight of the sector. However, there is no entity that has the capacity to lead asset management, capital investment and service delivery. There is a need to better manage the sanitation service chain, particularly onsite sanitation. Currently, households build latrines and septic tanks on their own initiative and private septic emptiers collect fecal sludge from septic tanks and depose of the waste in nature or close to residential areas. There is limited regulation of these actors.

Significant reforms are needed to meet the challenge of providing universal access to water and sanitation by 2030 and beyond. Water tariffs have not been adjusted since 2013 and sanitation tariffs have also stagnated, with lack of regulation of onsite regulation. A first generation of water reforms between 1989 and 1999 led to a management contract for SONEG, the previous public company responsible for asset management, investment and debt services and SEEG, the public company in charge of the operation and maintenance of water services, billing and customer relations. However, after some successful results, negotiations for the contract renewal for SEEG failed after a lack of tariff increases and that for SONEG was also not renewed due to disagreements about the company's operating performance. Since 2001, there was a return to public management, with the previous functions of SEEG and SEG merged under a new entity, SEG, and with the state once again responsible for financing investments and servicing sector debt and SEG responsible for covering its own operating costs.

The proposed PEAG aims to reduce the water deficit facing the Greater Conakry area. SEG has a water production capacity of 150,000m3/day for a peak day requirement of about 370,000m3/day, so it has a deficit of 220,000m3/day. SEG currently has an estimated 43 percent non-revenue water (NRW), which exacerbate



the water deficit due to physical losses in the distribution system (leakages) and commercial losses. Under PUEG (P157782), a Water Master Plan was developed in 2019 for Greater Conakry with detailed analysis of existing infrastructure, demand forecasts and a proposal of investments up to 2040. It estimated investment needs of 1.2 billion USD between 2020 and 2040, with a first tranche of \$450 million to be mobilized to increase water production up to 200,000m3/day to reduce significantly the water deficit in Greater Conakry. A second and third phase is expected to keep up with growing demand. Annex 2 provides a synoptic of the planned works of the first tranche.

The IDA project will finance water treatment production of 200,000m3/day to reduce significantly – but not eliminate – the water deficit in Greater Conakry. PUEG is currently financing the rehabilitation of the distribution network in Greater Conakry as well as a program to reduce non-revenue water (known in its French acronym as PACT). Both interventions should help improve the distribution efficiency of SEG's network and thus help significantly reduce – if not eliminate – the 20,000m³ deficit. Any remaining water production deficit could be addressed through other sources of finance and the Bank will support the government to identify financing partners.

The raw water intake and raw water transmission works will be financed through co-financing. The government of Guinea has secured \$170 million from EXIM Bank India for the raw water infrastructure works identified under the Water Master Plans. These funds are expected to be allocated to funding the raw water intake at Grandes Chutes dam plus the 44km raw water transmission network to Yessoulou IV treatment plant (Figure 1). The proposed IDA project will complete this effort by financing a package of works comprising water treatment, distribution, and household connections in the municipalities of Coyah and Dubreka. If additional financing can be mobilized, the entire distribution zone of Conakry could also be covered although for now, this is not part of the plan.

The specific climate change problem that the activities are being sought to address is the increasing intensity if the reduced annual precipitation and the increasing frequency and severity of heavy rainfall events resulting in more runoff and solid transport that exacerbate sedimentation in the Baneah Dam, thus reducing the volume of the reservoir. Both phenomena are increasing the risk of water shortage for the Greater Conakry water supply system. Component 2, funded by LDCF, is dedicated to strengthening the resilience of the water source for the Greater Conakry water supply system. This resilience directly impacts the durability of the investments operated under Component 1: (1) investments in the new treatment facility and the new main pipe from the treatment facility to the distribution area are directly depending on the capacity of the water source to sustainably produced the expected additional 200,000 m3/day; and (2) investments in connecting new water users also depends on the water source (in quantity and quality), as they will be useless if no water or low quality water is produced. Investments in institutional arrangements and on the financial capacity of the water utility (Component 3) are also directly dependent on the capacity of the utility to have enough high-quality water to distribute and sell.



The increased investments in the water sector will necessitate a stronger emphasis on service delivery mechanisms, including utility strengthening and cost recovery for operations and maintenance. While PUEG has provided some needed capacity reinforcement of SEG, a more fundamental transformation of the utility is needed to enable it to operate and maintain the infrastructure over the long term and provide quality services to its customers. The proposed IDA funded project will support measures to strengthen SEG's governance model and internal functions – drawing on the experiences of other countries in the sub-region who have undertaken successful utility reforms. In addition, PEAG will support the government and SEG to apply the recommendations of the tariff study and financial model – currently under preparation under PUEG - to ensure enough revenues for continued operations and maintenance of the built infrastructure.

While the proposed operation will not undertake investments in sanitation, there will be scaled up support to the sector relative to the current operation. PUEG included a small (\$1 million) component on sanitation that funded a diagnostic of sanitation infrastructure and services; a national sanitation strategy and a Sanitation Master Plan but no financing of civil works. These studies – as well as study tours organized for the authorities in Senegal – have highlighted that the institutional arrangements for sanitation service delivery need a fundamental rethink. There is no sanitation office or utility and service delivery is monitored by a ministerial department, DATU, under the Ministry of Housing, Urbanism and Territorial Development (MUHAT). There is growing recognition that it will not be possible to execute investment projects outlined under the Sanitation Master Plan without reforming the current service delivery model, which includes several private actors (fecal sludge emptiers) in the onsite sanitation segment. Under the proposed project, support will be provided to set up a dedicated national entity for sanitation; strengthen the regulation of sanitation service providers and provide capacity building to help professionalize the service providers.

As for implementation, PEAG will draw lessons from PUEG but with other donor-funded and government-led operations in terms of implementation and project management. The implementation arrangements for PUEG, based on a single project implementation unit (PIU) that undertook all the functions related to procurement, safeguards implementation, reporting and coordination, have shown their limits. At the same time, the modalities for the implementing agencies – SEG in particular – and the titular ministries (MEHH and MUHAT) also need to be revised. Consultations with various donors active in the sector have revealed similar challenges in project implementation and the Government is aware of the need for improvements in the next generation of sector investments. As described in this note, careful attention will be taken to ensure strong project management at all cycles of the operation. The instrument adopted is an IPF with performance-based conditions (PBCs), which will provide greater incentives for national authorities to undertake the abovementioned reforms. The initial set of PBCs, which will be explored and developed during project preparation, include:

- Completion of the NEMA Utility Transformation Plan by SEG
- Adoption of the recommendations of the water tariff study (and possibly) the financial model
- Decrees establishing a new sanitation national entity to manage sanitation service delivery

Component 1: Increasing and improving water services in Greater Conakry (\$140 million)

Component 1.1 Remedial equipment and upgrades to improve dam safety at Grandes Chutes and Baneah dams (\$10 million)



The current drinking water supply in the city of Conakry is 85% dependent on surface water resources taken from the Samou River at the level of the Grandes Chutes dam, which has a storage capacity of 2 million m3 and is regulated upstream by the Banéah dam with a storage capacity of 254 million m3. These dams were constructed in 1953 and 1969 respectively and need to have certain equipment and hydromechanical components upgraded to ensure their full functionality and safe operation. PUEG funded a dam safety assessment, carried out under the Guinea Urban Water Project (P157782), to comply with World Bank's Operational Policy (OP) 4.37 on dam safety. This assessment was completed in 2022 and identified several deficiencies and safety issues on both dams. In addition, PUEG financed the preparation of dam safety plans which comprised i) an instrumentation plan; ii) an operation and maintenance (O&M) plan and iii) an emergency preparedness plan (EPP) for both dams, as well as estimated costs for upgrades and for continued O&M of the dams. These documents were reviewed by the Bank's dam specialist and considered satisfactory.

The proposed works at Baneah (a 30 m high embankment dam) and Grandes Chutes (a 6.35 m high concrete dam) entail mostly upgrades of the spillway's gates hoisting equipment but no major civil works. Annex 4 provides an overview of the list of upgrades and estimated costs. Baneah is mainly used for electricity production at present but under tranche 2 of the Master Plan, a new raw water pipeline is planned and will augment water supply to Greater Conakry (Figure 2 illustrates). At Baneah, the interventions include: replacing the hydromechanical equipment of the spillway; upgrading the monitoring system; and some minor maintenance works on the concrete structure of the spillway. Grandes Chutes requires a complete refurbishment of the hydro-mechanical equipment of the spillway, upgrade of the monitoring system and minor civil works to ensure it can pass severe and extreme floods in a safe manner, thus preventing the risk of dam overtopping and failure. The spillway gates have not been working or tested since 2007 and since then, sediment and waste from mines has built up due to natural and mining activities upstream of the dam. The proposed project will improve the passway at the dam toe and construct a new passage for local villagers who have been using the current passway to cross from their village to their fields on the other side of the dam. In addition, it will fund the installation of data loggers to read the volume of water at the entry point of the dam to help SEG monitor any water losses through the transfer and distribution system.

The works will only have a temporary impact as the site is in a remote area with no traffic or noise expected during the technical interventions. Moreover, no changes are expected in the operation of both dam reservoirs, the water stored or the flow of the Samou River. Based on the initial studies done under PUEG, resettlement is not expected as there are no project affected persons in the dam area. Detailed environmental and social impact assessments will be conducted during project preparation. Supplemental technical studies will develop the technical specifications for works and an international engineering firm will be hired to implement the activity. Kale dam, which is located between Grandes Chutes and Baneah dams, is currently being rehabilitated by the energy company *Electricité de France* (EDF) but to ensure that there is no impact on the Grandes Chutes dam in case of the dam failure of Kale, the World Bank will seek to review and comment on the Kale project plans during project preparation.



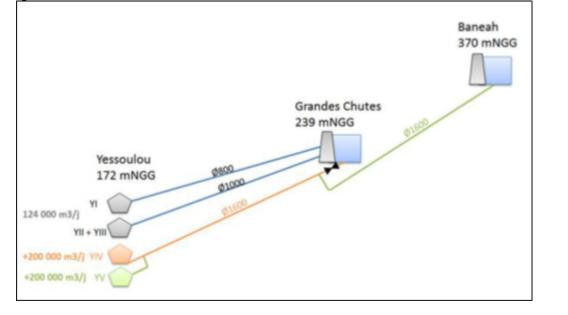


Figure . Overview of Dams and Water Treatment and Distribution Infrastructure by Tranche.

* Orange = tranche 1 (horizon 2023); green = tranche 2 (horizon 2030)

The project will also support the creation and strengthening of a local management unit at each dam to be responsible for dam operations and safety. Technical support could be provided to the authorities to ensure the right institutional and technical arrangements are in place for the long-term operation and maintenance of the dams. A local unit could be created – comprised of SEG, *Electricité de Guinée* (EDG), the Civil Protection force, representatives of local communities and other actors – to ensure both dams are operated and maintained according to the O&M Plan. In addition, the unit will be provided with resources to enable it to communicate and respond to emergency situations. Lastly, a temporary shelter to house people in case of dam failure could be built as a contingency for uncontrolled release of water, through counterpart funding.

Component 1.2. Increasing the volume of treated water supply in Greater Conakry (\$70 million)

The project aims to construct a new water treatment station to complement the three existing Yessoulou treatment stations. The new station, Yessoulou IV, will have a capacity of 200,000m3, to provide water to most of Conakry and surrounding communes. An estimated 545,244 people will benefit, either by gaining access to improved water supply (192,200 people) or seeing their service improve thanks to more continuous water supply (353,044 people). Entire communities, such as Kouria, will receive water for the first time while a smaller number of people in the project area who already have piped supply, will see an increase in the number of hours of supply. As noted in the Project Context section, the new water treatment plant will supplement the existing stations Yessoulou I, II and III but the remaining 20,000m3 deficit will be closed through a combination of NRW reduction and additional financing from other sources if need be.

Component 1.3 Storage and Distribution of treated water (\$60 million)

The treated water from Yessoulou IV will be transported via transfer pipes to reservoirs in various communes in Conakry. The two water transfer pipelines (DN 700 – steel – and DN1600 – cast iron) will transport the treated water from Yessoulou IV via gravity to the reservoirs over a distance of 15 kilometers. The new reservoirs will serve the commune of Kagbelen and the commune of Kouria, with a capacity of 7500m3



and 500m3 respectively. In addition, a secondary distribution network will be constructed comprising 67 km of pipelines serving the communes of Kagbelen and Kouria and connecting households and standposts. While the financing volume available does not allow for full coverage of the Greater Conakry area – in particular, the Conakry peninsular will not be part of the project scope – it will permit the peri-urban areas to benefit. To ensure equity in the benefits of water supply, municipalities nearest to the Yessoulou complex, who currently have been bypassed by the existing water treatment pipelines, will now finally benefit. The village of Debelen, situated just next to the Grandes Chutes dam, will also receive improved water supply in respect of the equity principle.

To ensure maximum benefits from these investments, the project will support SEG and MEHH to implement a program of social connections. As many households will be connecting to the SEG network for the first time, it will lead to an increase in the number of SEG's customers, with knock-on effects on its revenues. Synergies will be created with the new customer management system for SEG (planned under PUEG). The modalities for customer connections, subsidies, bill payments, asset maintenance and repairs will be developed during the initial stages of the project to secure demand for water services and ensure their proper operation and maintenance over the long term.

Component 2. Support securitization of the water resource (\$4 million IDA funding, \$9.261 million LDCF funding)

Component 2.1 Nature-based solutions to promote soils stabilization and prevent sedimentation (\$7.409 million LDCF financing)

In response to the ecological and hydrological challenges upstream of the dam intake, this component will implement measures designed to arrest the landscape degradation within the upper basin. Ideally, these measures will be nature-based solutions (NBS) (soil restoration, run-off control etc.). Furthermore, efforts will be directed towards restoration wherever feasible, as a strategic approach to mitigate these adverse impacts and secure the long-term sustainability of the water resource. This restoration and conservation agenda is critical for maintaining the ecological integrity and functionality of the entire basin. NBS to be deployed in the targeted watershed include a variety of approaches designed to manage water runoff, promote infiltration, stabilize soils, store water, provide shade, and positively affect evapotranspiration. These solutions can be implemented through techniques such as terraces and slopes, active reforestation efforts, and landslide mitigation measures. In addition, the benefits of streams, wetlands and floodplains can be enhanced through carefully planned rehabilitation and restoration initiatives. The co-benefits of productive lands can also be enhanced through terracing and appropriate slope stabilization measures. In addition to addressing immediate environmental concerns, these NBS solutions will contribute to job creation. The project will work with local private sector for labor intensive activities: Short-term employment opportunities include planting trees for reforestation, planting vegetation, and removing invasive species; Longer-term jobs include maintaining natural features through ongoing invasive species management, pruning and replanting.

Specific solutions will be implemented in the framework of the establishment of the Gangan National Park and will include: (1) Hill terrace improvement for croplands with slopes exceeding 5%: This involves slope correction on existing terraces, planting nitrogen-fixing hedgerow species along terrace margins, and implementing agroforestry techniques; (2) Landslide mitigation (class I) for areas at high risk of shallow landslide failure (<1.5 m depth in topsoil): Activities include revegetating denuded slopes and implementing bioengineering for slope stability; (3) Landslide mitigation (class II) for areas at high risk of deeper landslide failure (>1.5 m depth, with deep-rooting trees): This involves revegetating slopes, bioengineering for slope stabilization, slope correction, and excavating sub-soil drains; (4) Landslide mitigation (class III) for areas with



bedrock failure planes (<3 m deep): Solutions include bioengineering, revegetating slopes, sub-soil drainage, and constructing retaining walls; (5) Reclamation/rehabilitation of degraded forest lands: Activities include planting fuel and fodder tree species (activities include tree purchase, planting, and watering as needed), conservation trenching, eyebrow pits, revegetation, and hedgerow planting to regenerate degraded areas; and (6) Reclamation/rehabilitation of degraded grasslands: This involves implementing greenbelts, buffer strips, rotational grazing, fodder planting, and improving silvopasture practices. This activity will be implemented by the National Park Agency (OGPNRF), already developing equivalent activities in buffer zones and extended protection zones of 11 protected areas in the country under the Natural Resources, Mining, and Environmental Management Project (P168613).

The prevailing mining industry practice is to emphasize prevention of the water contamination, chiefly by implementing comprehensive environmental protection measures at the mining sites themselves, as treatment solutions aimed at combatting the contamination in question are technologically intricate and typically lead to a substantial escalation in treatment costs. This sub-component will identify and operationalize proactive measures, regarded as the standard approach to safeguarding the integrity and quality of the water source, ensuring that contamination from mining activities is effectively minimized or eliminated at its source, before treatment becomes necessary. Pollution from agricultural and domestic water uses, as well as urban extension (Kindia) could also bring additional risks to water quality, that will be considered. This activity will be implemented by the water utility (SEG), already collaborating with the main mining entity of the basin for the reduction of the runoff from this site.

Component 2.2 Community engagement for a sound water resource management (\$4 million IDA funding, \$1.852 LDCF financing)

The Konkoure basin (Samou sub-basin is a small tributary of the Konkoure river) is renowned for its significant rice production downstream of the dams, constituting the primary water utilization prior to the river's convergence with the mangrove ecosystem and the sea. The proposal for an additional extraction of approximately 200,000 cubic meters per day in the upper part of the basin, effectively tripling the current withdrawal, raises considerable concerns regarding the potential repercussions on water availability for rice cultivation. In adherence to the established tenets of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), this sub-component will allow the GoG to engage downstream users actively in the process of water resource management. This engagement serves to ensure that the augmentation in water abstraction for drinking water supply is comprehensively understood by these downstream stakeholders and aligns harmoniously with their agricultural needs. Upstream users will also be involved regarding quality issues as explained above. Fostering dialogue and collaboration among all stakeholders, including those reliant on the river for agricultural purposes, local communities and communes, is pivotal to achieving a balanced and sustainable approach to water allocation among sectors and actors. By incorporating the perspectives and requirements of downstream and upstream users into the decision-making process, and by a systematic gender-equality in the water management institutions, water resource management will evolve to safeguard both drinking water supply and the vital interests of the agricultural community and other sectors while women's and gender experts' views and contributions will be factored in and reflected in the development of related approaches to ensure that these are gender-responsive. This inclusive approach is crucial for upholding the principles of equitable and sustainable water resource management within the Konkoure basin which will require capacity building and concrete pilot institutional experiences on water governance with Water Resource Division (DNH) of the Ministry in charge of the water sector, SEG, EDG, communes, CSOs, private sector etc, starting with the actors present in the Samou sub-basin. This activity will be implemented by the DNH, as part of the IWRM operationalization.

Component 3. Support for Water and Sanitation Institutional and Policy Reforms (\$25 million)



Component 3.1 Strengthening sanitation governance arrangements and strengthening service delivery (\$5 million)

The proposed project will provide support to professionalize the patchy network of non-network service providers and improve the monitoring of service delivery. The providers constitute an informal network of masons, septic tank emptiers and truck operators which are mostly small, informal players, with no licensing or quality control over their operations. Nevertheless, a voluntary association of emptying service providers exists but needs to be strengthened through training, provision of equipment to ensure safe working conditions and training. Workers along the sanitation service chain will be identified and their capacity building needs identified, and training provided. At the same time, the government needs to boost its supervisory role over these service providers and undertake close monitoring to ensure that fecal sludge is safely collected and disposed of along the sanitation service chain. While there are urgent needs for investment in sanitation, a gradual approach is recommended at this stage, focusing on building institutional and service delivery capacity during the PEAG first, and then helping the authorities to mobilize financing for investments once the governance arrangements are in place.

The fee structure for sanitation will be reviewed and support provided to regulate prices if appropriate. support will be provided to MUHAT under this component for better regulation, through a licensing and training program and a grant program to help these entrepreneurs dispose of fecal sludge more responsibly. In addition, the component will support MUHAT to regulate better the informal network of septic tank emptiers and fecal sludge workers, by developing a licensing and training program and a subsidy scheme to help these entrepreneurs to dispose of their fecal sludge more responsibly. Assuming the new project can help the authorities make progress in the governance arrangements of the sanitation sector, it may be possible that the new entity would be ready to manage investments in sanitation by the time the PAEG is reaching closure, if not before. In that case, co-financing or parallel financing could be sought for the construction of fecal sludge treatment plants to complement this activity. While a series of projects (SOP) approach was considered, it seems inappropriate for now given a) the very early stages of sanitation reforms; b) limited financing from other development partners; and c) the political transition currently underway in the country.

Component 3.2 Support for SEG's Transformation Plan (\$15 million)

The challenges facing SEG are wide-ranging and require a robust approach in order to turn around the utility's performance. The proposed IDA project will support the implementation of a utility transformation plan, NEMA (*Notre Eau Maîtrisée et Accessible*), that was recently developed for SEG through a project funded by *Agence Française de Développement* (AfD). Annex 1 provides more details on the turnaround plan.

Enhanced technical assistance could be used to maximize the chance of success in the implementation of the change. Under ideal conditions, a management or service contract in which a private company controls the management and organizational functioning of the utility would have been an ideal way to operationalize the utility turnaround plan. However, the current political and institutional arrangements for service delivery need to be strengthened to attract any private operator. Instead, an enhanced technical assistance firm could be recruited to accompany SEG in the implementation of its transformation roadmap. This arrangement would be more collaborative and would focus on updating SEG's organizational and governance set-up (without changing its legal stature); modernizing its internal tools and systems; and strengthening its relationship with the state, its partners (including the private sector) and the citizens. The firm would work closely with SEG management and bring international good practices to bear on the company. This approach has proved effective in other countries with similar institutional challenges (e.g. Burkina Faso in the 1990s and the Gambia most recently) and can provide SEG with needed external and ongoing advice, which would be a step up from the current adhoc approach of contracting various engineering and consulting firms.



Increasing the number of women in technical fields in SEG: to ensure that women's and gender experts' views and contributions are factored in and reflected in the development of related frameworks and ensure that these are gender-responsive, in addition to a scholarship program targeting girls and women undergoing technical training in the field, a gender attraction and promotion policy will be put in place at SEG. For the allocation of these bursaries, particular attention will be paid to girls and women from poor, female-headed households. This action will make it possible to strengthen a pool of talent in the functions through: (i) support for progressive career development, (ii) identification and recruitment of girls/women with engineering degrees in the sector (iii) increased scholarships for engineering cycles through an MOU with local universities, and (iv) a paid internship and mentoring program within the SEG with 50% women and 50% men. The project could pay their salaries for 2 or 3 years. We can have two cohorts.

Training and professional development for SEG staff: The implementation of the transformation plan that the project proposes to support involves a series of capacity-building measures for Société des Eaux de Guinée (SEG) in several of its functions. As the SEG gender survey shows that not enough women benefit from training, the project will be targeting at least 50% of women receiving training under the project.

New headquarters for SEG: to enable women to play a vital role in society, the project will support the upgrading of SEG infrastructures to make them gender-sensitive and friendlier. To this end, a plea will be made to the Government to finance the costs of building and/or upgrading related infrastructures (latrines, day-care center, breast-feeding room, etc.) through counterpart funds.

Component 3.3 Support Measures for Applying the Recommendations of the Tariff Study and Financial Model (\$2 million)

PUEG is currently developing a tariff study, development of a water sector financial model, development of a water policy letter and a revision of current water regulations. The findings of these studies will have important implications for sector reforms, which can be supported under the PEAG. The 2013 study revealed that Guinea had one of the lowest water tariffs in West Africa, with a real decline in tariffs between 2002 and 2013. Any adjustment in tariffs will require careful efforts by Government and SEG to implement the adjustments. Depending on the findings of the studies, PEAG could fund communication around the studies; training for MEHH and other government officials on the model; awareness campaigns for any tariff adjustments or budgetary changes; coordination with social protection entities; and any other needed support measures to implement sector reforms.

In addition to the support of MEHH, the project will support AREE, the water and electricity regulator, to strengthen its role in applying tariffs, monitoring the performance of SEG and contributing to sector dialogue. Another IDA project, the Guinea Electricity Access Scale Up Project (P164225) has already provided substantial support for the creation of AREE and its startup phase, with a focus on electricity. The proposed water project will build on this effort by offering additional technical support to AREE, this time focusing on water. The potential scope for a TA for AREE on water will be explored during project preparation.

Component 3.4. Strengthening the Knowledge and Monitoring of Groundwater Resources (\$3 million)

DNH is responsible for monitoring groundwater resources in Guinea but up to now, has not been able to fully execute its mandate due to limited resources. While PUEG funded a number of important studies, such as the modeling of the aquifer of the Conakry peninsular and provided some resources (vehicles and equipment)



to DNH, it had limited reach. The proposed project can build on what was developed under PUEG to finance the following activities:

- Calibration and exploitation of the existing monitoring model for monitoring the Conakry peninsular aquifer;
- Technical assistance services for setting and operating the existing model;
- Inventory of existing piezometers on the national perimeter and modalities for monitoring and collecting data from the existing network.
- Strengthening the capacity of DNH through training, specialized equipment, vehicles and knowledge exchanges with peers.

Component 4 Project Implementation Support (\$31 million IDA financing, \$830.5 thousand LDCF financing)

This component aims to contribute to the implementation of project activities, support knowledge management and monitoring and evaluation (M&E). It will finance operating costs of the project implementation unit, M&E of project activities, including impact evaluations, communication of project activities to different audiences, hiring of staff, goods, consultant services, workshops, and training.

Component 4.1 Technical Assistance to Implementation Agencies (\$16 million IDA financing, \$350 thousand LDCF financing)

Monitoring, evaluation and knowledge management (\$16 million IDA financing, \$1.476 million LDCF financing): M&E will provide a tool for adaptive management and facilitate learning processes from experiences gained during project implementation. Knowledge management will be supported to facilitate the preparation and dissemination of supporting studies and lessons learned to inform future transport and coastal protection projects which will facilitate the further scaling-up following this project's lifetime. As part of the Gender Action Plan (GAP), indicators will be developed and measured at regular frequencies to be determined during project implementation, the results of which will be incorporated in the M&E of the project as a whole. The cost of the GAP implementation will be adequately assessed, and the required resources will be made available under this sub-component.

SEG will need significant capacity reinforcement to execute its investment program under the project. Technical assistance firms can be hired to support them. The TA firm would help SEG to review all the technical and bidding documents that will require its review and approval. The firm will also support SEG in supervising civil works under component 1. The firm will be recruited during preparation so that it can support SEG from the very beginning; will be expected to have full-time residency; will also provide capacity building and knowledge transfer to SEG; and will be in place until civil works are completed. This sub-component will also

Component 4.2 Project management (\$15 million IDA financing, \$480.5 thousand LDCF financing)

fund the recruitment of technical assistance for the MEHH to support political and institutional reforms.

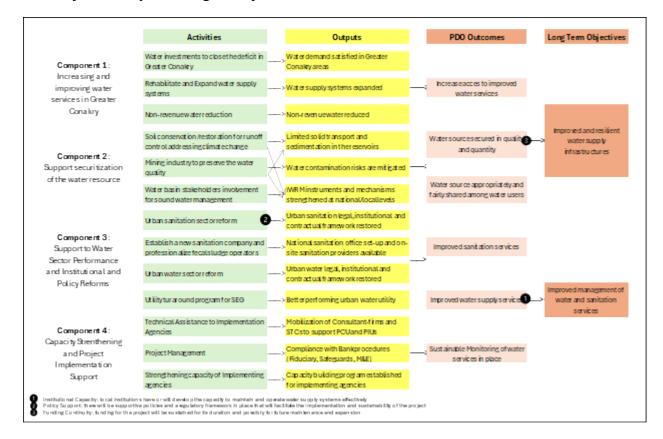
Operating costs of the project implementation unit and all project management costs. This will include the operation and incremental costs of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) to facilitate contract management for civil works, supervise consulting services under the project.

Component 5. Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC), \$0



This zero-funded component will allow the Government to quickly mobilize funds in an emergency requiring immediate recovery and reconstruction response. In the event of a crisis or disaster caused by a natural hazard, including climate-related emergencies such as severe drought and flood, this component enables the Government to reallocate IDA project funds to disaster response and recovery purposes under streamlined procedures. It will therefore support Guinea's emergency preparedness and response capacity, including financing of critical emergency goods or emergency recovery and associated services, as well as the targeted provision of post-disaster support to affected households and individuals. Following an adverse natural event, the Government's declaration of disaster in accordance with national law, and adherence to the Bank's activation policy, the contingency component would be triggered.

Results Chain



The Project Theory of Change is depicted below.

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective



The project objective is to increase access to improved water services in Greater Conakry and to support the implementation of water and sanitation policy and institutional reforms

Project Components

Component 1: Increasing and improving water services in Greater Conakry		
Component Type Trust Fund		
Investment	LDCF	
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	
	140,000,000.00	

Outcome:

Remedial equipment and upgrades to improve dam safety at Grandes Chutes and Baneah dams Increasing the volume of water supply in Greater Conakry

Storage and distribution of treated water

Outputs:

Improve the passway at the dam toe and construct a new passage for local villagers who have been using the current passway to cross from their village to their fields on the other side of the dam.

Fund the installation of data loggers to read the volume of water at the entry point of the dam to help SEG monitor any water losses through the transfer and distribution system.

Support the creation and strengthening of a local management unit at each dam responsible for dam operations and safety.

Construct a new water treatment station to complement the three existing Yessoulou treatment stations. Install two transfer pipes to transport treated water to reservoirs in various communes in Conakry across 15 km.

Construct a secondary distribution network comprising 67 km of pipelines serving the communes of Kagbelen and Kouria.

Output:

Component 2. Support securitization of the water resource

Component Type	Trust Fund
	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
9,261,500.00	4,000,000.00

Outcome:

2.1 Natural-based solutions to promote soils stabilization and prevent sedimentation

2.2 Community engagement for a sound water resource management

Outputs:



Implement nature-based solutions (NBS) for soil restoration, run-off control, etc., directed as a strategic approach to mitigate ecological and hydrological challenges and secure the long-term sustainability of the water resource.

Provide support to professionalize the patchy network of non-network service providers and improve the monitoring of service delivery.

Review the fee structure for sanitation and support provided to regulate prices if appropriate.

Provide support to MUHAT for better regulation, through a licensing and training program and a grant program to help these entrepreneurs dispose of fecal sludge more responsibly.

Support MUHAT to regulate better the informal network of septic tank emptiers and fecal sludge workers, by developing a licensing and training program and a subsidy scheme to help these entrepreneurs to dispose of their fecal sludge more responsibly.

Output:

Nature Based solutions implemented in the targeted watershed

Productive lands enhanced through terraces and slopes, active reforestation efforts, and landslide mitigation measures

Hill terrace improvement for croplands with slopes exceeding 5%

Landslide mitigation solutions deployed for areas at high risk of shallow landslide failure, deeper landslide failure, and for areas with bedrock failure planes.

Reclamation/rehabilitation of degraded forest lands and grasslands

perspectives and requirements of downstream and upstream users included the decision-making process, ensuring gender-equality in decision making

Component 3. Support for Water and Sanitation Institutional and Policy Reforms

	25,000,000.00
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Technical Assistance	LDCF
Component Type	Trust Fund

Outcome:

Strengthening sanitation governance and service delivery arrangements

Support for SEG's Transformation Plan

Outputs:



Recruit enhanced technical assistance firm to accompany SEG in the implementation of its transformation roadmap.

Support AREE, the water and electricity regulator, to strengthen its role in applying tariffs, monitoring the performance of SEG and contributing to sector dialogue.

Calibrate and exploit the existing monitoring model for monitoring the Conakry peninsular aquifer

Provide technical assistance services for setting and operating the existing model

Develop an inventory of existing piezometers on the national perimeter and modalities for monitoring and collecting data from the existing network.

Strengthen capacity of DNH through training, specialized equipment, vehicles and knowledge exchanges with peers.

Output:

M&E

350,000.00	16,000,000.00
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Technical Assistance	LDCF
Component Type	Trust Fund

Outcome:

Implementation of project activities, support knowledge management and M&E. Support knowledge management and M&E; M&E of project activities, including impact evaluations, communication of project activities to different audiences, workshops, and training. Output:

preparation and dissemination of supporting studies and lessons learned

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1: Increasing and improving water services in Greater Conakry		140,000,000.00
Component 2. Support securitization of the water resource	9,261,500.00	4,000,000.00
Component 3. Support for Water and Sanitation Institutional and Policy Reforms		25,000,000.00
M&E	350,000.00	16,000,000.00
Subtotal	9,611,500.00	185,000,000.00



Project Management Cost	480,500.00	15,000,000.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	10,092,000.00	200,000,000.00

Please provide justification

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project

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

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

PEAG will draw lessons from PUEG but with other donor-funded and government-led operations in terms of implementation and project management. The implementation arrangements for PUEG, based on a single project implementation unit (PIU) that undertook all the functions related to procurement, safeguards implementation, reporting and coordination, have shown their limits. At the same time, the modalities for the implementing agencies – SEG in particular – and the titular ministries (MEHH and MUHAT) also need to be revised. Consultations with various donors active in the sector have revealed similar challenges in project implementation and the Government is aware of the need for improvements in the next generation of sector investments. As described in this note, careful attention will be taken to ensure strong project management at all cycles of the operation. The instrument adopted is an IPF with performance-based conditions (PBCs), which will provide greater incentives for national authorities to undertake the above-mentioned reforms. The initial set of PBCs, which will be explored and developed during project preparation, include:

- Completion of the NEMA Utility Transformation Plan by SEG
- Adoption of the recommendations of the water tariff study (and possibly) the financial model
- Decrees establishing a new sanitation national entity to manage sanitation service delivery

Core Indicators

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

META INFORMA	TION – LDCF	
LDCF true	SCCF-B (Window B) on technology transfer false	SCCF-A (Window-A) on climate Change adaptation false
Is this project LDCF	SCCF challenge program?	

false

This Project involves at least one small island developing State(SIDS).

false

This Project involves at least one fragile and conflict affected state.

false



This Project will provide direct adaptation benefits to the private sector.

false

This Project is explicitly related to the formulation and/or implementation of national adaptation plans (NAPs).

true

This project will collaborate with activities begin supported by other adaptation funds. If yes, please select below		
Green Climate Fund	Adaptation Fund	Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR)
false	false	false

This Project has an urban focus.

false

This project will directly engage local communities in project design and implementation

true

This project will support South-South knowledge exchange

false

ing sector(s)[the total shou	ld be 1	LOO%]: *				
	0.00	0.00%				
	50.0)0%				
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	0.00)%				
t	50.0	00%				
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	0.00)%				
Tourism						
Health			0.00%			
nts)						
	0.00%					
	100	100.00%				
ving Climate change Exacer	bated/	'introduced challenges:*				
Change in mean temperate	ure	Increased climatic	Natural hazards			
true		variability	false			
		true				
Coastal and/or Coral reef		Groundwater quality/q	uantity			
degradation		true				
false						
	t nts) /ing Climate change Exacerl Change in mean temperat true Coastal and/or Coral reef degradation	0.00 50.0 0.00 <t< td=""><td>50.00%0.00%0.00%150.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%100.0%</td></t<>	50.00%0.00%0.00%150.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%0.00%100.0%			

CORE INDICATORS - LDCF

	Total	Male	Female	% for
				Wome
CORE INDICATOR 1				65.80%
Total number of direct beneficiaries	45,000	15,390.00	29,610.00	
CORE INDICATOR 2				
(a) Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)	83,000.00			
(b) Coastal and marine area managed for climate resilience (ha)	0.00			
CORE INDICATOR 3				
Number of policies/plans/ frameworks/institutions for to	1.00			
strengthen climate adaptation				
CORE INDICATOR 4				49.85%



Number of people trained or with awareness raised	325	163.00	162.00	
CORE INDICATOR 5				
Number of private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience action	22.00			

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Low	Current climate: Overall, the Greater Conakry area is not directly severely exposed to climate risks other than to extreme heat and possibly wild fires, while the Samou basin providing the Greater Conakry water source is strongly impacted by the change in rainfall regime and the overall decrease of annual rainfall. Project activities aimed at the rehabilitation and upgrading of water storage and water supply infrastructure will be designed to address any remaining climate risks, particularly wildfire risks, as the case may be. Non-physical project components that support capacity building and institutional and policy reform for the water supply and sanitation sub-sectors will help to further reduce risks posed by climate change and disasters. Also, national commitments to policies that can promote climate informed development serve to reduce risks. Taken together, the climate and disaster risk to the outcome of the project under the current climate conditions is thus rated as low. Urban and coastal flooding are medium to high risks in the coastal region of the Conakry and Kindia Regions, as well as extreme heat and wildfires. Water security in the context of this Project is understood as the long-term availability of freshwater resource and the ability to provide safe drinking water supply to more people. The outcome of the LDCF-funded component is to assist in the distribution of water to users. As such, water security may overall not be at risk, but this will be confirmed through a Climate and Disaster Risk screening assessment, which will identify the risks linked to the exposure of project locations to climate hazards and possible impacts on the project's physical infrastructure. In addition, during the preparation phase, environmental and social assessments will be conducted with the implementing agencies to verify their capacity to integrate climate mitigation and adaptation measures and capacity reinforcement measures will be put in place as needed. Future climate: While in the future the



		project's exposure to climate and disaster risks may slightly increase due to higher temperatures and increasing variability of precipitation, project activities account for these risks and do not lock-in infrastructure. Project non-physical components and national policies also further help to reduce climate and disaster risks. Thus, the risk rating for the project outcome under future climate conditions remains low.
Environmental and Social	Substantial	Potential environmental and social risks and adverse impacts associated with the project are likely to be substantial and are linked to resettlement, occupational health and safety, community health and safety, and water, soil, and air pollution. These risks and impacts should be adequately managed through ESF application of mitigation measures to be provided by comprehensive instruments to be prepared and close monitoring of the work. Management and mitigation of environmental and social risks. The borrower identified several mitigation measures reflected in the safeguards instruments and is committed to their implementation. This includes (a) the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP); (b) a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), which includes the Complaint Management Mechanism and (c) a Labor Management Plan (WMP). Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) and Resettlement Action Plans (RAP) are being prepared for the water treatment plants and the rehabilitation of distribution networks and reservoirs. All studies will be finalized, consulted, approved, and disclosed before the start of civil works. The other project components will be subject to E&S screening to identify their E&S category and the safeguards instruments to be prepared.
Political and Governance	High	The political and security situation in Guinea has been volatile since the 2021 coup d'état. The project will support contracting arrangements for private sector participation for reducing non-revenue water (NRW) through Performance Contracts and will explore guarantee instruments, suitable payment structures and other forms of government support to reduce risks for prospective investors. In addition, steps will be taken to ensure that long-term sustainability of funded infrastructures via the sustainable management of the water source as a mitigation measure to political and governance risk. Guinea currently has a transitional government, run by the National Committee for Reconciliation and Development (CNRD), but it is unclear when elections may take place and a return to civilian rule assured. In the meantime, the project will manage the risks of continued political and governance instability by strengthening policy dialogue under the leadership of the World Bank's Country Management Unit (CMU) based in Conakry. The use of a DPO with prior actions for the water sector could also help mitigate risks that politically sensitive decisions, such as raising water tariffs, are managed under the umbrella of budget support.



Institutional and Policy	Substantial	This risk accounts for the limited technical and managerial capacity at SEG to supervise and implement large-scale projects and coordinate activities and at DNH to operationalize IWRM. Severe management and operational performance gaps remain at SEG and DNH. Mitigation: The project will build on the PIU of PUEG, which has proven to have adequate capacity to deliver World Bank-financed infrastructure projects. In addition, the technical expertise of a global technical assistance will be tapped to reinforce project preparation and implementation. Sector strategies and policies: The Government has reiterated its support for the water sector, including at a financing roundtable on water in May 2023; at the IMF-World Bank annual meetings; and in various other fora. The World Bank, through the recently closed Urban Water Project, has funded strategic sector studies, such as a water policy letter, a tariff study and a financial model, that have helped clarify needed reforms and policy measures. The project will include funding and institutional measures – such as strengthening the regulator AREE to ensure technical soundness and oversight of sector strategies and policies.
Technological Financial and		N/A N/A
Business Model		

EXECUTION

Capacity	Substantial	The proposed Project would build on existing project unit embedded in
		SONEG to manage fiduciary and safeguards during the project
		implementation. The structuring of the Project Steering Committee and
		Project Implementation Unit will also aim to mitigate these risks, for
		example by supporting implementing agencies staff with seasoned
		consultants. The WB conducted an assessment of the situation of
		violence against vulnerable people and sexual harassment in Guinea,
		which revealed that these risks are Substantial and need to be carefully
		addressed. Accordingly, as part of the Project preparation, a consulting
		firm has been recruited to develop a Labor Management Plan (LMP) and
		a plan for the management of violence against vulnerable people,
		including sexual harassment as well as the development of a Grievance
		Redress Mechanism for normal grievances and sensitive grievances.
		During project implementation, there will be close supervision by the
		World Bank of the implementation of these plans. The project has
		recommended alternative institutional arrangements for the new water
		and sanitation project. These arrangements include sharing project
		implementation responsibilities between the water utility, SEG, and a
		project coordinating unit (PCU) within the line ministry, MEHH. SEG
		will be responsible the implementing the technical and safeguards
		aspects of the water investments under its responsibility, while the PCU
		will be responsible for all the other aspects of project implementation. In
		addition, there will be a Project Management Consulting firm, providing



		project support services to SEG and the PCU (procurement, fiduciary, environmental, social, M&E etc), while also promoting knowledge sharing and capacity building.
Fiduciary	Substantial	The fiduciary risk is likely to be substantial due to the country's overall public financial management, including procurement risk level and the design of the project, which will require large coordination with various stakeholders (MEHH, SEG and MUHAT). Extensive technical assistance will be provided to SEG (amounting to US\$5 million) to reinforce its institutional, fiduciary and technical capacity. This TA will also support DNH in stakeholder engagement in the IWRM process. The project management consulting firm will include fiduciary specialists to support the work of the Financial Management Specialist in the PCU. In addition World Bank staff will ensure regular supervision and oversight of all fiduciary issues. Annual and on-demand audits will be undertaken by an external auditing firm with the Bank overseeing the work of the firm to ensure rigor and compliance with World Bank fiduciary rules.
Stakeholder	Substantial	Given the nature of the activities and the focus on improving existing services and sustaining livelihoods that depend on water, limited opposition from beneficiaries of water services is anticipated. Nevertheless, stakeholders in the watershed will not directly benefit from additional drinking water supply systems but mostly indirect benefits from land restauration, delaying their acceptance of the project activities. A Steering Committee will be established, comprised of all the key stakeholders of the project, and will be tasked with developing the project of work and budget every year. This will ensure that all stakeholders are aware of the project's activities and can advise on, and contribute to, resolving any issues that arise during project implementation.
Other		Macroeconomic: The transition government has launched several
		economic and human resources reforms, aimed at stabilizing the macroeconomic situation. For example, the authorities have instituted a stable monetary policy, settled payment arrears and achieved the consolidation of public finances. These measures, which the World Bank

Overall Risk Rating	Substantial	This reflects substantial political and governance, macroeconomic, sector
		strategies and policies, technical design of project, institutional capacity

design of all the respective thematic areas.

monitors, should help enhance macroeconomic stability. Technical

infrastructure designs, and this is not expected to carry much risk.

regulation component and the sanitation reforms component - will benefit from technical assistance (TA) firms that will ensure sound

design of project: The project will use standard water investments in the

Institutional strengthening activities - such as the WRM component, the



for implementation and sustainability, fiduciary, environmental and social, and stakeholders risks, as well as climate risks, after application
of mitigation strategies.

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

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

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

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

The proposed project (PEAG) is fully aligned with the current Guinea CPF (2018 - 2023) Objective 7: Better access to energy and water through improved management of utilities under Pillar 3, Agricultural Productivity and Economic Growth. The interventions to support SEG through infrastructure investments, technical assistance and organizational transformation interventions all address the CPF's objective of improving the operational performance of SEG. PEAG's proposed support for the establishment of a new sanitation office is also aligned with CPF objective 7, as it builds on the sanitation strategy proposed under this pillar.

PEAG is adequately aligned with the LDCF strategy for the current period of GEF-8. The project's focus on increasing access to improved water services in Greater Conakry is relevant to the LDCF theme of Water. Similarly, the project includes NBS measures (for example, investing in soil stability and reforestation to reduce excessive runoff of solid materials into water storage facilities due to changing rainfall patterns), which is another theme of the LDCF strategy.

PEAG builds on the Natural Resources, Mining, and Environmental Management Project (P168613) and from the Partnership for Market Implementation Facility trust fund for CNSOE. P168613 supports the ongoing demarcation, zoning, and consultation processes for the gazetting of Gangan National Park (GNP), thereby enhancing its role in maintaining upstream water quality and quantity related to PEAG. Through collaboration with the National Parks Agency (OGPNRF), the Environmental Protection Agency (AGEE), and the Environmental Monitoring Center (CNSOE), it will facilitate the design, implementation, and enforcement of conservation and ecosystem restoration activities under the GNP Management Plan. Indeed, the Government of Guinea (GoG) aims to increase the coverage of protected areas from 15 to 25 percent of the national territory, guided by principles such as leveraging heritage, streamlining status, optimizing the network to protect internationally recognized sites (KBAs, IBAs, TIPAs), fulfilling international obligations, and contributing to land-use planning. The GoG has integrated the establishment of the GNP into its efforts to expand the protected area network, as announced at CBD COP 15 in Montreal in 2022. This includes the inclusion of a significant portion of the Samou River watershed upstream of the Baneah Dam within the boundaries of the park.

PEAG also builds on the Guinea Urban Water Project (PUEG), the first IDA financed water operation in Guinea, which was approved in 2017 and closed in December 2023. PUEG, with \$30 million in financing, focused on enhancing the distribution network in SEG's service areas and improving the commercial functions of the utility to reduce water losses, improving water supply to existing customers, connecting to 24,000 new customers and improving bill collection through metering and a new digital customer management system. PUEG also funded important studies and capacity building related to groundwater resources and strategic studies for the water



sector, including a tariff study, financial model, and new sector policy letter. PEAG will support the application of many of the recommendations of these studies. Annex 3 provides an overview of the key project activities.

B. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

 ${\sf Private \ Sector: } Yes$

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

The human capital needs in Guinea are substantial but current efforts are not enough to support the most vulnerable people. Guinea's human capital index is 0.4 as of 2020, which means a person born in Guinea today will be 40 percent as productive as if they enjoyed full education, health, and employment. The rating is particularly low for women (0.36). Marginalized groups such as the urban youth and women (particularly in agricultural areas or in the poorest quintiles) are some of the most vulnerable groups in Guinea. Guinea ranks near the bottom of the list of countries on the gender equality index (118 on 146 countries in 2022). Gender gaps start early, with girls less likely to attend school, and to drop out due to early marriage or pregnancy, while persistent gender-based violence (GBV) in many forms reduce women's opportunities and agency. Guinea has adopted several legal instruments and has ratified the majority of international legal instruments that integrate dimensions related to gender and GBV. However, gender inequality is still pronounced in Guinea across a range of socioeconomic, health, and education outcomes. All of these outcomes are aggravated by lack of reliable water supply, as women have to resort to collecting or paying for water through other sources e.g. going to neighbors who have private boreholes to fill buckets of water multiple times a day.

There is an urgent need to enhance water supply in order to relieve the burden of inadequate water on vulnerable populations. Because cooking and laundry require a fuel source and water, they impose double burdens on women and girls, who are primarily responsible for fetching wood, charcoal and water. Women and girls also disproportionately bear the burden of fetching water for households. A study by the Women's Fund for Gender Equality found that one of the main reasons that women worked less than men was because they were already dedicating 82 hours a week to housework, childcare and fetching wood and water (UN Women, 2017). While the maternal mortality ratio in Guinea has improved from 1,020 in 2000



to 576, it is still higher than its regional average, 534 (WB, 2017). Improving water services is expected to contribute to economic growth and long-term human resources enhancement by allowing children (especially girls) to attend school, and adults (especially women) to engage in additional productive activities instead of spending several hours each day searching for water.

Stakeholder engagement is a fundamental aspect of the project. The project will have to involve and engage local populations, dedicated institutions, administrative and local authorities, civil society, in order to be able to succeed in securing water resources, implement the E&S instruments and finalize the various construction activities. The key stakeholders of the project include government employees employed by the Ministry of Energy, Water and Hydrocarbons (MEHH) and the Ministry of Urban Planning and habitat and territorial Development (MINUHAT) as well as all the other ministries involved in the implementation of water infrastructure (like Environment, Health etc.), SEG, DATU, Guinea Agency for environment Evaluation (AGEE), NGOs, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), consumers, potential contractors, the media and project beneficiaries, including all Project Affected Persons (PAPs). During project preparation, MEHH and MINUHAT will prepare, consult, and disclose a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) to

map out the various project stakeholders and develop a strategy on how to engage with them, share project information, mitigate potential social conflicts and/or misconceptions about project impacts and benefits, and solicit feedback on the project. Stakeholder engagement opportunities and actions must cover all the project components and dimensions. The SEP will outline (i) who the potential key stakeholders are; (ii) how they are to be engaged; (iii) how often the engagement will occur throughout the project, and how disclosure will take place throughout the project; (d) how feedback/complaints/concerns will be received, recorded and monitored over the project; (iv) who will be charged/responsible with this engagement and (v) timeline and cost. The SEP will be prepared in consultation with national stakeholders and will be proportional to the nature and scale of the project and its associated risks and impacts. A draft SEP will be disclosed prior to project appraisal and will be updated as and when necessary, throughout project implementation. The Borrower will engage in meaningful consultations with all stakeholders throughout the project life cycle, paying particular attention to the inclusion of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups (including the elderly, persons with disabilities, female-headed households, youth and orphans). Thus, specific consultations adapted to the needs of vulnerable groups will be held in order to highlight and address their needs throughout the project cycle. The Borrower will maintain and disclose a documented record of any stakeholder engagement, including a description of the stakeholders consulted, a summary of the feedback received and a brief explanation of how the feedback was taken (or not) into consideration. The Borrower will also develop a Grievance Mechanism (GM) for the project that is known by and made accessible to all stakeholders and allow them to voice their concerns and request information about the project. The GM will build on the existing GM infrastructure that has been put in place as part of the PUEG project. The GM will also be SEA/SH sensitive. These provisions will be contained in the SEP and the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP).

The proposed project (PEAG) builds on the Water Supply Master Plan, setting the water sources at the dam sites and technical solutions to treat and transfer the water to the Greater Conakry up to 2040. It also builds on the Guinea Urban Water Project (PUEG), the first IDA financed water operation in Guinea, which was approved in 2017 and closed in December 2023. PUEG, with \$30 million in financing, focused on enhancing the distribution network in SEG's service areas and improving the commercial functions of the utility to reduce water losses, improving water supply to existing customers, connecting to 24,000 new customers and improving bill collection through metering and a new digital customer management system. PUEG also funded important studies and capacity building related to groundwater resources and strategic studies for the water sector, including a tariff study, financial model, and new sector policy letter. PEAG will support the application of many of the recommendations of these studies.



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The World Bank team carried out a mission on 4/22 - 4/26, which engaged with a number of stakeholders in the country. Stakeholder consultations with the following entities along with field visits to each entity were carries out.

- · AGEE (Guinea Agency for Environment Evaluation)
- SEG (Guinea Water Company)
- · OGPNRF (National Park Agency)
- · Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
- · DNH (National Direction of Hydraulics)
- · Representative of local community, including mayor of Massisse commune
- · Rusal CBK Mining Company

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

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification



PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
High or Substantial			

C. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

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

Yes

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

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

	F Resourc	es (\$)	chunge			10,092,000.00	908,000.00	11,000,000.00
World Bank	LDCF	Guinea	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	10,092,000.00	908,000.00	11,000,000.00
GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

false

PPG Amount (\$)

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

Total PPG Amount (\$)					0.00	0.00	0.00
GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional / Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)

Please provide justification



Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

Total GEF Resource	es				0.00
		Regional/ Global			
GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CCA-1-1	LDCF	10,092,000.00	200,000,000.00
Total Project Cost		10,092,000.00	200,000,000.00

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	World Bank	Grant	Investment mobilized	200,000,000.00
Total Co-financing				200,000,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The project is fully blended with a US\$ 200 million IDA Project from the World Bank.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

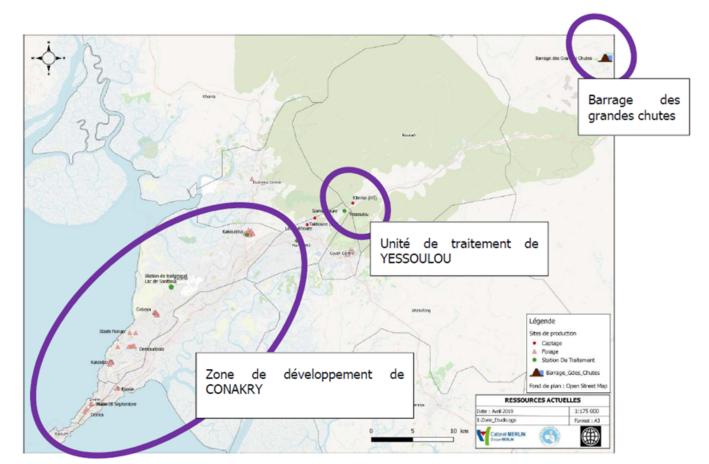
GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Angela Armstrong		Dambudzo Muzenda		dmuzenda@worldbank.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Fodé	General Director of Environment and Natural	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable	3/20/2024
Toure	Capital Fund	Development	



ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION



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

ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

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

Title

Annex D

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

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

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Focal Areas, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Least Developed Countries, Private sector, Climate resilience, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Private Sector, SMEs, Local Communities, Beneficiaries, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Partnership, Participation, Communications, Public Campaigns, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated



indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Access to benefits and services, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Knowledge Exchange