



Lao PDR Landscapes and Livelihoods Project

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10499

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT

NGI

Project Title

Lao PDR Landscapes and Livelihoods Project

Countries

Lao PDR

Agency(ies)

World Bank

Other Executing Partner(s):

Lao PDR Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Biodiversity, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Mainstreaming, Tourism, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Drought Mitigation, Sustainable Pasture Management, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Sustainable Forest, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Livelihoods, Income Generating Activities, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Land Degradation Neutrality, Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Stakeholders, Indigenous Peoples, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Communications, Strategic Communications, Behavior change, Gender Equality, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Trade Unions and Workers Unions, Beneficiaries, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, SMEs, Awareness Raising, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Partnership, Consultation, Participation, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender-sensitive indicators, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Access and control over natural resources, Access to benefits and services, Capacity Development

Rio Markers**Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 0

Submission Date

11/10/2020

Expected Implementation Start

3/31/2021

Expected Completion Date

8/31/2027

Duration

84In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

699,863.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
BD-1-1	Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors	GET	2,627,250.00	20,000,000.00
BD-2-7	Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species and Improve financial sustainability, effective management, and ecosystem coverage of the global protected area estate	GET	2,000,000.00	9,000,000.00
LD-1-3	Maintain or improve flows of ecosystem services, including sustaining livelihoods of forest-dependent people through Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR)	GET	1,539,726.00	10,000,000.00
LD-2-5	Create enabling environments to support scaling up and mainstreaming of SLM and LDN	GET	1,200,000.00	11,000,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			7,366,976.00	50,000,000.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

to promote sustainable forest management, improve protected area management, and enhance livelihoods opportunities in selected landscapes in Lao PDR.

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
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Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1. Investing in Natural Wealth and Resilience in the Forest Landscape	Investment	- To build natural capital from improved forest landscape management. - To strengthen management of PAs for biodiversity conservation and tourism opportunities .	- Relevant agency and village capacity raised to manage their respective forest areas in 5 targeted landscapes. - Improved landscape management practices supported in conservation forests (8 PAs), production forests (11 PFAs), protection forests (5 PtFAs), and in over 600 village forests in the 5 targeted landscapes. - Collaborative Management in 8 PAs. - Extension and outreach in 200 guardian villages; - Village forest and land use planning conducted in 200 guardian villages; - Over 200 villages' Village Conservation Agreements developed and approved; - Biodiversity assessed and monitored.	GET	6,541,976.00	24,993,254.00

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2. Livelihoods Opportunities from Sustainable Forest Landscapes	Investment	<p>No GEF financing</p> <p>- To improve forest-smart livelihoods opportunities , vocational skills, and nature-based tourism development in targeted landscapes</p> <p>strengthen forest-smart village livelihoods in targeted landscapes</p>	<p>Village Livelihoods Block Grants distributed to Village Development Funds in over 600 forest villages in the targeted landscapes and forest areas.</p> <p>- Vocational training undertaken for villagers in target villages in target landscapes and as scholarships to provincial technical vocational education and training (TVET) centers for selected villagers.</p> <p>- Nature-based tourism business leveraging facility is established and providing a) Advisory services</p>	GET		9,245,000.00
		<p>- To improve employment and</p>				

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3. Institutions, Incentives, and Information	Technical Assistance	To strengthen institutions, policies, incentives and information for sustainable forest landscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support government institutions to strengthen and develop relevant public policy, strategy, regulations, and guidelines, and to meet various international commitments; - A GoL-led multisector and multi-stakeholder coordination platform established and implementing; - To strengthen institutions and policies for forest landscapes 	GET	350,000.00	8,420,270.00
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of capacity building on landscapes for GoL to inform decision-making, manage trade-offs and mutual opportunities across sectors; 			

Project Component	Component Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)	
Component 4. Project Management, Monitoring and Learning	Technical Assistance	To maintain and enhance project management, monitoring and learning.	Fiduciary and technical teams established and operational. Monitoring, evaluation, and learning. Strategic communication, partnerships and investment coordination.	GET	380,000.00	6,341,476.00	
Sub Total (\$)					7,271,976.00	49,000,000.00	
Project Management Cost (PMC)							
					GET	95,000.00	1,000,000.00
Sub Total(\$)					95,000.00	1,000,000.00	
Total Project Cost(\$)					7,366,976.00	50,000,000.00	

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	World Bank IDA	Loans	Investment mobilized	34,000,000.00
GEF Agency	WB Canadian Clean Energy and Forest Climate Facility (CCEFCE)	Loans	Investment mobilized	16,000,000.00
			Total Co-Financing(\$)	50,000,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The baseline scenario, leverages World Bank's IDA and CCEFCE credits to which GEF is fully blended (reflected as loan as there is no option for credit support). The World Bank and Lao PDR are regularly engaged in lending dialogue which is captured in periodic Country Partnership Framework and technical assistance on a number of issues and sectors. The World Bank is a key partner also in the development of national legislation and development planning priorities, such as the preparation of the 9th National Socio Economic Development Plan (2021-2025) which has a strong focus on Green Growth.

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
World Bank	GET	Lao PDR	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	4,627,250	439,589
World Bank	GET	Lao PDR	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	2,739,726	260,274
Total Grant Resources(\$)					7,366,976.00	699,863.00

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required

PPG Amount (\$)

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
				Total Project Costs(\$)	0.00	0.00

Core Indicators

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
1,000,000.00	1,458,000.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
1,000,000.00	1,458,000.00	0.00	0.00

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
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Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Hin Namno NP	125689 VI – Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources	Select Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources		94,000.00			66.00		<input type="checkbox"/>
Akula National Park Khouan Xe Nongma NPA	125689 VI – Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources	Select Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources		54,000.00			62.00		<input type="checkbox"/>
Akula National Park Lavine Laverne NPA	125689 VI – Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources	Select Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources		86,000.00			19.00		<input type="checkbox"/>
Akula National Park Nakai-Nam Theun NP	125689 II – National Park (designation in process, to upgrade from category VI)	Select National Park	600,000.00	420,000.00			60.00		<input type="checkbox"/>

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Akula National Park Nam Et - Phou Louey NP	125689 VI – Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources	Select Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	400,000.00		400,000.00		58.00		
Akula National Park Phu Hin Phoun NPA	125689 VI – Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources	Select Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources			150,000.00		24.00		
Akula National Park Phu Khao Khuay NPA	125689 VI – Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources	Select Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources			200,000.00		33.00		
Akula National Park Tor Sip NPA	125689 VI – Protected Area with sustainable use of natural resources	Select Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources			54,000.00		11.00		

Indicator 3 Area of land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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51000.00	50000.00	0.00	0.00
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Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 3.2 Area of Forest and Forest Land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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51,000.00	50,000.00		
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Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and shrublands restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (incl. estuaries, mangroves) restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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961500.00	800000.00	0.00	0.00
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Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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912,500.00	400,000.00		
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Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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49,000.00	400,000.00		
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Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Submitted

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
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Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	11865000	34515860	0	0
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Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)	33900000	0	0	0
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Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
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Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	11,865,000	34,515,860		
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Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)	33,900,000			
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Anticipated start year of accounting	2021	2021		
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Duration of accounting	20	20		
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Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector

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

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

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

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

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)

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

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	52,500	200,000		
Male	52,500	200,000		
Total	105000	400000	0	0

Part II. Project Justification

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

A project map is presented as Annex later.

The project would invest in specific sites within priority forest landscapes within the Greater Annamites and other priority areas. These 5 priority landscapes, along with targeted provinces, districts, protected areas, and villages within them, have been selected according to agreed criteria (see tables below for selection criteria and a short description of the selected landscapes). The operation aims to convene and coordinate action in five initial priority large landscapes within nine provinces, and a prefecture, and scaling up as more experience is built. Initial provinces include Houaphan, Louang Prabang, Xiengkhouang, Xaysonboun, Bolikhamxay, Vientiane Province, Khammouane, Savannakhet, and Vientiane Prefecture.

Brief description of the Annamite Range. The Annamite Range is a mountain range of eastern Indochina. It extends approximately 1,100 km through Laos, Vietnam, and a small area in northeast Cambodia. The highest point of the range is 2,819 m high Phou Bia mountain in Xiengkhouang Province, Lao PDR. Most of the Annamite crests are on the Lao side. The eastern slope of the range rises steeply from the plain, drained by numerous short rivers. The western slope forms significant plateaus before descending to the banks of the Mekong. The range itself has three main plateaus, from north to south of Lao PDR: Phouane Plateau (Xiengkhouang), Nakai Plateau (Khammouane) and Bolaven Plateau (Champasack). Lao PDR lies mostly within the Mekong basin, west of the divide, although most of Houaphan Province and a portion of Xiangkhoang Province lie east of the divide. The geologically complex range comprises mainly limestones, sandstones, granites, and gneisses in the north and in the south an exposed, folded crystalline basement overlain in several places by basaltic lava flows. The Annamite mountains also form an important tropical seasonal forest global ecoregion, the Annamite Range Moist Forests Ecoregion. The range is home to rare and endangered species such as the recently discovered Annamite rabbit and the antelope-like Saola, the Douc langur, the large gaur, the Chinese pangolin and the Indochinese tiger.

The project would establish a framework for additional landscapes to join the program once additional funding is secured. This work will require more innovation, more financing, more inter-sectoral coordination, and a much greater scale if the country is to meet its resilience and low carbon objectives while achieving its plan to graduate from Least Developed Country (LDC) status.

Criteria for landscape Selection

No.	Criteria for Selection	Note
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1	Protected area value in terms of global biodiversity significance	Focus is on the uniqueness of the biodiversity. Includes national parks, national and provincial protected areas, as well as species and habitat management areas, and potential for World Heritage Site designation.
2	Nature-based tourism potential in the landscape	Tourism occurs throughout the landscape across multiple natural and built assets.
3	Active or high potential for forest plantation investment in Production Forest Areas	Industrial plantations are expanding, which has potential for poverty reduction by creating jobs and securing livelihoods while also providing opportunities for more sustainable land use by reducing pressure on native forest and protected areas. Growing demand for land has the potential to change land use patterns in the country, requiring environmentally, socially and fiscally sound private investments and good governance.
4	Production Forest Area suitable for implementing village forestry and participatory SFM	Includes areas that (a) have been independently assessed for FSC Forest Management or Controlled Wood certification, (b) have recently implemented village forestry or SFM investments, or (c) are important for connectivity of forest cover across the landscape. Village forestry could restore forest cover and secure the production functions of these forests.
5	National Protection Forest suitable for securing watershed services and implementing village forestry	Includes National Protection Forests important for connectivity of forest cover across the landscape. National Protection Forests are the largest land use category in Lao PDR and are highly degraded. Village forestry could restore forest cover and secure the watershed functions of these forests to reduce risks from flooding, erosion, and drought.
6	Presence of natural hazards to villages and infrastructure in or downstream from the forest estate	Flood risk maps are under preparation. There seems to be an overlap between areas with flooding recurrence and areas with potential forest plantation expansion. Project preparation would include a vulnerability assessment of landslide, flood, and drought risks.
7	Illegal wildlife or timber trade present in the area	Parts of the illegal wildlife and timber trades are geographically defined in and around protected areas, along certain transportation corridors, gateways, or access points.
No.	Supporting Criteria	Note
8	Poverty rates by Province or District	There is a reasonably strong correlation between poverty rates, forest cover, remoteness, and ethnic minorities.
9	Commitment of the province and key stakeholders to take a multi-sector spatial approach	GoL experience in multisector spatial planning and development: (a) protected area management plans developed by multi-sector protected area supervisory committees, (b) forest landscape management frameworks prepared, and (c) preparing larger-scale land use plans and river basin management plans.
10	Commitment of villagers to participate in the project.	Project resources would center on participatory community approaches to village forestry, conversation and livelihoods, and could complement sustainable private sector engagements in industrial plantations and nature-based tourism.

Criteria for district selection

No.	Criteria for Selection
1	Districts in production or protection forests in targeted landscapes
2	Districts with a significant area of intact forest, or with real potential for forest restoration
3	Districts with economic opportunities for wood products or NTFPs from VFM
4	Districts with high potential to establish environmentally and socially sustainable plantation forests
5	Districts that have demonstrated support for PSFM or VFM
6	Districts vulnerable to forest fire, floods, droughts, erosion and landslides, and opportunities for climate and disaster risk reduction.

Criteria for PA selection

No.	Criteria for Selection
1	PA in LLL target landscape
2	PA supporting internationally and national significant biodiversity
3	PA with Nature-based tourism potential

Criteria for village selection

No.	Criteria for Selection
Villages inside or around PAs (supported under Component 1.1 and 2.1.1)	
1	Guardian villages located in immediate proximity to high biodiversity zones within or bordering targeted protected areas
2	Guardian villages located in immediate proximity to (proposed) nature-based tourism assets
Villages inside PFAs and PtFAs (supported under Component 1.2 and 2.1.2)	
3	Villages with relatively good forest cover, and interest to adopt VFM and take advantage of economic opportunities for wood products and NTFP
4	Villages with stated desire to restore degraded village forests
5	Villages in which the administration and most of the community are supportive of VFM or who have been trained in PSFM
6	Villages vulnerable to forest fire, floods, droughts, erosion and landslides, and opportunities for climate and disaster risk reduction

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS

Province/District	Characteristics of the Landscape

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS	
Province/District	Characteristics of the Landscape
<i>Landscape 1. Greater Nam Et - Phou Louey</i>	

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS

Province/District	Characteristics of the Landscape
<p>Provinces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Houaphan Province · Luang Prabang Province · Xieng Khouang Province <p>Districts:^[1]¹</p> <p><i>Houaphan:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Et · Xiengkhor · Hiem · Houa Meung · Xone · Xam Neua <p><i>Louang Prabang</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pakxeng · Phonthong · Phonxai · Viengkhan · Ngoi <p><i>Xieng Khouang</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Phoukhout <p>PAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Nam Et - Phou Louey <p>PFA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Phouliew <p>PtFAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Nam Sueng - Seng · Nam Et - Nam Xam 	<p>Nature-based tourism. Nam Et - Phou Louey is one of the first two designated national parks in the country. The site protects a rich biodiversity representative of the northern Highlands. It is currently best known for its ‘Nam Nern Night Safari’, one of the best nature-based tourism experiences. Options to expand nature-based tourism experiences within the reserve remain high, including the montane peaks, treks, and cultural and historical sites. But this will require greater investment and inclusion by the private sector to realize its potential.</p> <p>Illegal wildlife trade. Houaphan Province is a notable transit site for illegal wildlife trade, while Luang Prabang is a major international tourism hub with associated wildlife trade issues and a transit node on the railway link between China and Vientiane.</p> <p>Disaster risks. Forest fires are a perennial problem in Nam Et - Phou Louey National Park and surrounding agroforestry landscapes. There are no organized village fire prevention groups (village conservation volunteers), danger ratings, or creation of firebreaks to mitigate these threats. The area is also vulnerable to floods and landslides.</p> <p>VFM and plantations. Luang Prabang and Houaphan Provinces have the potential to host smallholder teak and NTFP plantations and in the two PtFAs and PFA supported by the project.</p>

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS

Province/District

Characteristics of the Landscape

Landscape 2. Greater Phou Khao Khouay

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS

Province/District	Characteristics of the Landscape
<p>Provinces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Bolikhamxay Province · Xaysomboun Province · Vientiane Province · Vientiane Prefecture <p>Districts:</p> <p><i>Bolikhamxay</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Bolikham <p><i>Xaysomboun</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Hom · Long Xan · Long Xan <p><i>Vientiane Province</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Keo Udom · Thulakom · Thapabath · Kasi · Vang Vieng · Hinher · Feuang · Mad · Meun · Xanakharm <p><i>Vientiane Prefecture</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Xaythany · Pak Ngeum <p>PAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Phou Khao Khouay <p>PFAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Phou Gneuy · Nongpet - Naxeng <p>PtFAs:</p>	<p>Phou Khao Khouay NPA straddles four provinces and seven districts. The southern perimeter districts of the NPA are linked to the Vientiane urban economy, although most of these districts' economies depend on rural livelihoods from forest products. The greater landscape includes industrial plantation and processing facilities managed by three different firms committed to sustainability standards.</p> <p>Nature-based tourism. As one of the closest PAs to Lao PDR's capital and the most well-known PAs in the country, Phou Khao Khouay NPA itself has an un-met potential for supplying nature-based tourism demand and tourism concession models, with excellent road access from three hydropower schemes. The site also has unparalleled potential for increasing awareness and interest in biodiversity conservation by the general public through tourism, as it could easily be marketed and frequented by a wide variety of local markets, including student and school groups, urban civil society, and decision-makers. Its training potential for environmental education aimed at many diverse, domestic target groups is very high.</p> <p>Illegal wildlife trade. Vientiane Capital is a hub for transnational illegal wildlife trade.</p> <p>Controlled wood certification for SFM. Phak Beuk PFA, Bolikhamxay, and Nongpet Naseng PFA in Vientiane Province are forests currently certified by FSC.</p> <p><i>Potential agreements with tree plantations:</i></p> <p>Vientiane Province. Bourapha company has eucalyptus plantations in Nong Phet - Naxeng PFA stretching over Hin Hom and Maet Districts. Additional concessions in Phou Gneuy PFA span across Xanakharm District and Fuang District. In 2021, Bourapha will have a fully operational plywood mill in Hin Hom District and the intention to build an additional pulp mill if and when the concession agreement is signed.</p> <p>Disaster risk management. Forest fires are a perennial problem in Phou Khao Khouay NPA and surrounding agroforestry landscapes. There are no village fire prevention groups (village conservation volunteers), danger ratings, or coordinated creation of firebreaks. There are three reservoirs inside the NPA which are strategic for Vientiane Capital water supply and will benefit from good forest management to maintain ecosystem services.</p>

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS	
Province/District	Characteristics of the Landscape
<i>Landscape 3. Northern Annamites</i>	

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS

Province/District	Characteristics of the Landscape
<p>Provinces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Xieng Khouang Province · Xaysomboun Province · Bolikhamxay Province <p>Districts:</p> <p><i>Xieng Khouang</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Khoun · Mokmay <p><i>Xaysomboun</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Thathom · Hom <p><i>Bolikhamxay</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Vienthong · Bolikhanh · Papkading · Xaychamphone · Khamkeuth <p>PAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Tor Sip · Phou Samsoum (pending denomination) <p>PFAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Houy Soup · Pak Buek · Phoupasang - Pounghok · Photume <p>PtFAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Nam Mouane - Nam Gnouang 	<p>Nature-based tourism. Xieng Khouang Province’s Tor Sip Provincial Protected Area (PPA) and Phou Samsoum represent nature-based tourism attractions for their unique high- mountain ecosystem and the existing tourism hub of the Plain of Jars, Lao PDR’s second United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage Site, inscribed in 2019. Tor Sip and Phou Samsoum encompass the second highest mountain (2,700 m) and third highest mountain (2,640 m) in the country and support unique montane forest vegetation and range-restricted biodiversity. Tor Sip PPA in Lao PDR is contiguous with Pu Mat National Park in Vietnam, one of Vietnam’s best-managed reserves, with exceptional wet evergreen biodiversity. These mountain landscapes are attractive to tourists, for panoramic scenic views, cool weather, and unusual flora and fauna. Yet, there is negligible tourism, and trans-boundary tourism Memoranda of Understanding with Vietnam could increase visitor numbers from Pu Mat.</p> <p>Disaster risk management. Forest fires are a seasonal problem in the two districts. There are no village fire prevention groups (village conservation volunteers), danger ratings, or coordinated creation of firebreaks.</p> <p><i>Potential agreements with tree plantations:</i></p> <p>Khamseng company requested 3,600 ha in Pak Bua PFA and also in Bolikham District.</p> <p>Mekong Timber Plantations company requested potential 1,130 ha in Phou Tum PFA and also in Bolikham District.</p> <p>VFM. There is potential for smallholder NTFP and eucalyptus plantations in Nam Mouane - Nam Gnouang PtFA.</p> <p>Poverty. The two districts of Mok and Kham have high poverty concentrations.</p>

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS

Province/District

Characteristics of the Landscape

Landscape 4. Khammouane biodiversity complex

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS

Province/District	Characteristics of the Landscape
<p>Provinces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Khammouane Province · Bolikhamxay Province <p>Districts:</p> <p><i>Khammouane</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Nakai · Gnommalath · Boualapha · Hinboun · Khounkham · Mahaxay · Thakek · Xebangfay · Xayboathong <p><i>Bolikhamxay</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Khamkeut <p>PAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Phou Hin Poun · Nakai Nam Theun · Hin Nam No · Khoun Xe-Nong Ma's <p>PfAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Dong Phousoy · Nakathing - Nongkapath <p>PtFAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Phoulouang - Phoukhaonok · Lad Duea - Lad yang 	<p>Nature-based tourism. Khammouane Province's prospects for green economic growth and poverty reduction are promising, as the province is blessed with world-class caves, karst mountain landscapes, diverse native forests, and a network of PAs that represent one of the world's top biodiversity hot spots and globally significant biodiversity values. There is a growing market for nature-based tourism throughout the province via 'The Loop', which passes multiple PAs including two of Lao PDR's first three national parks, Nakai Nam Theun and Hin Nam No, as well as Phou Hin Poun NPA and its many caves and adventure tourism options and Khoun Xe-Nong Ma's remote, outback jungles.</p> <p>Illegal wildlife trade. Wildlife and forest crimes severely threaten the biodiversity, including trans-boundary international crimes and small-scale widespread illegal hunters from Vietnam.</p> <p>Forest products and plantations. At the same time, the province is attracting continued interest from timber producers and in the past had an active timber processing sub-sector. Portions of Nakathing PFA and Dong Phousoi PFA have been certified for controlled wood, with high potential for PSFM and village forestry. Dong Phousoi PFA already hosts sustainable eucalyptus tree plantations from MTP company, and other companies have manifested interest in expanding operations in the PFA. Stora Enso company has manifested interest in Na Ka Tin - Na Ka Pa PFA in Boualapha District while MTP company has requested 600 ha in the same PFA but in Xe Bang Fai and Ma Ha Say Districts.</p> <p>Disaster and climate risks. Khammouane is highly vulnerable to floods, which have increased in severity over the last two decades. In 2019, large parts of the Xe Ban Fai river basin were flooded for over two weeks, with serious damage to the people and the economy. Irrigated rice and other high-value agricultural products are produced downstream, but these farming villages are vulnerable to repeated floods in part due to upstream forest loss and degradation. Nam Theun 2 hydropower facility will face costly erosion risks if neighboring Nakai Nam Theun National Park were to experience significant forest loss and degradation, including forest fires within the watershed.</p> <p>Poverty. Khammouane hosts some of the poorest districts nationwide, and provincial and key stakeholders (like the Nam Theun 2 Power Company [NTPC]) have a long commitment to continuous engagement and support with the most fragile communities.</p>

PRIORITY LANDSCAPES, PROVINCES, AND DISTRICTS	
Province/District	Characteristics of the Landscape
<i>Landscape 5. Savannakhet conservation and production landscape</i>	
<p>Province:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Savannakhet Province <p>Districts:</p> <p><i>Savannakhet</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Songkhone · Thapangthong · Phin · Xonbuly · Xepon · Vilabuly <p>PAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Lavine Laverne <p>PFAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Dong Sithouane · Dong Ka Pho 	<p>Nature-based tourism. Savannakhet Province has a few PAs and nature tourism attractions worth considering, some of which have had initial success in tourism development, including Dong Natad for community-led day treks, the Eld’s deer forest, and Dong Phou Vieng and Phou Xang Hae for multi-day treks (these PAs are not funded by the project, but potential private investors could apply to the nature-based tourism business leverage facility). Other parks in the province known for biodiversity that are yet to be developed for tourism but hold potential include Laving Laverne NPA (directly supported by LLL), which has globally significant endemic Annamite species contiguous with Khouan Xe Nongma in Khammouane Province, Xe Bang Nouan NPA, which has gaur and other large species (not funded by LLL), and Xe Champone Wetlands (not funded by LLL), one of two of Lao PDR’s Ramsar sites that is habitat for the country’s last remaining breeding population of wild Siamese crocodiles.</p> <p>Pulp and paper. The presence of the largest pulp and paper mill in the country (Sun Paper) and existing 30,000 ha private eucalyptus plantation in Xepon District gives the province a high potential for smallholder tree plantations and out-grower schemes but also poses risks of losing access to land and resources for rural forest-dependent communities.</p> <p>Third-party certification. Forest management certification is currently in place in Dong Sithouane PFA while Kapho PFA is certified for controlled wood.</p> <p>Boosting village forestry. Due to the long-term PSFM engagement PFAs, there is high potential to scale up village forestry and enhanced livelihoods opportunities, also taking advantage of economic opportunities and market access from the existing main road connecting Thailand and Vietnam. There is a chance to promote links to Savannakhet University.</p> <p>Disaster risk management (forest fires, flood, drought, and erosion risk). There is a high risk of drought and subsequent flooding. This is the result of unplanned forest fire prevention and of unplanned irrigation and water management, which, exacerbated by climate change, requires more integrated support to stop erosion of agriculture land and possible encroachment into forest areas.</p>

[1] The following districts are also being targeted by GIZ Improved Governance and Sustainable Forest Landscape Management project: Hiem, Xam Neua, Xone, Phonthong, Phonxai, and Viengkhan.

2. Stakeholders

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

The SEP is prepared to define a program for stakeholder engagement, including public information disclosure and consultation, throughout the entire project cycle. The SEP outlines the ways in which the project team will communicate with stakeholders and includes a mechanism by which people can raise concerns, provide feedback, or lodge complaints about project. The involvement of the stakeholders particularly local population is key to the success of the project in order to ensure smooth collaboration between project staff and local communities and to minimize and mitigate ES risks related to the proposed project activities. The SEP has been prepared as part of the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) (attached as Annex J of GEF data sheet). The Community Engagement Framework is also included below as reference.

Stakeholder Institution	Project-related role and responsibility
National Government	
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)	MAF is the main Ministry involved in the project, mobilizing resources and departments at national and sub-national level to coordinate implementation of all project activities. The MAF Vice Minister chairs the LLL National Steering Committee.
MAF Department of Forestry (DOF)	DOF is the project implementing agency, house of the NPCU, leading implementation of all components in partnerships with other relevant agencies. DOF is responsible for management of all three forest categories: conservation, protection, and production, and the implementation of village forest management. DOF technical divisions will coordinate implementation of forest related activities in each forest category.
MAF Department of Agricultural Land development and Management (DALaM)	(i) Participates in Land use planning and restoration, and advise on catchment areas for small scale village irrigation schemes (Component 1). (ii) DALaM will also co-lead with DOF and DOL (MONRE) the advancement of policy framework for land tenure recognition inside the three forest categories (Subcomponent 3.3).
MAF Department of Extension and Technical Agroforestry Processing (DETAP)	(i) Participates in implementation of the extension and village advisory services in component 1, and (ii) support processing and agricultural value chain development (Subcomponent 2.1).
MAF Department of Forest Inspection (DOFI)	Enforces forest and wildlife laws and regulations. It jointly leads implementation of Subcomponent 3.2, with Environmental Police, Customs and DOF, in the coordination framework of the Lao Wildlife Enforcement Network (Lao-WEN).
MAF Department of Agriculture (DOA)	Participate in implementation of (i) the extension and village advisory services in component 1, and (ii) support processing and agricultural value chain development (Subcomponent 2.1).
National Agriculture and Forestry Research Center (NAFRI)	Lead on research activity on productive forestry and other agronomic issues in component 1 jointly with the National University of Laos and others as appropriate.

Environment Protection Fund (EPF)	Supports the NPCU to perform fiduciary requirements, financial management, and procurement for (i) subcomponent 3.2 on strengthening institutions to reduce wildlife and forest crimes, and (ii) MONRE-implemented activities in subcomponent 3.3.
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)	Implements selected activities in subcomponent 3.3 on information for decision support, specifically: (i) Department of Environment implements the policy framework for Strategic Environmental Assessment and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ii) Department of Climate Change performs monitoring and reporting for Climate Paris Agreement Nationally Determined Contribution (iii) Department of Land co-leads the advancing the policy framework on land tenure recognition inside forestlands, in partnerships with MAF DOF and DALaM.
Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism (MOICT)	The Department of Tourism participates and advises in nature-based tourism-related activities in the project, specifically: (i) in subcomponent 1.1 supports PA management in the development of tourism strategies, marketing, and infrastructure; (ii) in subcomponent 2.2 advises on tourism-related vocational training options; (iii) in subcomponent 2.3 co-chairs the NBT business leveraging facility's steering committee with DOF and MOIC; and (iv) in subcomponent 3.1 advises on tourism-related policy and enabling activities.
Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC)	Various departments participate and advise in SMEs and Industry related activities including skills development in (i) forestry (subcomponent 1.2, 2.2, 3.1), (ii) nature-based tourism (subcomponent 1.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1), (iii) market access for livelihoods activities (subcomponent 2.1, 2.2), and (iv) chain of custody certification and forest-related downstream industries support and policies (subcomponent 3.1).
Ministry of Planning and Investments (MPI)	In cooperation with other ministries, MPI is responsible for granting concession agreements to responsible companies. MPI Department of Planning also hosts the secretariat of the high-level Green Growth Steering Committee, which will inform the strategic direction of the LLL project. Selected departments advise or lead other specific activities.
MPI Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB)	Leads the intergovernmental natural capital accounting working group, and conducts dedicated analysis on landscape valuation (subcomponent 3.3).
MPI Department of Investment Promotion	Participates and advises to improve the enabling legal and regulatory environment for the establishment of socially and environmentally responsible concessions for tree plantations inside PFAs and nature-based tourism investments inside the PAs (subcomponent 3.1).
MPI Department of Planning	Coordinates the mainstreaming of forest and land management and plans in the overall national, provincial, district and village development plans (component 1).
Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT)	Supervises construction and maintenance of selected climate resilient access roads as part of the village infrastructure activity (subcomponent 1.2).
National University of Laos (NUOL)	Conducts applied research in partnership with other agencies as relevant (subcomponent 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 3.1, 3.3).

Ministry of Finance, Lao Customs Department (LCD)	It jointly leads implementation of Subcomponent 3.2 on strengthening institutions and policies to reduce forest and wildlife crimes, with Environmental Police, DOFI and DOF, in the coordination framework of the Lao Wildlife Enforcement Network (Lao-WEN).
Ministry of Home Affairs Department Combatting Natural Resource and Environmental Crime (DCNEC) – Environmental Police	It jointly leads implementation of Subcomponent 3.2 on strengthening institutions and policies to reduce forest and wildlife crimes, with DOFI, LCD and DOF, in the coordination framework of the Lao Wildlife Enforcement Network (Lao-WEN).
Lao Front for National Development (LFND)	Advises and support project-related activities dealing with ethnic groups, including forest management (component 1) livelihoods development (component 2) and policy and institutional support (component 3).
Lao Women Union (LWU)	Leads the implementation of the LLL Gender Action Plan (see appendix E), which involves most of components and activities at national and subnational levels.
Lao Youth Union (LYU)	Advised and supports project-related activities in the mobilization of youth for active participation, including forest management (component 1) livelihoods development (component 2).
Other relevant ministries	Provide support and advice in activities related to their respective fields.
Private sector	In Lao PDR, forest plantation, wood industry development, and agricultural production and marketing are predominantly private sector activities. Nature-based tourism is also a private sector activity primarily. The private sector plays a vital role in to support the production sectors, through (i) the provision of training, seminars, and workshops on governmental regulations; (ii) technical assistance; (iii) research and extension; and (iv) financial and other support to participant communities.
Sub-national Government	
Provincial and District offices under the above institutions	Implementation, enforcement, information dissemination and gathering.
Village level	
Village Chief	Chairs the Village Committee
Village Committee	Guides planning, implementation and financial management of village level livelihoods activities
Private sector	
Timber plantation companies	Participate in selected national multi-stakeholder dialogues, and can engage in tree out-grower agreements with villages supported by the project if all parties are willing and environmental and social sustainability are ensured.
Tourism companies	Participate in selected national multi-stakeholder dialogues, and can engage in nature-based tourism activities in PAs by accessing the NBT business leverage facility, and/or participating in the development of tourism action plans and investment portfolios for selected PAs.

CSOs	
Wildlife Conservation Society	Support the Government on the management of NEPL NP, and can be contracted for other tasks under the project upon the Client's decision.
International Union for the Conservation of Nature	Support the Government on the management of PHP NPA, and can be contracted for other tasks under the project upon the Client's decision.
Asian Arks	Support the Government on the management of KXNM NPA, and can be contracted for other tasks under the project upon the Client's decision.
Other INGOs	Could join the project as service providers under agreements with the Client.
Development partners	
World Bank	Administers IDA and GEF financing and will provide technical supervision support to Government during project implementation, as well as technical assistance.
GIZ	Implementation of CLIPAD project in the Northern Provinces in the context of REDD+ and the ICBF project in the Southern provinces, with focus on PA management and support to the Government on the management of HNN NP.
IFC	Leads the national dialogue on planted forests and convenes space for public-private-people-partnerships and multi-stakeholder engagement.
ADB	Funds the BCC project on biodiversity corridors in the Southern Provinces, and a national project on tourism, implemented by the MICT.

[1] Members include the Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, The Lao Women's Union (LWU), the National University of Lao, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, and the PRF.

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

Stakeholders include communities (villages), groups, or individuals affected by the LLL project and other interested parties. Engagement will be ensured through appropriate information disclosure, consultation, and informed participation. Stakeholder engagement is an inclusive process conducted throughout the project life cycle to support the development of strong, constructive and responsive relationships that are important for successful management of a project's environmental and social risks. The WB ESS 10 requires the following:

- Stakeholder engagement is initiated at an early stage of the project development process, and is an integral part of early project decisions and the assessment, management and monitoring of the project.
- Stakeholders are engaged throughout the project life cycle, commencing such engagement as early as possible in the project development process and in a timeframe that enables meaningful consultations with stakeholders on project design.
- The nature, scope and frequency of stakeholder engagement will be proportionate to the nature and scale of the project and its potential risks and impacts.
- Meaningful consultations with all stakeholders, by providing stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.
- The process of stakeholder engagement includes (i) stakeholder identification and analysis; (ii) planning how the engagement with stakeholders will take place; (iii) disclosure of information; (iv) consultation with stakeholders; (v) addressing and responding to grievances; and (vi) reporting to stakeholders.

Due to movement restrictions related to COVID-19, the SEP will use the flexibility allowed by the extraordinary times, and document the process for future follow-up on any of the steps listed above.

In October 2020, the Department of Forestry conducted virtual consultations of relevant stakeholders at central level and from all 8 participating provinces via e-mail or WhatsApp, in the context of the project's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). 'Face to face' consultations were also held in Thalath, Vientiane province, October 13, including province, districts and village representatives.

Feedback from the consultations is summarized below:

Virtual consultations:

- 24% out of 84 contacted persons responded via e-mail or WhatsApp.

- Overall agreement on the disclosed ESF documents; questions and clarifications were asked and discussed; general interest in cooperating with the project.

Face-to-face consultations:

- Participants considered LLL a good opportunity to address challenges in forest landscapes;
- Questions were raised and discussed around land issues that could emerge due to private investments;
- Interest was shown in detail about Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRM), Community Engagement Framework (CEF) and livelihoods support to villages, especially the grants for the most vulnerable households.

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

1. **The project is gender-tagged, including actions to address the project-relevant gender gaps identified and indicators to measure them, in order to ensure differential impacts are addressed.** A gender analysis informed the development of the Gender Action Plan, aimed at assisting the client to enhance gender equality and contribute to closing targeted gender gaps that could potentially limit the effectiveness of the project. The project design team has taken into consideration gender roles and their implications for project beneficiaries in preparing and implementing forestry, tourism, conservation and livelihoods activities, environment and social framework (ESF) documentation, citizen engagement, and grievance redress arrangements.
 2. **LLL's Gender Action Plan (Annex I of GEF dats sheet) has been largely based upon two recent and relevant gender assessments in the context of forest landscapes in Lao that describe key gender gaps, actions to address them, and indicators to monitor progress towards gender-related outcomes.**^[1] These are the Gender Integration Development (GID) study for the Bank-supported Lao PDR Emissions Reduction Program (FCPF, 2019/20). The other was a GIZ-supported gender assessment and gender action plan for an associated project to be financed by the Green Carbon Fund support project to the ER-P (GCF, 2019), the findings of which were incorporated in the GID study.
 3. **The study provides a comprehensive assessment of the importance of land-based livelihood activities for women in 6 Provinces of northern Lao, for the four main ethnic groups found in these landscapes (Tai-Kadai, Mon-Khmer, Hmong-Mein and Sino-Tibetan).** It shows that forestry-based activities are generally more important to the latter three groups than the Lao-Tai.
 4. **The findings highlight many gender gaps (proportionate differences between men and women) related to access to, use of, and control over both agricultural lands and forests.** The major gender gaps described in detail in the report are synthesized as follows: ^[2]
 - a) Less access to communal lands/forests. The study results suggest that communal/customary land areas in many villages have become smaller due to land 'expropriations' by elites and foreign companies, affecting poor households and women disproportionately.
 - b) Lack of inclusion and decision-making power in participatory land use planning. Land use planning approaches have not been fully inclusive of women and other marginalized groups.
 - c) Workloads of women are greater than men. Women's work burdens (home and farm) constrain them from seeking out and undertaking new agroforestry or forest-related livelihood enhancing opportunities. Women spend more time collecting (and selling) NTFP's and collecting firewood than men.
-

- d) Lack of awareness of, and benefits from forest landscape-related programs. Few women, and less women than men, are aware of, or benefiting from forest landscape-related interventions/forest-smart activities.
- e) Lack of gender awareness and capacity within forestry agencies. The study highlighted that the Provincial and District Forestry agencies have a limited awareness of the relevance of gender-responsive measures.

Relevance of these gender gaps for LLL, Actions to address them and Indicators in the RF

5. **This Gender Action Plan includes the following key project-related gender gaps, actions to address them, and indicators to monitor progress:**

6. **Component 1** focuses on investments in natural capital, particularly in national parks and protected areas. It includes support to forest and land use planning and management and aims to catalyze nature-based tourism initiatives (i.e. it also will strengthen human capital).

a) Gaps:

- i) The main gender gaps applicable here relate to participation: women and the poorest and minority ethnic community members in many villages have been virtually excluded from both participation and decision-making in land and forest use planning at local and higher levels of governance.
- ii) Another gender gap relevant here relates to capacity and lack of technical skills of women to be involved in forest-related initiatives and employment. Compared to men, women have fewer economic opportunities and skills especially in forestry and conservation, and some tourism activities.

b) Actions:

- i) Nature-based tourism and other forest/conservation initiatives supported by LLL, such as trainings and creation of new jobs, will ensure they are accessible and applicable to women as well as men.

c) Indicators:

- i) PDO Indicator 4: Beneficiaries of job-focused interventions (number of females; target: 50%).

7. **Component 2** main focus of lies in enhancing livelihood opportunities.

a) Gap:

- i) Compared to men, women have less access to credit or grants for forest-related activities and livelihood improvements than do men.
- b) Actions:
 - i) Technical assistance and communication efforts will be targeted to women household members on what the village livelihoods block grants are, and how to access, implement, and report on them.
 - ii) Targeting. In addition, the project will earmark 50% of the revolving funds in the village livelihoods block grants for women-owned or co-owned household subprojects.
- c) Gap:
 - i) Women (and those more vulnerable) have less access to extension and outreach services in the project areas than do men.
- d) Actions:
 - i) LLL will strengthen extension and outreach to mobilize and facilitate village empowerment, resource management, and livelihoods development in an equitable way.
 - ii) LLL will facilitate the active and effective participation of women in community meetings, locating and timing trainings to accommodate women's work schedules and preferences will enhance equitable participation and outreach. This can be done in coordination with LWU, LNFC, and local women's organizations to build on existing networks and best practices for outreach.
 - iii) The livelihood activities supported cannot merely increase women's workload, and ideally will lower them (e.g. through less time spent collecting firewood and water, and cooking). The project will explore actions to ensure women can receive direct payments, for example via cellphone, or new local bank accounts.
- e) Indicator:
 - i) IRI Gender Indicator: Villagers using extension or outreach services, number (% female).
- f) Gap:
 - i) Village livelihood grants to communities have been reaching less vulnerable households disproportionately more than the most vulnerable households.
- g) Action:

i) A proportion of these grants (20 percent) will be earmarked to ensure they go to the most vulnerable households in the villages supported and female-headed households will be monitored.

8. **Component 3** includes investments in strengthening institutions, incentives and information. It will review legal and policy frameworks and guidelines for protected area management, sustainable production forest areas, as well as village forestry regulations.

a) Gaps:

i) Low participation and capacity of government forest agencies at various levels, including the Lao Women's Union, to implement gender-responsive activities.

ii) forest policy gender gap: laws, regulations and guidelines do not consider gender as an explicit factor in forest protection, user-rights and benefit-sharing.

b) Actions.

i) LLL will engage gender experts to analyze and recommend revisions to relevant regulations and guidelines to reflect gender considerations critical for improved resource management, forest protection, monitoring, equal user rights and benefit-sharing.

ii) LLL will include female representatives on project-related committees, working groups, etc. and ensure local women's views and gender issues are captured in reviews of legal and policy frameworks and policy briefs.

iii) LLL will contribute to actions (e.g. in collaboration with other projects focusing on land reforms) that strengthen village's legal rights to use and benefit from forest lands, and within this, strengthening the rights of women within the village to access and use forest lands.

c) Indicator:

i) IRI Indicator 9: Share of target beneficiaries with a score of 'satisfied' or above on project interventions – females, %.

Enhanced Gender Responsiveness in LLL Management Activities

9. **Good gender practices suggest setting targets for the percent of the project implementing team that are women that play managerial/leadership roles, and an additional target of the female staff that are ethnic minorities especially at the local level.**

10. **Indicators to monitor project management performance (tracked outside the results framework) will include:**

- a) Percentage of women appointed to managerial positions in the LLL PCU;
- b) Assessment of gender-related outcomes after Year 1;
- c) Resolution of ESF grievances lodged by village women relating to the LLL.

In addition, Impact assessments that include gender-disaggregated data will also be undertaken to analyze a range of impacts on women and vulnerable households.

[1] Gaps, actions and indicators are the 3 areas that address the WB's gender strategy and 'gender tagging' requirement.

[2] While these gaps were identified and verified in the six northern Provinces included in the ER-P, they have been confirmed as being also relevant to the LLL program areas.

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

Yes

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

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

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

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.

The project will carefully distinguish between public sector activities financed by the project and private sector investment leveraged by, facilitated by, or coordinated with the project. Core government tasks will be financed by the project, such as PA management, forest restoration, small public infrastructure, licensing, certification, regulation, and other elements of the enabling environment. Environmentally and socially sustainable private sector participation in nature-based tourism and forestry will be encouraged by the project.

Commercial plantation in project documentation refers to industrial tree plantations, which need to sign a concession agreement with the government to establish a commercial operation in selected PFAs. The project will not finance any industrial (or commercial) tree plantation.

The project will support the establishment of smallholder (household) tree plantations in private village land in PFAs and PtFAs as one of the many eligible activities under Village Forest Management. GEF resources will not co-finance Activity 1.2.3 on Village Forest Management.

Forestry:

The need for verified legal and sustainable tropical forest products is increasing rapidly as prerequisites for access to international markets capable of paying higher prices; Lao PDR needs to keep pace with these new market opportunities by transforming the forestry sector into a central pillar of a new green economy. Most major international markets like the European Union (EU), the United States (US) and other countries with green policies increasingly demand proof of legality and/or sustainability of forest management and wood products that they import by way of third party assessed certification of forest management and chain of custody across the supply chain. There is also emerging interest within Asia in legal and certified wood as China, Vietnam, and Thailand are all establishing national standards for timber legality and SFM to meet, and in turn, export market requirements of their trading partners for legal and sustainable wood.^[1]

Additionally, the analytical work also provides a strong context for the market demand. Increasingly forest products importing countries; multi-national and national companies; international financial and funding institutions; and importing/manufacturing/construction federations and associations require wood producers and forest products traders to prove sustainability and/or legality for forest products market access, particularly into industrialized countries in Europe, North America, Oceania and elsewhere. Increasingly Governments have approved green public procurement policies; local governments, city/town planners, engineers and architects have established green building standards and companies have adopted green policies to demonstrate corporate social and environmental responsibility; and development and multi-national commercial banks require proof of compliance with social and environmental safeguards and the Equator Principles respectively. These international markets have become more discerning in their sourcing of sustainable wood production and legal associated wood products trade. Originally, FSC certification was the standard specified by most of these market mechanisms but there has been a significant change in recent years to accept FSC and PEFC and their associated certification systems (e.g. SFI) as reputable, international, independently 3rd party assessed certification systems as proof of sustainability and legality. These combined international markets for solid wood total over three times China's annual wood imports. There is an emerging interest within Asia in proof of production, harvesting and trade in legal and certified wood as China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Thailand have established or

are establishing national standards for timber legality and SFM and Chain of Custody certification to meet export market requirements of their trading partners. Lao PDR has an opportunity to increase both forest certification as proof of sustainability and FLEGT tools (TLAS, VPAs) for proof of legality in forest products production, harvesting and trade.

[1] World Bank 2019, Partnerships and Opportunities for a New Green Forest Economy in Lao PDR: Sustaining Forest Landscapes and Livelihoods

Village Level Engagement

- National micro, smallholder, family or farmer investments at the village level in plantation forests (indigenous or introduced species) with support from the public sector (land-use rights and allocation, certification of land-use, provision of technical support services; provision of nursery stock, access to harvest, market and trade of forest products);
- National micro, smallholder, family or farmer investments at the village level (provide access to land, labor) in fast growing industrial plantation forest out-grower arrangements with support from the Private Sector (provide seedlings, materials, technical advice and access to markets);
- National micro, smallholder family or farmer contractors at the village level working with the Private Sector to gain the experience and the skillsets to provide contract services for national forest restoration and industrial plantation investments (seed collection, nurseries, site preparation, planting, weeding, tending, silviculture, harvesting, transport, marketing, trade);
- Public, Private Sector and village collaboration in the investment and construction of green infrastructure including small-scale irrigation systems, local roads and bridges and local water supplies and reservoirs in target villages; and
- Public, Private Sector and village collaboration on training, construction, piloting and up-scaling of green technologies for watershed management and disaster risk reduction (riparian buffer management, assisted natural regeneration) in target villages.

Policy and Institutional Engagement

The project will build institutional and stakeholder capacities to address key regulatory topics to strengthen environmentally and socially sustainable investment. LLL project will not finance industrial plantations, but will engage stakeholders in addressing governance issues on the following themes:

- Multi-national private sector investments in natural forest restoration and fast-growing industrial plantation forests in Production Forest Areas (PFA) under concession agreements with the GoL (GoL provides land concession agreements with social and environmental safeguards, shares risks and benefits and monitors compliance with agreements, laws, regulations, policies, guidelines);
- National Small-Medium Enterprise (SME) investment in natural forest restoration and fast-growing industrial plantations in PFAs under agreements or approvals with the GoL (GoL provides agreements with social and environmental safeguards, shares risks and benefits and monitors compliance with laws, regulations, policies, guidelines);
- Public and Private Sector collaboration on the further training, piloting and up-scaling of international standards and independently assessed Forest Management and Chain of Custody (CoC) Certification in natural and plantation forests in PFAs, Other Forest Areas and in forest products processing facilities to meet international sustainability and legality standards required of discerning international forest products markets;

- Public and Private Sector collaboration with the national Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) team in strengthening the legal and regulatory frame, piloting and elaboration of implementation arrangements to mobilize the FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement, Timber Legality Assurance System and EU Timber Licence to access European forest products markets;
- Public and Private Sector collaboration in establishing an Advisory Technical Working Group on Production Forest Management and a Sustainable Forest Plantations Technical Expert Advisory Group to advise the GoL, investors and other key stakeholders on policy, technical and capacity building issues regarding SFM in production forests; and
- Public and Private Sector collaboration on research and development investments related to natural forest restoration and plantation forest investments to improve regeneration and germplasm, survival and productivity, forest inventory, yields, protection, socio-economic surveys, forest products processing and ecosystem services.

Nature-Based Tourism (NBT)

Protected Area Management

The main objective of NBT activities under LLL sub-component 1.1. (protected area management) is to support public sector management of nature-based tourism in key national protected areas with the goal of leveraging private sector investment. This would include participatory planning and zoning with private sector stakeholders. Key activities at PA level are:

- Establishment of formal private sector working groups. These will inform the production of NBT investment portfolios and benefit from foundational training for protected area managers and private sector stakeholders in the theory and practice of tourism development and management.
- Support the protection of NBT attractions by providing support to public-private tourism partnerships including support for land-use planning, equipment, and technical assistance, and support to community and private sector efforts to safeguard their attractions from threats.

The project will promote the establishment of enforcement regimes in relation to the tourism concessions, and will provide training to tourism concession staff. It will provide training on conducting biodiversity surveys within the tourism concessions. It will also monitor jobs creation in the tourism concessions targeting local villagers. It will also measure funding streams to the PA from the tourism concessions. One main benefit intended from tourism will include jobs/livelihood generation. The project will support the development of enabling environment/regulations. PA entry fees will be used to support park management. Fees that go to park management supporting conservation activities will be included in tourism concession agreements.

Tourism activities at PA level include:

- Tourism zoning, strategy and action plan development by stakeholders working group (including surveys) which will be part of the overall PA zoning;
- Training and support for private sector-led anti-poaching support teams in tourism concession areas;
- Creation of and capacity building for tourism stakeholder working groups;
- Joint marketing and promotion (websites, events, familiarization trips, etc.);

- Produce tourism investment potential portfolio for the landscape. Disseminate on website and at national workshop;

All these activities are carried on with the PA management unit, and contribute to the PA management plan objectives, which include biodiversity conservation. ESS documents address tourism impacts. Tourism in Lao PDR has been very low compared to Thailand and Vietnam for example. The immediate challenge is to raise revenues for PA management by increasing nature-based tourism sustainably.

NBT Business Leverage Facility & Training

Component 2 of LLL focuses on livelihoods, and under this component (2.3) NBT activities are aimed at providing direct support to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for training and capacity building of human resources, both private and public, and for small business funds through a support facility to improve existing NBT businesses (through matching grants) and facilitate additional NBT investments in NBT (through challenge grants). The NBT advisory facility's direct support to MSMEs is aimed at facilitating demand-led NBT development. GEF financing will not support Component 2.3 on Nature Based Tourism Business Leveraging Facility.

Policy and Institutional Engagement

- Concessions Policy: This would include coordination with the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) to develop concession fees, application processes, and a control list specific for NBT investment in PAs. It would also support a joint committee on tourism concessions in protected areas and on improving the enabling environment for NBT investment in Lao PDR.
- Enabling environment for NBT in PAs: This would include improving the ease of licensing of NBT tourism businesses, which currently falls between traditional categories for tourism business licenses; and related factors that can improve the facilitation of tourism investment in protected areas and NBT sites (visas, etc.).
- Tourism investment portfolios: There are no official plans or portfolios that identify investment opportunities in protected areas. The project will support the identification of potential products in each target PA in order to attract interested investors and ensure that product development is diverse and environmentally sensitive.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF

CEO Endorsement/Approval

MTR

TE

High or Substantial

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and any measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation.

Please refer to Risk Table in Project Document. In addition please see risk consideration for COVID-19 impact

Response to COVID-19: The risk of economic and logistical disruption from COVID-19 is rated Substantial. The COVID-19-related travel restrictions hinder project preparation, implementation, and supervision. The project will mitigate this risk by adopting a combination of remote-sensing tools for supervision, coupled with field-based consultants that will enable basic monitoring and reporting even in case of total lockdown. Much of the World Bank team is currently based in Vientiane, and reliance on external missions is somewhat reduced compared to business as usual before COVID-19.

Referring to the GEF's Response to COVID-19 (GEF/C.58/Inf.07, May 16, 2020), the project supports GEF's immediate action to deal with the wildlife trade and consumption challenges by promoting targeted campaigns on public awareness and behavioral change, and building law enforcement agencies' capacity to combat wildlife and forest crime.

ESS documents address tourism impacts. Tourism in Lao PDR has been very low compared to Thailand and Vietnam for example. The immediate challenge is to raise revenues for PA management by increasing nature-based tourism sustainably.

GEF resources will not support or be used for any voluntary or involuntary resettlement under this project. More broadly the project has no intention to resettle villages but rather to support villages in and around PAs to work with government PA authorities to carry out collaborative management of PAs and village-designated lands enclaved in or bordering PAs.

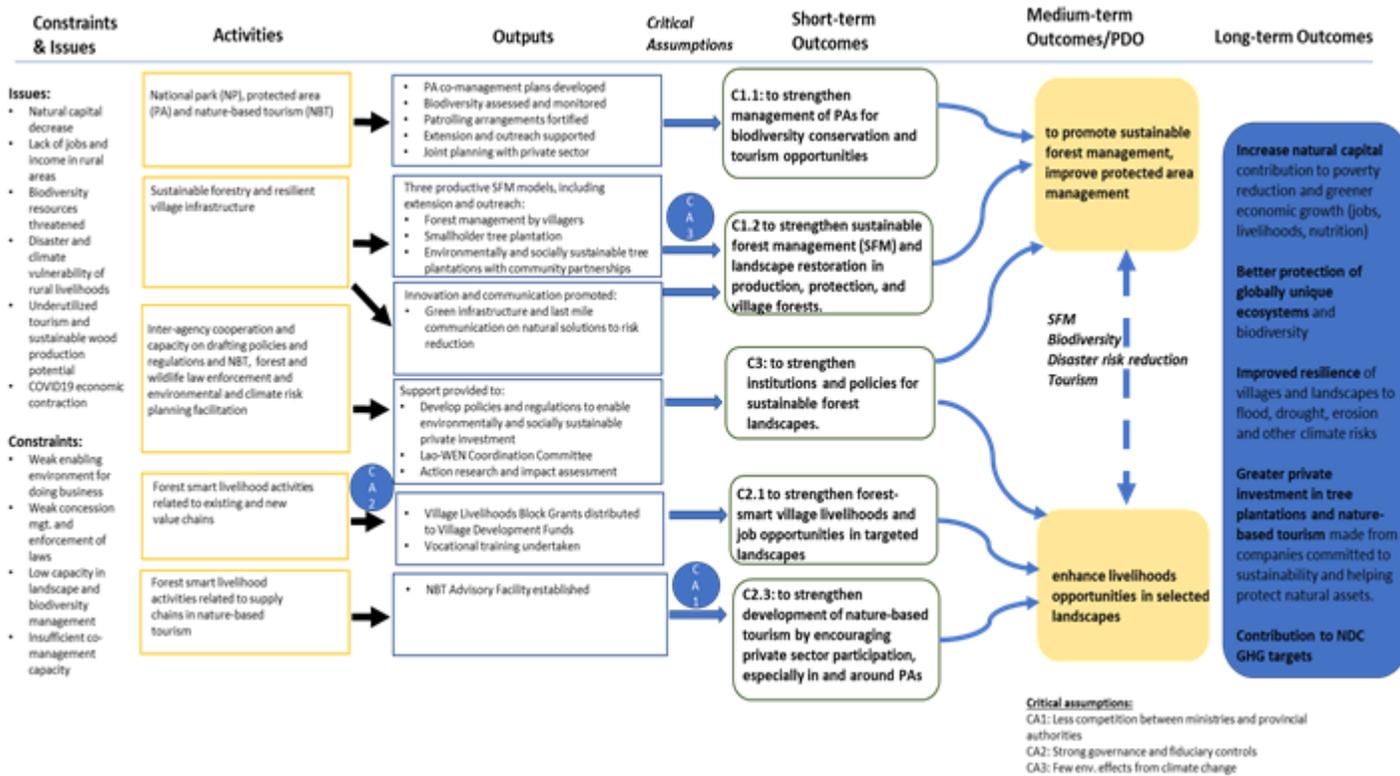
Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
LaoPDR- ESRS- _LLL_ November 2020	CEO Endorsement ESS	
LaoPDR- ESMF_ LLL_ Sept 2020	CEO Endorsement ESS	

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

The project results framework (below) is based on the theory of change (ToC), shown in Figure 1 below:



1. **The project's theory of change** is articulated in five steps starting with (a) constraints and issues linked to (b) project activities, which would generate (c) outputs. These outputs in turn would contribute to (d) short and medium-term outcomes, that would lead to (e) sustainable long-term outcomes outside the direct project control and timeframe – such as poverty reduction, job creation, and climate stability. The theory of change is described below:

a. *Constraints and issues:* To drive a green economic recovery and create jobs and livelihoods, the country has been shifting to a green growth model from an unsustainable development path. That path was based on the liquidation of natural resources which has reduced forest cover and globally significant biodiversity, increased the country's vulnerability to natural disasters and extreme weather events, increased greenhouse gas emissions, and hindered nature-based tourism development. The challenge facing Lao PDR is to manage the transformation to seize the economic opportunities from a sustainably managed forest landscape. The sharp slow-down in economic growth from COVID-19 increases the urgency for a green economic recovery.

b. *Project activities:* To respond to the challenges, the project would support investments in natural wealth to improve management and governance of the three forest categories in line with the 2019 Forestry Law. Resilient village infrastructure, Village Development Funds, and vocational training would improve jobs and forest smart livelihoods opportunities. The project would build the capacity of stakeholders, institutions strengthen the policy environment. This set of "hard" and "soft" interventions would produce a change in practices and policies in how targeted forest landscapes are managed for conservation, protection and production objectives.

c. *Outputs:* Project-induced changes include: (i) forest management and land use plans and execution are more participatory, holistic and transparent; (ii) Licensing, partnership agreements, and concessions for plantations and nature-based tourism follow environmental and social sustainability standards; (iii) Stronger and more effective extension is delivered on the ground on forest management, conservation, and livelihoods; (iv) Forest communities actively engage in biodiversity conservation, village forestry, and plantation operations, while institutions cooperate to better combat wildlife and forest crimes, and (vi) Green infrastructure, natural solutions and last-mile information to reduce fire, flood, drought, and landslide risks are available and create green jobs.

d. *Project outcomes:* With widespread application of the above modified and strengthened practices, key project outcomes would be realized, including (i) improved sustainable forest management and livelihoods opportunities in selected landscapes, (ii) reduced flood, drought, and landslide risks to villages and infrastructure, (iii) good forest cover, balanced with stabilized and sustainable land use, (iv) good nature-based tourism products in and outside protected areas that meet market demand while managing potential over-use, and (v) globally significant biodiversity is better protected and greenhouse gas emissions are reduced.

e. *Long-term outcomes beyond the project,* assuming continued adoption of changed practices over time and no major exogenous events, would be the consolidation and expansion of renewable natural capital and improved human capital in institutions and villages. Over time, environmentally and socially sustainable plantation forest enterprises and nature-based tourism can continue to provide local high-quality employment and revenues, reduced poverty, global climate stability, biodiversity values and multiple ecosystem services. As such, the project can help transform the Lao economy for more sustainable, resilient, inclusive, greener growth.

Project Results Framework

Project Development Objectives(s)

To promote sustainable forest management, improve protected area management, and enhance livelihoods opportunities in selected landscapes in Lao PDR.

Project Development Objective Indicators

RESULT_FRAME_TBL_PDO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	End Target
To promote sustainable forest management			
1. Landscape area with maintained or increased forest cover (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	2,000,000.00
1a. Conservation forest (PAs) area with maintained or increased forest cover (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	1,300,000.00
1b. Protection forest area with maintained or increased forest cover (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	400,000.00
1c. Production forest area with maintained or increased forest cover (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	300,000.00
1d. Village forest with maintained or increased forest cover (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	800,000.00
to improve protected area management			
2. Protected areas that score over 50 on the global PA Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) (Number)		3.00	8.00

RESULT_FRAME_TBL_PDO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	End Target
to enhance livelihoods opportunities in selected landscapes in Lao PDR			
3. Households or Economic Interest Groups engaged in alternative and/or improved traditional livelihood activities supported by the project (Number)		0.00	72,050.00
3a Economic Interest Groups engaged in alternative and/or improved traditional livelihood activities supported by the project (Number)		0.00	50
4. Beneficiaries of job-focused interventions (CRI, Number)		0.00	150,000.00
4a. Beneficiaries of job-focused interventions - Female (CRI, Number)		0.00	75,000.00

Intermediate Results Indicators by Component

RESULT_FRAME_TBL_IO

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	End Target
Investing in Natural Wealth and Resilience in Forest Landscapes			
5. Forest area brought under management plans (CRI, Hectare(Ha))		0.00	2,300,000.00

RESULT_FRAME_TBL_10

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	End Target
5a. Conservation Forest (PA) under a management plan (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	1,500,000.00
5b. Production Forest Area under a management plan (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	400,000.00
5c. Protection Forest Area under a management plan (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	400,000.00
5d. Village forest under a management plan (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	800,000.00
5e. Production Forest Area certified for controlled wood or SFM (Hectare(Ha))		0.00	250,000.00
6. Land area under sustainable landscape management practices (CRI, Hectare(Ha))		0.00	1,200,000.00
7. Net GHG emissions (Tonnes Co2)		0.00	-10,000,000
8. Beneficiaries using extension or outreach services (Number)		0.00	144,000.00
8a. Beneficiaries using extension or outreach services (females) (Percentage)		0.00	50.00
9. Productive assets built and maintained for improved resilience (Number)		0.00	30.00

RESULT_FRAME_TBL_10

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	End Target
9a. Small irrigation or multipurpose small reservoirs plus village-to-village payments for environmental services to protect forest (Number)		0.00	10.00
9b. Tourism or park management facilities constructed / rehabilitated (Number)		0.00	10.00
9c. Roads constructed / rehabilitated (Number)		0.00	10.00
10. Village conservation agreements approved and annually reported (Number)		0.00	267.00
11. Tourism agreements signed between tourism operators, local villages and relevant PA and other management authorities in targeted forest landscapes (Number)		0.00	10.00
12. Villages entering partnership agreements with environmentally and socially sustainable tree plantation enterprises (Number)		0.00	30.00
13. Households establishing and managing tree plantations (Number)		0.00	200.00
Livelihoods Opportunities from Sustainable Forest Landscapes			
14. Households using Village Development Funds for forest-smart livelihoods activities (Number (Thousand))		0.00	72,000.00

RESULT_FRAME_TBL_10

Indicator Name	PBC	Baseline	End Target
14a. Vulnerable households using Village Development Funds for forest-smart livelihoods activities (Number (Thousand))		0.00	5,000.00
15. Share of target beneficiaries with a score 'Satisfied' or above on project interventions (Percentage)		0.00	90.00
15.a Share of target beneficiaries with a score 'Satisfied' or above on project interventions (females) (Percentage)		0.00	50.00
Institutions, Incentives, and Information			
16. New or revised laws, policies, and regulations drafted and submitted to relevant authority for approval (Number)		0.00	15.00
17. Investigations of breaches of forestry law and wildlife and aquatic law referred to criminal courts at national or provincial level (Number)		0.00	60.00
17.a Referred cases jointly investigated each year (Percentage)		0.00	50.00

B. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (definitions, data, methodology for the results framework)

Monitoring & Evaluation Plan: PDO Indicators					
Indicator Name	Definition/Description	Frequency	Data source	Methodology for Data Collection	Responsibility for Data Collection

<p>1. Landscape area with maintained or increased forest cover</p>	<p>This indicator measures the PDO aspects of forest and protected area management at landscape level. The overall change in forest cover area will be recorded according to the GOL’s definition of forest (not ‘forestland’ which is an administrative unit) within the project area. Forest is defined as having a minimum “diameter at breast height” (DBH) of 10cm; minimum crown density of 20%; and minimum area of 0.5ha. This definition was used in the construction of the Forest Reference Emission Level/ Forest Reference Level (FREL/FRL) and formally submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2018 and is used in the Bank/FCPF financed Emission Reduction Purchase, and the national GHG inventory. It is noted that the 2018 definition is different from what Lao PDR used for reporting to the FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) in 2015.</p> <p>Sub-indicators measure the change in area for different categories of forest within the landscape within the project area. These sub-indicators include conservation forest (protected areas and national parks), protection forest, production forest, village forest, smallholder forest, and environmentally and socially sustainable commercial plantation forests that interface with project-supported villages and that do not displace standing forest. Commercial plantation forests would not include oil or palm as the project will not be supporting these. The project is not financing commercial plantation forests.</p> <p>Village forests according to the 2019 Forest Law: “District administration authorities allocate forests and forestland to village administration authorities to manage, inspect, protect, develop and utilize in accordance with village forest management plans....” Forests under village responsibility may be classified into three categories, mirroring the national designations: namely protection forests that include water resources riparian forests, roadside forests; conservation forests that include sacred forests and cemetery forests; and Village Use Forests. Village forests exist as enclaves within or outside of designated state or provincial conservation forest (PAs), protection forest, and production forest.</p> <p>The overall target of the main indicator is not the sum of the three sub indicators on National PAs, PFAs, and PtFAs (1,300,000 + 400,000 + 200,000 = 2,000,000 ha). The other two sub indicators, Village forests and Plantation forests, represent a sub-set of the three state forest categories, hence their targets are not counted twice in the total of the main indicator.</p> <p>This indicator responds to the SD-OPCS Kiosk Announcement issued on June 8, 2020 and IDA19 Policy Commitment to all IDA operations with more than 20 percent Climate Co-Benefits will incorporate at least one climate-related results indicator to increase the focus on climate outcomes.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Forest cover assessment</p>	<p>Remote sensing.</p> <p>The project will distinguish the different forest area by preparing geo-referenced maps with layers for the 3 state forest categories, aggregated in the main indicator and disaggregated for the first three sub-indicators (1a. 1b. and 1c).</p> <p>Geo-referenced maps will also be prepared with layers from the village forests mapped under the forest and land use planning activity in component 1 (for sub-indicator 1d.), and for new environmentally and socially sustainable industrial tree plantations (for sub-indicator 1e.).</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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1a. Conservation forest (PAs) area with maintained or increased forest cover	See mother indicator.	Annual	Forest cover assessment	Remote sensing	DOF
1b. Protection forest area with maintained or increased forest cover	See mother indicator.	Annual	Forest cover assessment	Remote sensing	DOF
1c. Production forest area with maintained or increased forest cover	See mother indicator	Annual	Forest cover assessment	Remote sensing	DOF
1d. Village forest with maintained or increased forest cover	See mother indicator.	Annual	Forest cover assessment	Remote sensing	DOF

<p>2. Protected areas that score over 50 on the global PA Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT)</p>	<p>This indicator measures the strength and effectiveness of the GOL’s PA authorities in managing PAs and biodiversity in targeted PAs using the globally standardized METT for PAs. Each individual PA is scored separately, and scores are then averaged. This is based on annual assessment and hence non-cumulative targets. By using specific criteria and activities for PAs, variation in management intensity between PAs can be accounted for.</p> <p>The METT tool is customized for Lao PDR.</p> <p>METT would be carried out with third party support to avoid bias from self-reporting.</p> <p>The 8 PAs cover over 1.5 million hectares of conservation forest:</p> <p>Nam Et-Phou Louey NP = 410,720 ha</p> <p>Phou Khao Khouay NPA = 200,000 ha*</p> <p>Tor Sib/ Phou Samsoum = 53,978 ha + 25,558 ha*</p> <p>Phou Hin Poun NPA = 150,000 ha*</p> <p>Nakai Nam Theun NP = 427,770 ha</p> <p>Hin Nam No NP = 94,121 ha</p> <p>Laving Laverne NPA = 86,000 ha</p> <p>Khoun Xe Nongma PPA = 53,863 ha</p> <p>*Some areas are approximate following PM Decree 164 in 1993. Tor Sib/Phou Samsoum has not yet been defined/designated.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>METT score</p>	<p>Scoring exercise by 3rd party</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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<p>3. Households or Economic Interest Groups engaged in alternative and/or improved traditional livelihood activities supported by the project</p>	<p>This indicator captures the livelihoods aspects of the PDO statement. It measures the number of households that have added new activities to their livelihood strategies and/or improved existing farm- and forest-related livelihood activities. The latter could be, for example, improvements in the quantity and/or quality in agricultural produce or increased yield of NTFPs through non-destructive harvesting.</p> <p>Both the (i) use of Village Livelihood Block Grants by households and by villages and (ii) livelihoods from improved forest management by households and by villages will be the main elements contributing to the strengthening of livelihood activities. A given household could engage in several new or improved activities but will only be counted once to avoid double counting.</p> <p>The indicator also captures the support to Economic Interest Groups to include new or additional activities into their portfolio of activities. Economic Interest Groups are groups formed around a specific economic activity, for example weaving, and often helps in marketing of the products through improved product design, facilitation of market access and business operation services.</p>	<p>Biennial</p>	<p>Survey reports</p>	<p>Household survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>3a. Economic Interest Groups engaged in alternative and/or improved traditional livelihood activities supported by the project</p>	<p>See mother indicator.</p>				

<p>4. Beneficiaries of job-focused interventions</p>	<p>The indicator measures the number of beneficiaries reached by interventions that contribute to the jobs agenda in operations supported by the World Bank.</p> <p>The indicator captures the cross-cutting nature of the jobs agenda, as <i>beneficiaries</i> (disaggregated by gender) may be individuals, workers, households, farmers, microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and other target groups that benefit from Bank Group-supported operations in different sectors and types of operations. For the purpose of this project only individuals will be considered beneficiaries.</p> <p><i>Jobs</i> are defined as “activities that generate income, monetary or in kind, without violating human rights” (WDR on Jobs, 2013). For the purpose of this project jobs can be full time, seasonal, formal and informal.</p> <p><i>Jobs-focused interventions</i> are those contributing to the jobs agenda that have an explicitly stated and substantive link to creating more, better, and/or inclusive jobs.</p> <p><i>More jobs</i> refers to direct and indirect employment linked to increased firm performance, hiring, and/or self-employment/entrepreneurship.</p> <p><i>Better jobs</i> imply higher productivity and earnings, better benefits, better working conditions, and/or improved income protection, for example.</p> <p><i>Inclusive jobs</i> are those that offer improved access or that benefit from targeted interventions to increase the employability of youth, women, the poor, and other disadvantaged groups.</p> <p>For the purpose of this project only individuals will be considered beneficiaries.</p> <p>For the purpose of this project jobs can be full time, seasonal, formal and informal.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Survey reports</p>	<p>Household survey.</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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4a. Beneficiaries of job-focused interventions - Female	See mother indicator.	Annual	Survey reports	Household survey	DOF
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Monitoring & Evaluation Plan: Intermediate Results Indicators

Indicator Name	Definition/Description	Frequency	Datasource	Methodology for Data Collection	Responsibility for Data Collection
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<p>5. Forest area brought under management plans</p>	<p>This indicator measures the forest areas brought under management plan as a result of the project. To be counted the management plan would have to be approved by the relevant government authority. Forestland classification is based on national definitions.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Forest management plans</p>	<p>Field survey</p> <p>The target for the mother indicator is the aggregated value of the first 3 sub-indicators (5a, 5b, and 5c) on State PAs, PFAs and PtFAs respectively.</p> <p>Sub-indicators 5d on village forests, and 5e on PFAs certified, track sub-divisions of the same State forestlands tracked in sub-indicators 5a, 5b, and 5c.</p> <p>Sub-indicators 5d and 5e are tracked to add an additional qualitative level of planning to the existing state forest management plan.</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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<p>5a. Conservation Forest (PA) under a management plan</p>	<p>Management plans for protected areas can be developed by following relevant guidelines, for example: the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas Best Practice Guidelines can be used as a reference (e.g., Dudley, Nigel (ed.), 2008, Guidelines for applying protected area management categories; and Thomas, Lee and Middleton, Julie, 2003, Guidelines for Management Planning of Protected Areas.)</p> <p>5 Conservation Forest Areas (PAs) have approved management plans, some of which require updating.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Management plans</p>	<p>Field survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>5b. Production Forest Area under a management plan</p>	<p>Forestland classification is based on national definitions. Management plans for production forests can be demonstrated by, for example, certification of SFM (for reference, see OP 4.36, para. 9, or WWF/World Bank Global Forest Alliance, 2006, Forest Certification Assessment Guide: A framework for assessing credible forest certification systems/schemes), or by following relevant FAO guidelines (e.g., FAO, 1998, Guidelines for the management of tropical forests 1. The production of wood, FAO forestry paper 135).</p> <p>40 Production Forest Areas have approved management plans, some of which require updating.</p>	<p>Annually</p>	<p>Management plans</p>	<p>Field survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>5c. Protection Forest Area under a management plan</p>	<p>Protection Forest Areas do not have approved management plans at the time of project initiation. It is therefore expected that this sub-indicator will start recording progress some time during implementation. The necessary time will be used by DOF to develop and approve a management system for PtFAs, and individual management plans for PtFAs.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Management plans</p>	<p>Field survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>5d. Village forest under a management plan</p>	<p>This sub-indicator measures the cumulative hectareage of delineated village forest area (of villages not inside PAs) that has been brought under a decentralized village-led forest management plan with project support. To be counted the management plan would have to be approved by the relevant government authority. Village forest is defined above (PDO indicator 1) in line with the 2019 Forestry Law. Values are based on average village forest size of 2000 ha x 400 villages supported by the project.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Management plans</p>	<p>Field survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>

<p>5e. Production Forest Area certified for controlled wood or SFM</p>	<p>This sub-indicator tracks the hectares of PFAs holding a third party certification of Sustainable Forest Management and/or controlled wood.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Management plans, certification documents</p>	<p>Field survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>6. Land area under sustainable landscape management practices</p>	<p>The indicator measures, in hectares, the land area for which new and/or improved sustainable landscape management practices have been introduced.</p> <p><i>Land</i> is the terrestrial biologically productive system comprising soil, vegetation, and the associated ecological and hydrological processes.</p> <p><i>Adoption</i> refers to change of practice or change in the use of a technology promoted or introduced by the project.</p> <p><i>Sustainable landscape management (SLM)</i> practices refers to a combination of at least two technologies and approaches to increase land quality and restore degraded lands for example, agronomic, vegetative, structural, and management measures that, applied as a combination, increase the connectivity between protected areas, forest land, rangeland, and agriculture land.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Survey reports, project and activity records</p>	<p>Field survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>

<p>7. Net GHG emissions</p>	<p>Project net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are calculated as an annual average of the difference between project gross (absolute) emissions aggregated over the economic lifetime of the project and the emissions of a baseline (counterfactual) scenario aggregated over the same time horizon. Net GHG emissions at the portfolio level are calculated as the sum of project net emissions.</p> <p>Economic lifetime is the lifetime of the underlying assets that the Bank project finances and is usually longer than the implementation period of the Bank project.</p> <p>The indicator value is negative if the project is reducing emissions, and positive if the project is increasing emissions.</p> <p>The indicator is based on an ex-ante estimation performed during project preparation using GHG accounting methodologies as approved by the GPs.</p> <p>GHG accounting is done ex-ante, and the exercise is repeated annually.</p> <p>If the project undergoes major restructuring or is subject to additional financing relevant to GHG accounting, the ex-ante estimation of project net emissions needs to be recalculated at the time of restructuring or processing additional financing.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Modified Ex- ACT tool</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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<p>8. Beneficiaries using extension or outreach services</p>	<p>This indicator measures the number of individuals using annually with extension or technical outreach services, provided through the project, in land use planning, decentralized sustainable forest management, land management, conservation, NTFPs, or food production.</p> <p>This indicator corresponds to the World Bank Corporate Results Indicator, “Farmers reached with agricultural assets or services,” where the definition of “agriculture” explicitly includes forestry, timber, NTFPs, and natural resource management.</p> <p>Assumptions for estimating the target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 600 villages of which 200 are PA villages and 400 villages are outside PAs. • Average of 120 households per rural village nationwide • Average of 5.5 individuals per household nationwide • Two people per household counted toward the target. Husband and wife of each household are presumed to be the primary recipients of extension or outreach services; others are not counted in the reporting • Half of the recipients of the extension or outreach will be female. 	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Survey reports</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>8a. Beneficiaries using extension or outreach services (females)</p>	<p>Gender indicator. See mother indicator.</p>				

<p>9. Productive assets built and maintained for improved resilience</p>	<p>Resilience indicator. Climate adaptation indicator.</p> <p>This indicator measures the project contribution under both Components 1.1 and 1.2 to building and maintaining critical small infrastructure and natural solutions that are part of Village (community) Action Plans.</p> <p>These small works aim to boost the economic resilience of villages and protected areas by supporting economic activities in the face of recurrent floods, droughts, and landslides.</p> <p>These works include such assets as (i) small irrigation (plus payments for environmental services to upstream villages for protecting forest in command areas averaging 650 hectares), (ii) multipurpose reservoirs, (iii) access roads or small bridges and drainage, (iv) slope stabilization using reforestation and revegetation, and (v) tourism and protected area facilities.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Project and activity records</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>9a. Small irrigation or multipurpose small reservoirs plus village-to-village payments for environmental services to protect forest</p>	<p>This sub-indicator measures the progress on constructing small irrigation schemes which are associated with payments for environmental services (in-kind or in cash) to upstream villages for protecting forest in command areas averaging 650 ha.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Survey reports</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>9b. Tourism or park management facilities constructed / rehabilitated</p>	<p>This sub-indicator measures the improvement or construction of small infrastructure to promote nature-based tourism development. Examples could be trails, camp grounds, small-scale waste management facilities, small-scale visitor centers in PAs, etc.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Survey reports</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>

9c. Roads constructed / rehabilitated	This sub-indicator measures the progress on construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance of climate resilient roads to access nature-based tourism assets, or to improve village access to markets.	Annual	Survey reports	Survey	DOF
10. Village conservation agreements approved and annually reported	<p>Village Conservation Agreements (VCA) are binding between the relevant government authority and the Village Administration.</p> <p>These agreements may address the protection of species, ecological communities, habitats or potential habitats. Based on an approved VCA, participating Guardian Villages in and bordering PAs would access block grants for livelihoods through their respective Village Development Fund under Component 2. VCAs are preceded by the participatory preparation of a Village Forest and Land Use Management Plan.</p> <p>*For NEPL, 43 VCAs are already approved and under implementation under LENS2, and would be counted in LLL to track continued implementation.</p> <p>10 VCAs in NNT have also been approved as of July 27, 2020 and will continue to be reported on during LLL.</p>	Annual	Village conservation agreements	Survey	DOF

<p>11. Tourism agreements signed between tourism operators, local villages and relevant PA and other management authorities in targeted forest landscapes</p>	<p>This indicator measures the number of partnerships (tourism agreements) among Government Authorities, private entities, and villages in nature based tourism established as a result of the project.</p> <p>A tourism agreement is a contract using a prescribed format (concession agreement, memorandum of understanding, or management contract or approval document) that sets out the terms and conditions for the right to use a given PA (district, provincial or a national protected area) and/or certain tourism sites outside of PAs for tourism purposes by a tourism operator.</p> <p>The contract format will be developed by the GOL (DOF).</p> <p>The contract specifies employment benefits for local communities (for example number of full-time equivalent jobs offered to members of local communities and training of these local people for performance in their job) and contribution to the management and protection of the protected area (for example an annual fee) to the GOL.</p> <p>It is signed by the relevant authority, the tourism operator and the heads of the villages within or around the protected area.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Tourism agreements</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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<p>12. Villages entering partnership agreements with environmentally and socially sustainable tree plantation enterprises</p>	<p>This indicator measures the number of villages that enter partnership agreements that have been facilitated as a result of project support to GOL and villages.</p> <p>A partnership agreement could be an out-grower contract, MOU, or other equivalent, stamped legal agreement among parties.</p> <p>The partnership agreement would articulate local benefits accruing to a specific village or village cluster from the enterprise and other terms such as timeline, land use rights, and so on, as well as responsibilities of villages, individuals, the enterprise, and the government.</p> <p>Partnership agreements counting toward this indicator target would comply with the main elements of the LLL World Bank ESF and IFC sustainability criteria and corporate sustainability commitments by a given enterprise.</p> <p>Participation of ethnic minority villages will be tracked.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Partnership agreements</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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<p>13. Households establishing and managing tree plantations</p>	<p>The indicator measures the number of smallhold households involved in establishing and managing tree plantations with support provided under the project, whether inputs, extension services, or market facilitation.</p> <p>Smallholder tree plantations are grown on household land. Results will be reported in more detail by value chain which would include, among others, teak, mai theu (for white charcoal), eucalypt, or pine at higher elevations.</p> <p>Where possible, market access will be facilitated with project support (such as part of a village partnership agreement with large enterprises).</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Project records</p>	<p>Household survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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<p>14. Households using Village Development Funds for forest-smart livelihoods activities</p>	<p>COVID 19 response indicator.</p> <p>This indicator measures the total number of households accessing the respective Village Development Funds to implement their own livelihoods activities of choice that are supported under the project.</p> <p>The release of the Village Livelihood Block Grants (VLBGs) to the VDF are contingent on, and must be implemented in compliance with, the approved village forest and land use plans (including Village Conservation Agreements inside PAs).</p> <p>Loans are provided to most HHs, and grants are provided to village-identified highly vulnerable HHs through community-based targeting.</p> <p>The project will support approximately 600 villages total, which amounts to an estimated 72,000 households or 396,000 people.</p> <p>Assumptions: average of 120 HHs per rural village nationally, and 5.5 average people per HH.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Village Development Funds</p>	<p>Household survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>14a. Vulnerable households using Village Development Funds for forest-smart livelihoods activities</p>	<p>This sub indicator measures the community targeting of earmarked 20% resources of the VLBG to the most vulnerable households in the village, disbursed as grants ahead of NR village planning.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Village Development Funds</p>	<p>Household survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>

<p>15. Share of target beneficiaries with a score 'Satisfied' or above on project interventions</p>	<p>Citizens engagement indicator.</p> <p>This indicator reports the percentage of the beneficiaries among the village population, disaggregated by gender, who perceive that services received by them respond to their needs and demands in the area of livelihoods, resilience and environmental management.</p> <p>This indicator represents the World Bank's required citizen engagement indicator, in line with the ESF guidance on beneficiary feedback loops.</p> <p>The satisfaction is measured along the dimensions of livelihoods, resilience, and environmental management.</p> <p>Satisfaction will be captured through a set of approximately 20 questions and capture various aspects of beneficiaries' perceptions on livelihoods, resilience, and environmental management. Each response will be scored and contribute to the overall rating.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Survey reports</p>	<p>Perception survey</p>	<p>DOF</p>
<p>15a. Share of target beneficiaries with a score 'Satisfied' or above on project interventions (females)</p>	<p>Gender indicator. See mother indicator.</p>	<p>Annual.</p>	<p>Survey data</p>	<p>Perception survey</p>	<p>Third party contracted by DOF/PIU.</p>

<p>16. New or revised laws, policies, and regulations drafted and submitted to relevant authority for approval</p>	<p>This indicator measures the support provided by the project to the GOL to enhance legislation, policy, and regulations (often referred to as “guidelines” in Lao PDR).</p> <p>Support comprises formulation of proposals for laws, policies, or regulations (guidelines) for appropriate level of decision making, conducting relevant analyses, and contributing to relevant working groups.</p> <p>Areas of interest include, among others: production forest management, forest enterprises, timber and wildlife trades, nature-based tourism development and enterprises, concesssion management, protected area management, land access and tenure, watershed function, green growth, climate change, disaster risk management, resilience, nature-based tourism development, the timber and wildlife trades, and zoonotic diseases.</p> <p>This indicator is compatible with the CRI “Implemented reforms supporting private sector development (number)”</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Institutional data, legal and policy documents</p>	<p>Document review</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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<p>17. Investigations of breaches of forestry law and wildlife and aquatic law referred to criminal courts at national or provincial level</p>	<p>This indicator measures the capacity of the agencies comprising the Lao Wildlife Enforcement Network (Lao-WEN) (Department of Forest Inspection, Department of Forestry, Environmental Police, Customs Department, Office of the Public Prosecutor, Army) to detect and investigate relevant cases in line with Lao PDR law, policy and international treaties such as CITES.</p> <p>The process of referring a case to the courts is considered a benchmark for investigation quality. Relevant cases could include, for example, CITES I and II listed species, domestic wildlife crimes, encroachment, or high value timber.</p> <p>Lao-WEN is the GOL's interagency network for both wildlife and timber crimes.</p> <p>Provincial Wildlife Enforcement Networks (P-WENs) and District-Wildlife Enforcement Networks (D-WENs) operate under the Lao WEN.</p> <p>Any law enforcement agency can open an investigation but only the Office of the Public Prosecutor can prosecute once a case is sent to the prosecutor's office by a concerned enforcement agency.</p> <p>The indicator and sub-indicator must be reported in the Lao-WEN and P-WEN minutes of meetings as well as receive a case file number.</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Lao-WEN and P-WEN minutes of meetings</p>	<p>Review of Lao-WEN and P-WEN minutes of meetings</p>	<p>DOF</p>
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17a. Referred cases jointly investigated each year	<p>The sub-indicator on joint investigations measures the capacity of Lao WEN agencies to collaborate across institutions.</p> <p>Investigations that are joint are considered to be a proxy for the function of Lao-WEN.</p> <p>The indicator and sub-indicator must be reported in the Lao-WEN and P-WEN Minutes of Meetings as well as receive a case file number.</p>	Annual	LaoWEN and P-WEN meetings minutes	Review of Lao-WEN and P-WEN minutes of meetings	DOF
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ME IO Table SPACE

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

Please refer to Response matrix for GEFSEC, STAP and Council comments provided in the submission package.

ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG). (Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

Non applicable. No PPG has been requested for the project.

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

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

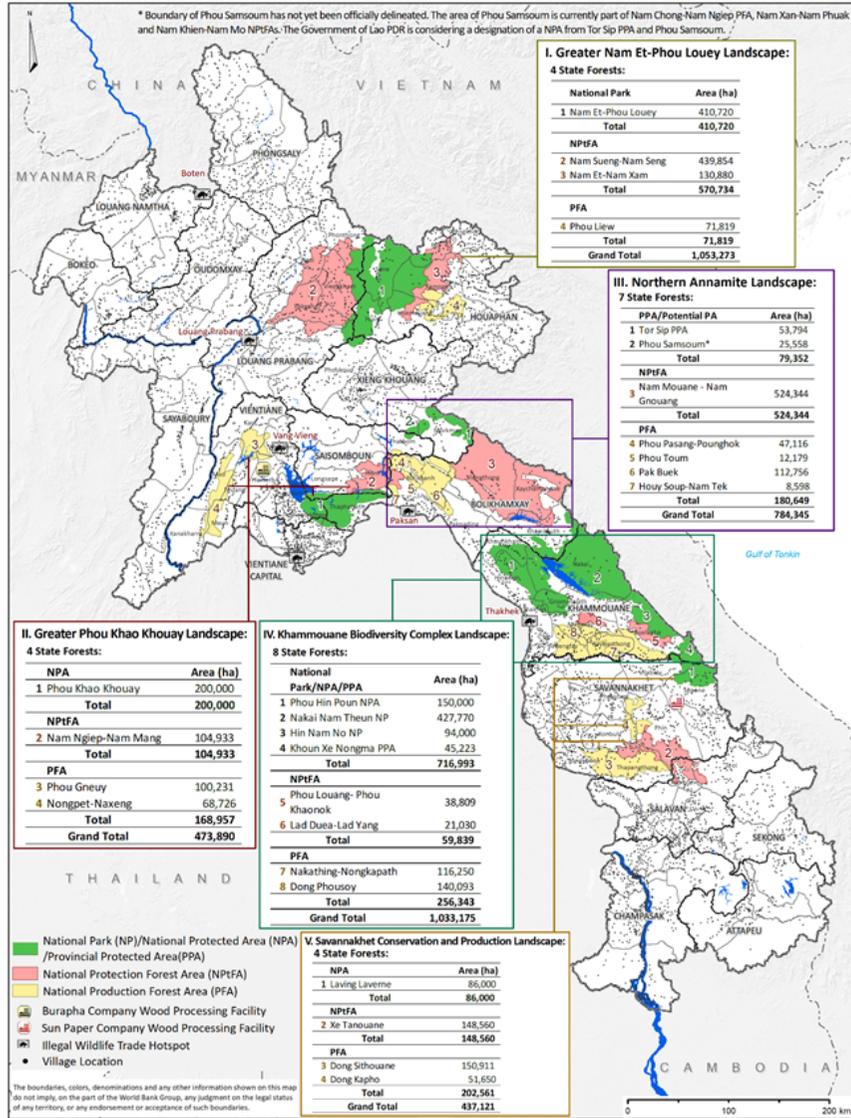
Non applicable

ANNEX E: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.

Number	PA Name	Longitude (X)	Latitude (Y)
1	Nam Et - Phou Louey NP	103°22'06" E	20°05'33" N
2	Tor Sip-Phou Samsoum NPA	103°48'20" E	19°07'41" N
3	Phu Khao Khuay NPA	103°02'07" E	18°24'06" N
4	Phu Hin Phoun NPA	104°47'55" E	17°43'00" N
5	Nakai-Nam Theun NP	105°18'46" E	17°54'26" N
6	Hin Namno NP	105°56'46" E	17°22'24" N
7	Khouan Xe Nongma NPA	106°10'07" E	17°02'30" N
8	Lavine Laverne NPA	106°23'08" E	16°56'11" N

The Target Landscapes of the LLL Project



ANNEX F: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Please refer to the GEF budget table submitted with the package for details.