

GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

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General Project Information

Project Title

Strengthening the resilience of natural and agro-ecosystems and communities to climate change in Central Togo

Region

Africa

GEF Project ID

11548

Country(ies)

Togo

Type of Project

FSP

GEF Agency(ies):

UNDP

GEF Agency Project ID

9764

Project Executing Entity(s)

Ministry of Environment, Forest Resources, Coastal Protection, and Climate Change (MERFPCCC)

Project Executing Type

Government

GEF Focal Area (s)

Multi Focal Area

Submission Date

2/6/2026

Type of Trust Fund

MTF

Project Duration (Months)

60

GEF Project Grant: (a)

6,649,315.00

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

631,685.00

Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

0.00

Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)

7,281,000.00

Total Co-financing

161,099,631.00

PPG Amount: (e)

200,000.00

PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)

19,000.00

Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)

7,500,000.00

Project Tags

CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No Competitive Window: No

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Taxonomy

Influencing models, Stakeholders, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Gender Equality, Focal Areas, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Private Sector, Financial intermediaries and market facilitators, SMEs, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Beneficiaries, Local Communities, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Partnership, Type of Engagement, Participation, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Communications, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation, Knowledge Exchange, Learning, Adaptive management, Indicators to measure change, Theory of change, Innovation, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender results areas, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Participation and leadership, Access to benefits and services, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Land Degradation, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Mainstreaming, Biomes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Productive Landscapes, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Tropical Dry Forests, Forest and Landscape Restoration, Sustainable Land Management, Land Degradation Neutrality, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Ecosystem Approach, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Sustainable Livelihoods, Sustainable Agriculture, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Land Productivity, Land Cover and Land cover change, Climate Change Adaptation, Least Developed Countries, Climate resilience, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Livelihoods

Rio Markers

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

Project Summary

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

Togo's Central Region faces severe land degradation, biodiversity loss, and declining ecosystem services driven by unsustainable agriculture, deforestation, fuelwood harvesting, and transhumance, compounded by climate change impacts such as rising temperatures, shifting rainfall, droughts, and floods. Dense forest cover declined from 19.4% to 6.8% between 2000 and 2021, and protected areas are increasingly fragmented. Vulnerable rural communities, heavily dependent on natural resources, face mounting risks to food security and livelihoods.

The project will promote inclusive, climate-resilient landscape management, restoration, and sustainable agriculture to strengthen ecosystem services and community resilience. It targets restoration of 7,500 hectares of degraded lands, adoption of regenerative agriculture across 35,000 hectares, and improved integrated landscape management covering 270,000 hectares. Key strategies include enhancing policy and governance frameworks, establishing multi-stakeholder planning platforms, restoring degraded natural and agro-ecosystems, promoting diversified climate-smart value chains, and scaling sustainable practices through knowledge sharing and private sector engagement.

The project will benefit rural households across five prefectures, with strong focus on women's empowerment, and deliver global environmental benefits in line with GEF-8 objectives for Land Degradation, Biodiversity, and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation. It contributes to GEF Core Indicators 1, 3, 4, 6, and 11, supports Togo's national climate and land restoration commitments under the UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, [Kunming-Montreal GBF \(primary links to targets 2, 3, 10, 11; secondary links to targets 20, 21, 22, 23\)](#) and advances SDGs 2, 13, and 15.

Project Description Overview

Project Objective

To strengthen and implement systems for integrated landscape management and restoration, biodiversity conservation and climate change resilience in Togo's Central Region

Project Components

Component 1: Multi-sectoral enabling framework for Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) and planning, integrating climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
509,471.00	8,983,070.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1: Integrated landscape management is strengthened to maintain and enhance climate resilience and flows of ecosystem services, including biodiversity.

Indicators and Targets:

- 265,129 ha are covered by a climate resilient regional SLM and sustainable intensification plan
- Strengthened systemic framework for landscape level multi-stakeholder ILM and planning, as evidenced by (i) cross-sectoral collaboration for landscape level land use planning and management (participants, disaggregated by sex); (ii) approved landscape-level implementation plans for land and forest restoration, SLM and regenerative agriculture; and (iii) analytical tools and metrics in place for measuring impacts on ecosystem services and community economic/ livelihood benefits (metrics and services measured to be determined during the inception phase)
- Landscape-level multi-stakeholder platforms developed and operational (minimum 60% women)

Output:

Output 1.1: Strengthened multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder, and gender-responsive integrated landscape management (ILM) and planning, with climate risks and adaptation needs integrated, through (i) enhanced gender-responsive and inclusive landscape-level multi-stakeholder platforms for data sharing, planning, capacity and consensus building, and knowledge dissemination, and (ii) strengthened policy and legal frameworks.

Output 1.2: Detailed landscape-level survey of good / best practices in agriculture, agro-forestry, forestry and land restoration.

Output 1.3: Detailed and operational implementation plans for land and forest restoration, SLM, and regenerative agriculture, informed by climate change projections, to strengthen climate resilience of the project landscapes.

Output 1.4: Enhanced analytical tools and metrics for measuring impacts on ecosystem services (including BD, land degradation, adaptation and resilience), including climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives, as well as livelihood/ economic benefits.

Component 1: Multi-sectoral enabling framework for Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) and planning, integrating climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
474,121.00	13,474,600.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1: Integrated landscape management is strengthened to maintain and enhance climate resilience and flows of ecosystem services, including biodiversity.

Indicators and Targets:

- 265,129 ha are covered by a climate resilient regional SLM and sustainable intensification plan

- Strengthened systemic framework for landscape level multi-stakeholder ILM and planning, as evidenced by (i) cross-sectoral collaboration for landscape level land use planning and management (participants, disaggregated by sex); (ii) approved landscape-level implementation plans for land and forest restoration, SLM and regenerative agriculture; and (iii) analytical tools and metrics in place for measuring impacts on ecosystem services and community economic/ livelihood benefits (metrics and services measured to be determined during the inception phase)

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Output 1.2: Detailed landscape-level survey of good / best practices in agriculture, agro-forestry, forestry and land restoration.

Output 1.3: Detailed and operational implementation plans for land and forest restoration, SLM, and regenerative agriculture, informed by climate change projections, to strengthen climate resilience of the project landscapes.

Output 1.4: Enhanced analytical tools and metrics for measuring impacts on ecosystem services (including BD, land degradation, adaptation and resilience), including climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives, as well as livelihood/ economic benefits.

Component 2 - Ecosystem restoration in degraded natural landscapes and protected landscapes as a strategy to strengthen resilience

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
911,220.00	20,877,149.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2: Climate-resilient restoration of priority target areas that reflects landscape planning and serves as the basis for a robust strategy to stimulate further diffusion and uptake of associated best practices, via technology transfer, innovation and deployment within the broader landscape

Indicators and Targets:

- 6,000 ha of degraded priority productive lands under climate-risk informed restoration

- 3,000 ha of priority degraded lands in protected areas (i) under restoration and (ii) benefiting biodiversity

The above 9,000 ha consist of 4,000 ha of degraded agricultural lands, 3,000 ha of forest and forestland and 2,000 ha of natural grass and shrubland

Output:

Output 2.1: Strengthened local and regional supply chain(s) supporting climate-resilient ecosystem restoration, including native tree seedling production and distribution, and associated capacities, with a strategy for further diffusion linked to strengthened value chains and sustainable practices (Output 3.3) and overall uptake of best practices (Output 4.2).

Output 2.2: Enhanced capacities among key local stakeholders for adoption / deployment of restoration technologies through participatory learning and extension.

Output 2.3: Selected priority degraded agricultural, forest and rangeland areas within the productive landscape undergoing climate risk informed and resilient restoration.

Output 2.4: Priority degraded zones within protected areas under restoration for biodiversity and enhanced ecosystem services.

Component 2 - Ecosystem restoration in degraded natural landscapes and protected landscapes as a strategy to strengthen resilience

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	LDCF

GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,249,072.00	26,000,901.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2: Climate-resilient restoration of priority target areas that reflects landscape planning and serves as the basis for a robust strategy to stimulate further diffusion and uptake of associated best practices, via technology transfer, innovation and deployment within the broader landscape.

Indicators and Targets:

- 6,000 ha of degraded priority productive lands under climate-risk informed restoration
 - 3,000 ha of priority degraded lands in protected areas (i) under restoration and (ii) benefiting biodiversity
- The above 9,000 ha consist of 4,000 ha of degraded agricultural lands, 3,000 ha of forest and forestland and 2,000 ha of natural grass and shrubland

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Output 2.3: Selected priority degraded agricultural, forest and rangeland areas within the productive landscape undergoing climate risk informed and resilient restoration.

Output 2.4: Priority degraded zones within protected areas under restoration for biodiversity and enhanced ecosystem services.

Component 3 - Adoption of climate-resilient agro-ecological intensification, diversification and other regenerative practices in agriculture, agro-forestry and forest management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
886,595.00	24,750,327.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3: Increased resilience of local communities and livelihoods and **reduced pressure** on natural habitats through increased use of climate-resilient and nature-positive agricultural practices.

Indicators and Targets:

- Nature-positive and climate smart agricultural practices expanded to 50,000 ha
- Number of direct beneficiaries (disaggregated by sex) with enhanced income from value chains targeted by climate risk informed restoration and regenerative agriculture practices (supported by metrics developed in Output 1.4)
- Number of new or enhanced medium and micro-enterprises in place from restorative agriculture value chains

Output:

Output 3.1: Enhanced sex disaggregated data and modeling of projected climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation needs in the target project area in Togo's Central Region, integrating enhanced analytical tools and metrics, including climate projections, impact modelling (ref. Output 1.4).

Output 3.2: Improved climate risk informed and resilient agriculture, SLM and SFM technologies in place in existing production areas and in unused agricultural lands, supported by strengthened extension and community/ stakeholder capacities.

Output 3.3: Selected climate-resilient and sustainable agricultural, agroforestry and forestry value chains and associated sustainable practices strengthened through investments and delivery of extension support.

Output 3.4: Strategy developed and implemented to increase investment in adoption of nature-positive and climate-resilient technologies and practices, including by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) (also supporting Component 2).

Component 3 - Adoption of climate-resilient agro-ecological intensification, diversification and other regenerative practices in agriculture, agro-forestry and forest management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,789,335.00	41,681,888.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3: Increased resilience of local communities and livelihoods and **reduced pressure** on natural habitats through increased use of climate-resilient and nature-positive agricultural practices.

Indicators and Targets:

- Nature-positive and climate smart agricultural practices expanded to 50,000 ha
- Number of direct beneficiaries (disaggregated by sex) with enhanced income from value chains targeted by climate risk informed restoration and regenerative agriculture practices (supported by metrics developed in Output 1.4)
- Number of new or enhanced medium and micro-enterprises in place from restorative agriculture value chains

Output:

Output 3.1: Enhanced sex disaggregated data and modeling of projected climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation needs in the target project area in Togo's Central Region, integrating enhanced analytical tools and metrics, including climate projections, impact modelling (ref. Output 1.4).

Output 3.2: Improved climate risk informed and resilient agriculture, SLM and SFM technologies in place in existing production areas and in unused agricultural lands, supported by strengthened extension and community/ stakeholder capacities.

Output 3.3: Selected climate-resilient and sustainable agricultural, agroforestry and forestry value chains and associated sustainable practices strengthened through investments and delivery of extension support.

Output 3.4: Strategy developed and implemented to increase investment in adoption of nature-positive and climate-resilient technologies and practices, including by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) (also supporting Component 2).

Component 4 - Knowledge management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
148,318.00	3,647,413.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4: Lessons learned are captured, documented and disseminated at sub-national, national and international levels

Indicators and Targets:

- # of beneficiaries of project learning products (minimum 60% women)

Output:

Output 4.1: Gender-responsive and inclusive thematic technical reports on impacts of individual restoration and SLM / intensification practices and technologies promoted by the project, including their diffusion.

Output 4.2: Landscape-level report on practices and diffusion / uptake patterns and trends.

Output 4.3: Gender-responsive and inclusive communication and awareness raising programs at sub-national and national levels, with dual emphasis on communicating to local communities and national policy makers.

Component 4 - Knowledge management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
170,880.00	5,471,123.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4: Lessons learned are captured, documented and disseminated at sub-national, national and international levels

Indicators and Targets:

- # of beneficiaries of project learning products (minimum 60% women)

Output:

Output 4.1: Gender-responsive and inclusive thematic technical reports on impacts of individual restoration and SLM / intensification practices and technologies promoted by the project, including their diffusion.

Output 4.2: Landscape-level report on practices and diffusion / uptake patterns and trends.

Output 4.3: Gender-responsive and inclusive communication and awareness raising programs at sub-national and national levels, with dual emphasis on communicating to local communities and national policy makers.

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
77,468.00	3,185,560.00

Outcome:

M&E and adaptive management, with an enhanced focus on gender inclusivity.

Output:

Monitoring and gender-sensitive evaluation in place, ensuring transparency, effectiveness, and equitable consideration in project activities.

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
116,201.00	4,778,340.00

Outcome:

M&E and adaptive management, with an enhanced focus on gender inclusivity.

Output:

Monitoring and gender-sensitive evaluation in place, ensuring transparency, effectiveness, and equitable consideration in project activities.

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1: Multi-sectoral enabling framework for Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) and planning, integrating climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives	509,471.00	8,983,070.00
Component 1: Multi-sectoral enabling framework for Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) and planning, integrating climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives	474,121.00	13,474,600.00
Component 2 - Ecosystem restoration in degraded natural landscapes and protected landscapes as a strategy to strengthen resilience	911,220.00	20,877,149.00
Component 2 - Ecosystem restoration in degraded natural landscapes and protected landscapes as a strategy to strengthen resilience	1,249,072.00	26,000,901.00
Component 3 - Adoption of climate-resilient agro-ecological intensification, diversification and other regenerative practices in agriculture, agro-forestry and forest management	886,595.00	24,750,327.00
Component 3 - Adoption of climate-resilient agro-ecological intensification, diversification and other regenerative practices in agriculture, agro-forestry and forest management	1,789,335.00	41,681,888.00
Component 4 - Knowledge management	148,318.00	3,647,413.00
Component 4 - Knowledge management	170,880.00	5,471,123.00
M&E	77,468.00	3,185,560.00
M&E	116,201.00	4,778,340.00
Subtotal	6,332,681.00	152,850,371.00
Project Management Cost	126,654.00	3,299,703.00
Project Management Cost	189,980.00	4,949,557.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	6,649,315.00	161,099,631.00

Please provide Justification

PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

The project focuses on Togo's Central Region—one of five economic regions of Togo created by Law No. 81-009 of 06/23/1981. As seen in **Figure 1**, administratively, the region consists of five prefectures, namely Tchoudjo, Sotouboua, Tchamba, Blitta and Mô. These prefectures are further subdivided into some 15 municipalities or communes (see **Figure 2**).^[1] Stretching between 8° and 9°15 northern latitude and 0°15 and 1°35 eastern longitude, the Central Region covers an area of 1,347,000 ha, or 23.8% of the national territory. It is Togo's least populous region, with an estimated 795,529 people as of 2022.^[2]¹

While the project includes some national and regional-level activities, the main body of activities are focused within a central "intervention area" covering approximately 639,598 ha, or just under half of the Central Region (see below, Project Strategy, for a description of these breakdowns).

The Central Region brings together a diversity of ethnic groups, including the Tem, Kabyè, Bassar, Nawdeba, Adélé, Anyanga, Tchamba, Ana, Peulh, Ewé-mina, Adja, Akposso, Konkomba, and others. The region's religious life is dominated by Islam, mainly practiced in the prefectures of Tchoudjo, Mo and Tchamba. However, ancestral beliefs and cults involving local deities still exist, forming with Islam a sort of religious syncretism. In general, there is peaceful cohabitation among religions in the area.

Geographically, the relief of the Central Region can be broken down into three distinct physical units: plateaus and mountains, plains and basins. The mountainous area (500 to 800 m) extends from the Adélé plateau in the extreme south (Monts Assoukoko, 755 m) to the Monts de Kéméni (700 m) in the center east. This area of steep slopes with a dense hydrographic network, as well as a fairly high degree of erosion risk, constitutes a continuation of the Atakora chain which extends towards Benin.

There are two large areas of plains in the Central Region. These are the plains of Mô and Adélé in the West and the great central plain which extends to the East of the Atakora range. They are characterized by gentle slopes towards the Mono valley to the east and the Mô to the west. These plains constitute an area suitable for agriculture. Two important inland basins are located to the north and west of Sokodé in the prefecture of Tchoudjo. These areas are marked by medium to low slopes and a dense hydrographic network.

The climatic regime is of the semi-humid tropical "Sudanian" type, characterized by two distinct seasons: a relatively severe dry season, lasting from November to March, and a rainy season, increasingly irregular and unstable, spanning the months of April to October. The irregularity of rains throughout the year, and from year to year, poses significant challenges, including the disruption of agricultural activities. Average annual temperature is around 27°C. The average maximum is around 34°C between March and April. Minimum is 22°C during the harmattan and the lowest temperatures are observed in the mountainous areas of the West and the North. The daily variation is very significant during the months of February and March and the months of July, August and September are the coolest months of the year.

As described in its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP),^[3] Togo can be divided into five agro-ecological zones. As seen in Figure 1, the Central Region contains portions of three of these zones, namely:

- **Ecological zone II** corresponds to the large areas of the plains of central Togo, with altitudes between 200 and 400 m, characterized by Guinean wooded savannahs and remnants / islands of dry forests. The climate is Guinean, characterized by a long rainy season between April and October, followed by a dry season which extends from November to March. The main food crops in the area are sorghum, maize, millet and rice, while cotton is the cash crop.
- **Ecological zone III**, also called the Central Plains Zone, is made up of vast expanses of dry *Anogeissus leiocarpus* forest and Guinean savannah with relatively varied flora, dominated by *Combretaceae*. Along the main watercourses, there are gallery forests. Main crops here are cereals such as maize, along with sorghum and rice. Root and tuber crops include cassava, yams and, to a lesser extent, sweet potatoes and taro. Legumes such as beans, groundnuts and soybeans are also grown in the zone.
- **Ecological zone IV**, or the southern zone of the Togo mountains, is characterized by semi-deciduous forests interspersed with savannah formations. The climate is mountainous Guinean, and the main tree species are *Khaya grandifoliola*, *Antiaris africana*, *Milicia excelsa*, *Terminalia superba*, *Parinari glabra* and *Erythrophleum suaveolens*. In the savannahs

that intersect these forests, species include *Lophira lanceolata*, *Terminalia glaucescens*, *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, *Hymenocardia acida*, *Vitex doniana*, etc.

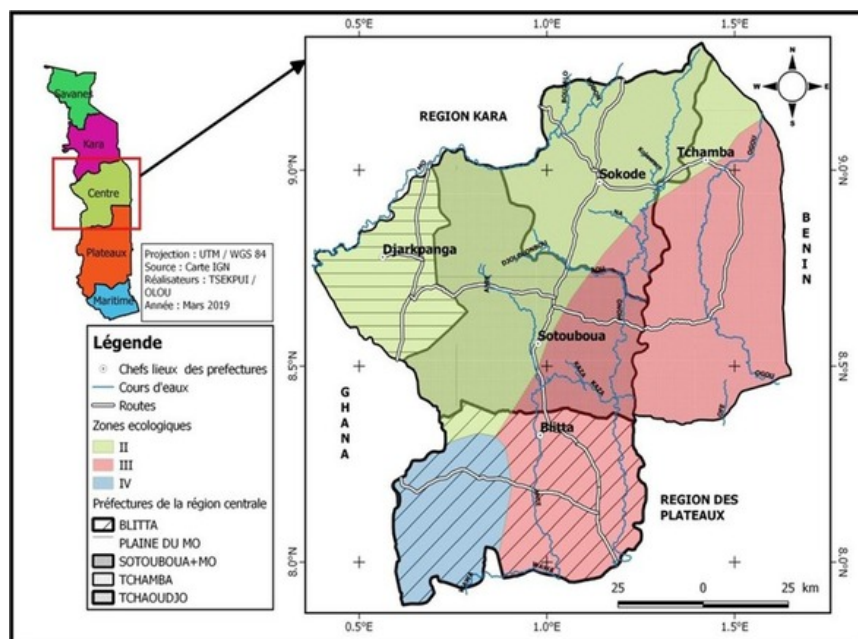


Figure 1: Map of the Central Region, with prefectures and ecological zones

The Central Region has 14 protected areas (PA) covering a total of 252,087 ha, or approximately 18.7% of the region. These include Fazao-Malfakassa National Park (192,000 ha), Abdoulaye Wildlife Reserve (30,000 ha) and Amou-Mono Protected Area (6,000 ha), along with 11 smaller PAs. The Region has several classified forests along with classified reforestation areas, in particular teak groves; the latter have increased in area from 2,034 ha in the 1990s to more than 2,607 ha in 2020.

IUCN threat categories and assessment criteria were used to determine the conservation status of the 354 species recorded in the Central Region. Of these, some 65% of species have not yet been assessed. However, the region's forests are known to contain vulnerable species (VU) such as *Azelia africana*, *Khaya grandifoliola*, *Khaya senegalensis*, *Pouteria alnifolia*, *Ricinodendron heudelotii*, *Vitellaria paradoxa*, in addition to *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, which is considered endangered (EN).

Like the other regions of Togo, the economy of the Central Region is dominated by agriculture (65% of the population), trade (15.7%), handicrafts (9.3%) and fishing (sometimes practiced on the Mono River). Agriculture thus employs the majority of the region's population. As in the rest of Togo, agriculture in the Central Region is generally characterized by a low technical level: 25% of farms benefit from technical support from management structures, fertilizers are employed on 16% of these crops, 89% of cultivated areas are sown with tillage equipment (hoe, cutter-cut) and credit is scarce (only 2% of producers benefitted from credits/loans from banking and microfinance institutions in 2019).

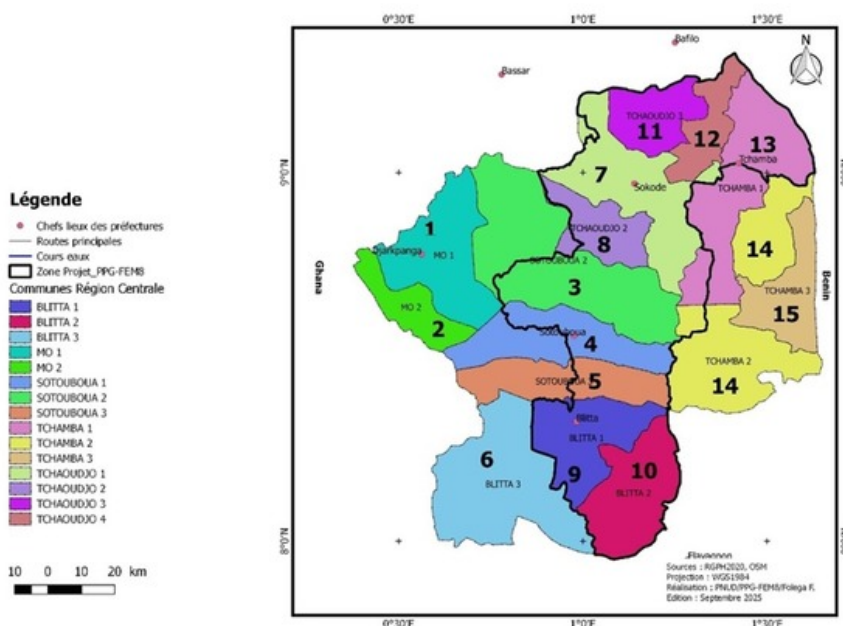


Figure 2. Central Region communes

According to a recent survey,^{[4] [5]} the main food crops produced by households in the region are: maize (37% of the sample) soybeans (26.5%), yams (15.9%), cassava (11.9%) and cowpeas (11%). In 2021, the region's agricultural production amounted to 153,829 tons of maize, 54,178 tons of sorghum, 42,348 tons of paddy rice, 410,404 tons of yams, 236,355 tons of cassava, 22,858 tons of beans, etc. (see **Figure 3**). In terms of area, maize and soybeans occupy the largest area at the regional level, at 1.29 and 1.23 ha per household. Covering somewhat smaller areas per household are cassava (0.88 ha), yams (0.87 ha) and cowpeas (0.77 ha). Cash crops—mainly soybeans, cotton, cashew nuts, etc.—were also harvested in 2021. ^{ftn6[6][7]}

The income of agricultural households comes from the sale of a portion of the crops produced, with the rest being reserved for consumption. Agricultural products sold in the field or in local markets allowed households to earn an average of 555,656 CFA francs during the 2019-2020 agricultural season.

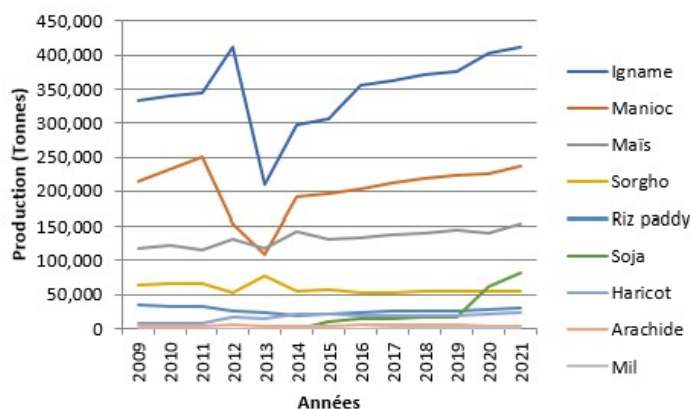


Figure 3: Evolution of the production of the main crops in the Central Region from 2009 to 2021.

Source: Plotted using data from DSID (2023; 2022); PRA 2024 et Monographie Région Centrale 2021.

In addition to agriculture, people engage in other subsistence activities, mainly related to use of ecosystem goods and services. Indeed, the vast majority of the population uses forest products, both wood and non-wood, to meet some of their needs. ^{ftn8 ftn8[8]} Among these products, the most frequently mentioned are medicinal plants (80.8%), fuelwood (78.1%), fruits (58.4%) and shea and néré seeds (48.8%). This testifies to the central role that the forest plays in the lives of the people of the Central Region. It should also be noted that charcoal production is a means for some households (11.8%) to increase their incomes slightly. Analyses reveal that the manufacture and sale of charcoal allowed households to earn an average of 122,390 FCFA (approximately US\$200) during the year 2021.

A number of unsustainable land and resource use practices are operating in tandem to deplete the region's natural capital and negatively impact local populations' economic prospects and resilience. At the same time, they are negatively affecting biodiversity and causing in some cases irreversible land degradation. Each of these threats is further exacerbated by climate change and its attendant risks—factors which will only intensify in coming decades (see following section). The **threats / direct drivers** include:

Agricultural activities: The expansion of cultivable areas combined with poor farming practices constitute major causes of degradation of forest lands and landscapes. Standing trees are removed by fire in order to reduce as much as possible any shade which could affect crop productivity. The establishment of planned agricultural development zones (ZAAPs) has also played a significant role in deforestation. Approximately 20 ZAAPs, together covering some 3,500 ha, have been established across the region. Measures requiring compensatory reforestation linked to the development of these ZAAPs have not been implemented. Partly as a result, dense forest formations (including riparian forests) have decreased from 19.4% of total land area in 2000 to 6.8% in 2021.^[9] The magnitude of degradation caused by land clearance is visibly reflected in rapid land use dynamics and ecosystem fragmentation across the project area. Between 2015 and 2025, land categorized as “culture / fallow” increased by a net amount of 28,812 hectares, while the largest loss was observed in “shrubs / wooded savannah”, which decreased by 33,546 hectares over the same period, together illustrating intense conversion pressure. This agricultural expansion, particularly for crops like yam and rapidly growing soybeans, often relies on clearance practices, including extensive felling of trees and use of fire to reduce shade, which leaves remaining forest areas fragmented and less able to support biodiversity. This fragmentation also exacerbates the decline in other essential ecosystem services, notably local climate regulation and soil protection.

Forestry, logging and fuelwood collection: Forestry operations include timber and wood energy exploitation activities. Wood energy production areas are found in all prefectures of the Central Region. Large quantities of fuelwood and bags of charcoal are produced annually. Households also collect fuelwood from crop areas and fallow lands, either by gathering dead wood or by pruning, or even felling, standing trees. Timber is also collected for construction of houses and sheds. Widespread demand for wood energy and charcoal serves as an additional proximate cause of deforestation, placing immense pressure on forest ecosystems while generating short-term income, thus linking the environmental challenge to poverty reduction efforts. The Central Region relies heavily on wood energy, with major production basins located across all prefectures, including Kolina and Kpangalam in Tchoudjo, Bago and Goubi in Tchamba, and Yaloube and Fazao in Blitta and Sotouboua, respectively. Annual average charcoal production is estimated at 484 bags, or around 21,800 kg, which contributes substantially to the rapid loss of forest cover. The continued reliance on traditional charcoal production methods necessitates intervention to support the conversion of charcoal producers to sustainable alternatives and the promotion of improved charcoal techniques to reduce this immediate pressure on forest resources.

Livestock / transhumance: Discussions and interviews with local populations undertaken during development of the action plan for the restoration of forest landscapes in the Central Region^[10] revealed the widespread belief that the condition of forest landscapes took a catastrophic turn following the c. 2000 arrival of transhumant breeders whose livestock appear to have caused significant damage to plant cover, and also to crops, due to non-compliance with the transhumance calendar^{ftn11[11]}, corridors and reception sites set up for the animals. Although livestock sometimes plays a positive role in rangeland areas, e.g., by helping to regenerate soils and improve water retention capacities, in other cases, trampling by cattle herds compacts the soil, reduces water infiltration and increases runoff, contributing to the disappearance of certain plant species and negative impacts on certain crops. Transhumance, overgrazing and associated conflict (both with agriculture and wildlife) put considerable pressure on land, forests, and pastures, contributing to overgrazing and the resulting degradation of natural resources. The movement of livestock contributes to soil degradation and erosion, further weakening environments already strained by deforestation due to agricultural expansion and wood energy exploitation. Socially, transhumance is a recurring source of intense conflict between farmers and herders. These conflicts stem from competition for diminishing resources, particularly access to water points and grazing areas, and frequently involve the destruction of crops by wandering animals, notably oxen, due to the lack of pasture. The vulnerability of local communities is heightened as the scarcity of pastures, often worsened by climatic hazards like drought, increases community tensions and violence. This situation is aggravated by the absence of a local management framework dedicated to regulating transhumance movements. The increased mobility of herds also increases the risk of animal disease transmission.

Underlying drivers of environmental degradation in the region include:

Significant increases in population and population density: Togo's Central Region experienced strong growth in its population between 1981 and 2022. Indeed, from 301,670 inhabitants in 1981, the region's population has increased significantly, reaching 617,871 inhabitants in 2010 and 795,529 in 2022, representing an annual increase of approximately 2.4%. Between 1981 and 2022, population density more than doubled, from 22 to 59 people/km².

Climate change: Evidence of climate change has been noted within the region, including increasingly heavy rains/floods, intense and long droughts, strengthening of the *harmattan* (a dry and warm trade wind which now descends almost systematically to the coast and settles there for several weeks, drying out the forests) and increases in temperatures. These factors have, among other immediate consequences, increased the risk of vegetation fires. In addition, according to information and data collected on the ground in the region^[12] ^[13], drought/water shortages have led to a drastic drop in yields and a reduction in income for farmers in Tchamba, Blitta and the Mô plain. Producers of seasonal crops such as cereals (maize, sorghum and rice) have been especially severely affected. Finally, the impact of climate change on water resources also has a significant effect on the Central Region's fisheries, the productivity of fish populations and their distribution in waterways. Additional information is provided in the section on climate change risks and vulnerabilities below.

Community conflicts: Conflicts between communities have increased over time, representing both a cause and an effect of environmental degradation. Conflicts, often violent ones, most typically ensue between transhumant Fulani, many of whom are following historical grazing routes, and local farmers, who are seeking to defend their crops and land. The early drying up of watercourses partly explains these conflicts.

Capacity limitations: A key underlying driver of environmental degradation is the structural weakness in technical and institutional capacities. Stakeholder consultations reveal a low level of adoption of sustainable land and forest management practices (SLM and SFM) due to a lack of knowledge of appropriate techniques and inadequate systems of agricultural and forestry extension.

Land tenure / insecurity: This is a major constraint, particularly impacting non-native populations and limiting crucial long-term investments in agroforestry and reforestation projects. This insecurity is compounded by a lack of knowledge of the Land Code and security procedures among farmers. Population growth (see above), further increases the need for effective land use planning and sustainable resource management.

The above threats and drivers have combined to create significant levels of degradation and loss of habitat and biodiversity in the region. Deforestation and ecosystem degradation remain major challenges in the region, estimated to affect more than 70% of its surface area.^[14] Anthropogenic activities such as shifting agriculture based on burning, exploitation of timber and service wood, wood energy extraction, livestock breeding and transhumance, vegetation fires, land speculation, and the occupation of protected areas all contribute to the degradation of ecosystems. Furthermore, this degradation is exacerbated by prolonged drought, which increases the likelihood of vegetation fires. Effective biodiversity conservation is hampered not only by these direct activities but also by factors such as poor knowledge regarding the value of ecosystems, insufficient technical capacity, and local livelihoods that remain dependent on these same degrading natural habitats.

The decline in soil quality and agricultural yields presents another critical challenge to local communities. There has been a notable drop in sown areas, production (including sorghum, millet, rice, and cassava), and yields, largely attributed to the significant reduction in soil fertility and increasing erosion. This situation is further reinforced by irregular and insufficient rainfall, recurring ten-year floods, low contribution of soil amendments, and a general loss of biodiversity (flora and fauna), which collectively accentuate the degree of vulnerability of local communities in the area. Faced with these challenges, communities often resort to planting crops that are less water-demanding (such as sesame or colocynth), or converting agricultural landscapes into plantations of cashew, mango, citrus, and fast-growing species (like *Acacia auriculiformis* or *Eucalyptus*), as a means of mitigating erosion and drought effects.

As shown in **Table 1**, a 2022 land use analysis carried out as part of the regional action plan for the restoration of the forest landscape of the Central Region (based on Landsat and Sentinel images) identified nine classes of land cover, while assessing levels of degradation within each.^[15] Overall, lands with very high degradation were found to occupy 13,880 ha or 1.03%, those with high degradation occupy 22.28%, while those with medium degradation occupy 29.33%. Only 16% of land is very slightly degraded compared to 30.41% of slightly degraded land. The high degradation range is only a little over 23%. Slightly degraded land represents more than 47% of land. Less degraded areas are those where forest areas are preserved, including Abdoulaye classified forest and the Fazao-Malfakassa park. Areas of medium to very high degradation tend to be found in areas of bare mountains and farming areas around larger towns.

Table 1: Land degradation by land cover and degree (Central Region), 2022*

Land cover	Area (ha)	Very weak	Weak	Average	High	Very high
Dense forests	34,172	13,022	9,265	7,149	3,299	31
Riparian forests	50,212	28,620	12,099	5,760	3,144	220
Open forests	410,165	139,039	152,337	83,649	38,993	741

Tree/shrub savannah	227,955	13,237	53,184	91,372	66,598	956
Plantations	6,241	417	1,982	2,381	1,429	125
Crops and fallows	326,272	7,185	79,484	115,604	122,172	4,953
Grassy savannahs	185,980	23,211	75,701	48,079	33,180	533
Urban areas / bare ground	82,685	1,599	16,269	32,082	23,052	6,388
Water places	1,285	125	388	355	31	
Total	1,324,967	226,455	400,709	386,431	291,898	13,947
% of overall total	100%	17.1%	30.2%	29.2%	22.0%	1.1%

* Source: UNDP. 2024. "Profils biogéographique, socio-économique et vulnérabilités des ressources naturelles et des moyens de production de la région Centrale : Synthèse bibliographique."

With regards to the region's protected areas, these are no longer made up of intact ecosystems; instead, they are marked by fragmentation following incursions by populations. Anthropogenic pressures on these PAs contribute to their degradation. Overall, their biological diversity remains highly threatened. Populations of elephants and other emblematic animals which had appeared in the main PAs (Fazao-Malfakassa Park and Abdoulaye Wildlife Reserve) are now becoming increasingly rare. Pollution, overexploitation of species, poaching and land conversion of PAs in the region have had significant impacts on the biodiversity of reptiles, mammals, birds and mammals on the IUCN Red List.

Climate change risks and vulnerabilities[16]

The recent evolution of minimum temperature, maximum temperature, and rainfall in Sokodé (the capital of the Central Region) over the period 1981–2022 is shown in **Figure 4** below. The analysis reveals very clear warming trends for both minimum and maximum temperatures. Indeed, climate data sources indicate a significant increase in minimum temperature, with a more pronounced intensity in the station's data (+0.0307 °C/year) than in global databases. This confirms that nights are becoming progressively warmer, which limits the nighttime cooling essential for the physiological recovery of human organisms and increases the risk of heat stress, particularly for vulnerable populations and certain crops sensitive to high nighttime temperatures.

Similarly, maximum temperatures show a significant upward trend, with an intensity varying between +0.019 °C/year and +0.029 °C/year. Thus, the average number of days with heavy rainfall (>20 mm) per year varies from 2 days in the Tchoudjo prefecture to 16 days in the Mo prefecture in the central region between 1990 and 2019. However, the Tchamba prefecture experienced a change of -0.15 to -0.10, representing a decrease of 3 to 4 days in the total annual number of days with heavy rainfall between 1990 and 2019. This trend reflects increased daytime warming, which is likely to increase the frequency and intensity of heat waves, increase evapotranspiration, and therefore intensify water pressure on soils, crops, and water resources. Conversely, rainfall trends are less consistent across databases, with a significant and sustained decrease in precipitation (-7,872 mm/year). Overall, these results highlight a climate dynamic characterized by marked and sustained warming, coupled with rainfall uncertainty, exacerbating Sokodé's climate vulnerability. These developments are particularly concerning for rainfed agriculture, which is heavily dependent on rainfall and already suffers the effects of heat waves; for public health, with an increase in risks related to heat stress and climate-sensitive diseases; and for water resource management in a context where demand is increasing while availability is becoming uncertain.

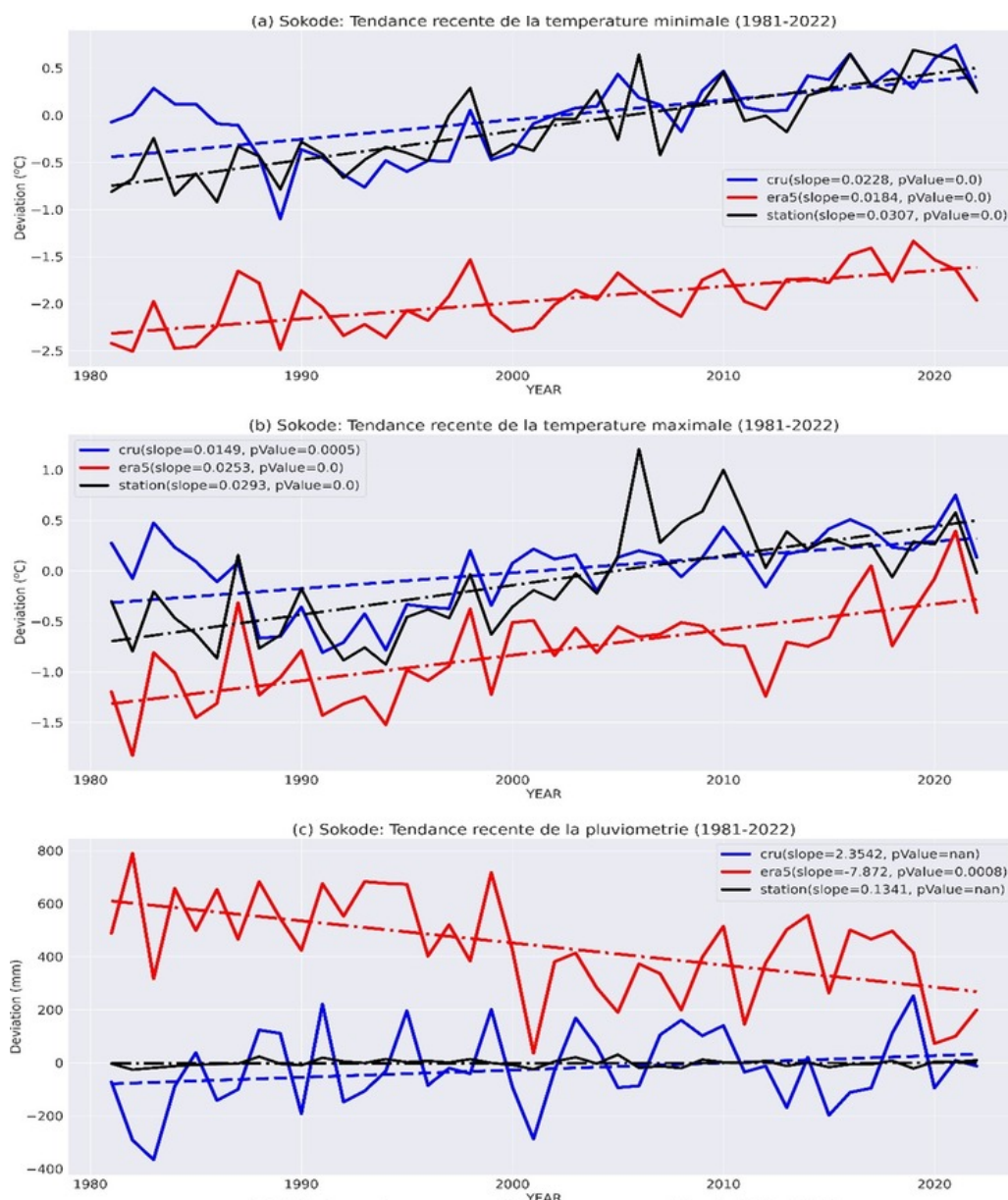


Figure 4: Climate data from Sokodé, 1981-2022

In developing the proposal, the project team has considered two specific scenarios: Medium (RCP 4.5) and High (RCP 8.5).

Under either of the above scenarios, temperatures are projected to increase consistently in Togo throughout the present century. The greatest temperature increases will be during the months of July to September. While temperatures will increase across the whole country, the greatest increases are projected for inland regions, including the Central Region. Under a high-emission scenario (RCP8.5), average temperatures are expected to increase rapidly by mid-century. According to the CMIP-5 ensemble projection under RCP8.5, by the period 2040-2050, Togo is expected to experience a median annual temperature anomaly of 1.7 degrees C. Extreme temperatures, measured as the number of days above 35 degrees Celsius, are projected to rise rapidly after the 2040s.

Rainfall projections for Togo are highly variable. However, seasonal changes to rainfall patterns, including decreases from January to March and increases from October to December, along with increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, appear likely. The CMIP-5 projection is for an annual precipitation anomaly of -24.1 to +29.2 mm.

The impacts of the above-described threats and drivers are closely linked to climate change and its associated risks/hazards. Changes in rainfall seasonality and intensity, with more frequent and intense storms, are creating flood risks that damage crops and infrastructure. Moreover, the increase in surface runoff, particularly associated with extreme weather events, is driving erosion, leaching out critical soil nutrients and further reducing already strained agricultural productivity. The combined impact of crop damage and soil erosion on agricultural land exacerbates food security challenges, while sediments and agro-chemical pollution from farm runoff are deposited into waterways, contaminating downstream water supplies, threatening both human populations and critical wetland ecosystems. Likewise, deforestation linked to fuelwood collection, unsustainable charcoal production and

harvesting for timber results in the loss of critical ecosystem services that regulate the hydrological cycle. The loss of ecosystem services exacerbates flood risks, reduces groundwater infiltration and accelerates erosion.

While some of the drivers of degradation, e.g., population increase, are relatively independent of climate change, the impacts of the latter on natural resource-based livelihoods and food production are driving the uptake of maladaptive practices, such as agricultural expansion, that exacerbate degradation and loss of ecosystem services, further undermining adaptive capacity to cope with climate stressors. This vicious cycle leaves rural communities reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods among the most vulnerable to climate change, with high exposure and limited adaptive capacity.

A recent quantitative assessment of the Central Region's vulnerability to climate changes was carried out using multifactor spatial analysis (ASM), which took into account both biophysical and socio-economic exposure factors.^[17] Two main climatic hazards, based on frequency and expected impact, were considered, namely heavy rains/floods and drought/water stress. For these two climatic hazards, current vulnerability and future vulnerability were considered in the preparation of vulnerability maps (see **Figure 4** below).

Both projected climate variability and other climate change trends for Togo—including rising temperatures, changing seasonal rainfall patterns, increased duration of dry periods, extreme heat, and increased aridity and drought—threaten the country's agricultural and forest sectors, as well as natural ecosystems. These factors will increase the risk and vulnerability of local communities to extreme events and natural hazards, including heat waves, droughts, floods and wildfires.

The root cause of increasing vulnerability is the accelerating climate dynamic characterized by pervasive and sustained warming. Analysis of climate trends shows that both minimum (Tmin) and maximum (Tmax) temperatures are increasing significantly. Tmin, in particular, has shown a marked increase of +0.0307 °C per year based on station data, confirming that nights are becoming warmer and limiting the thermal recovery essential for human health and crops. Future projections for 2021-2050 anticipate an acceleration of this trend, with annual increases ranging from +0.0459 °C/year to +0.0558 °C/year for minimum temperatures under different scenarios. This constant warming exacerbates thermal stress, increases evapotranspiration rates, heightens the frequency and intensity of heat waves, and puts severe pressure on water resources and climate-sensitive sectors like rainfed agriculture. Furthermore, while rainfall variability is high, some reanalysis data indicate a significant and sustained decrease in precipitation (–7.872 mm/year), reinforcing concerns about increasingly uncertain water availability.

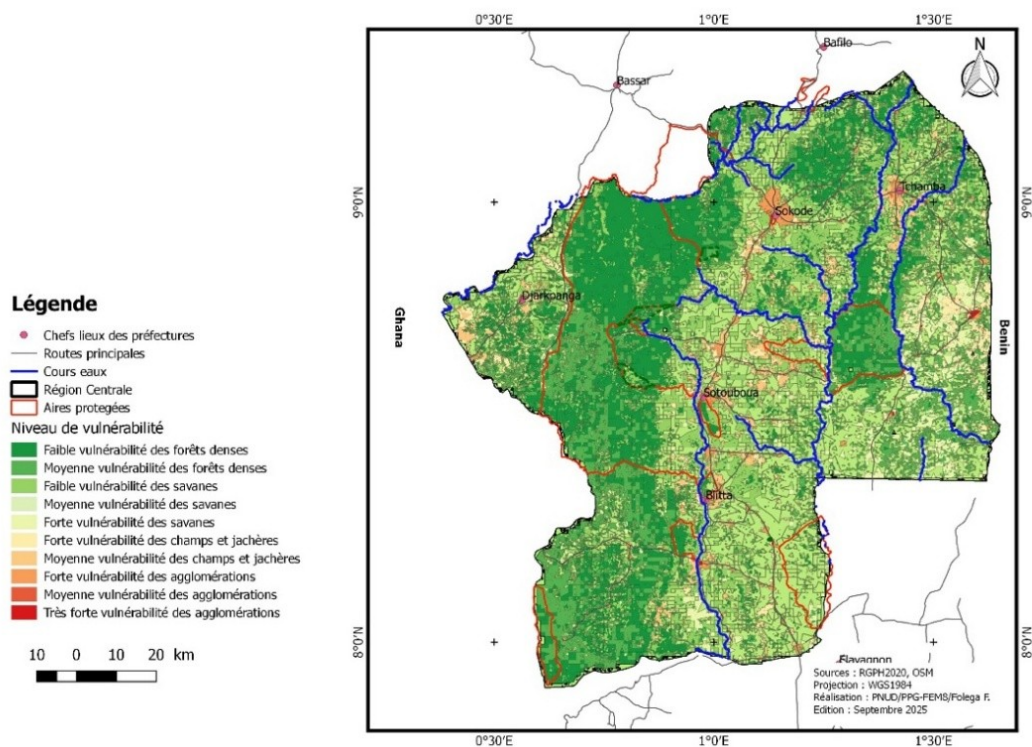


Figure 5. Multifactor spatial analysis (ASM) Vulnerability map of the Central Region (primary data sources [ftn19\[18\]²](#))

Agriculture, including crop production, livestock and fisheries, is particularly sensitive to climate conditions. The impacts of climate change will vary considerably with the temperature and precipitation in different seasons and across regions. There is a substantial likelihood of increased prevalence of pests and diseases given the projected increases in temperatures and rainfall, which would directly affect crop yields. Impacts on the agriculture sector are expected to include disruption of the agricultural calendar, devastation of crops by pests (armyworms, whiteflies, desert locusts), the appearance of new invasive species, the disappearance of certain cultivars, declines in agricultural yields and erosion of cultivable areas. Increasing temperatures could also affect the productivity of key cash crops, while maize yields could decline by more than 25% in the Central Region by mid-century.

On the positive side, sorghum and cassava yields could double by the end of the century in regions where rainfall increases, owing to these crops' resilience to hot, harsh climates. Tuber crops such as yams may also benefit from high temperatures and increasing rainfall. However, projected extreme temperatures in certain regions will be harmful to vegetable crop production. Temperature thresholds for agriculture and livestock will become increasingly relevant, and extreme heat will likely cause increasing damage to plants and affect the health of livestock as well as farm workers. Vulnerability of the agricultural sector, currently assessed at 0.70, is projected to increase to 0.75 by 2050.

In the case of the forestry sector, impacts include deteriorating health and increased natural mortality of woody trees and reduced regeneration capacity in natural ecosystems. At the community level deforestation and degradation are leading, *inter alia*, to loss of forest ecosystem services, including provisioning services such as fuelwood, bushmeat and plant medicine, as well as regulation of micro-climates in and around degraded ecosystems. Rising temperatures, and evapotranspiration - particularly under RCP 8.5 - will increase the risk of wildfires, thereby affecting forests. Increasing rainfall intensities in the mountainous regions will lead to an intensification of hillside erosion and will expose hilly and mountainous areas to loss of vegetation. Overall, the Central Region's Forest and other land use sector faces a 'high' level of vulnerability (0.62) to climate change.

Farmers are also heavily affected by vegetation fires because they keep their granaries in the fields, forgetting that oxen and vegetation fires can wreak havoc. These fires cause the destruction of crops, harvests and the homes of agricultural populations. Hot seasons also have a detrimental impact on agricultural production and consequently the repayment of agricultural loans. Non-repayment of agricultural loans due to drought often leads to tensions in communities, contributing to rising levels of conflict.

The above-described threats, drivers and trends are having additional significant negative impacts on natural ecosystems and biodiversity. Biodiversity loss represents a specific, high-stakes dimension of the development challenge within the project area. The ecosystems within the project area are known to harbor species categorized as Vulnerable (VU), such as *Afzelia africana*, *Khaya grandifoliola*, *Khaya senegalensis*, *Pouteria alnifolia*, *Ricinodendron heudelotii*, and *Vitellaria paradoxa*, as well as the Endangered (EN) species *Pterocarpus erinaceus*. These species, many of which provide essential non-timber forest products (NTFPs) or timber, are primarily concentrated within the few remaining biodiversity sanctuaries. The continued degradation of these habitats due to anthropogenic and climatic disturbances severely threatens the long-term survival of this regionally and globally significant natural heritage.

As a result of the above, Togo is ranked 128 out of 181 countries in the 2021 ND-GAIN Index, with agricultural capacity scoring highest (.998), i.e. most vulnerable, of the various vulnerability components measured. Togo also scored among the lowest in terms of readiness to adapt.^[20] As discussed above, low-income, rural communities in the Central Region and elsewhere, are expected to be disproportionately affected by climate change impacts given their high vulnerability and low adaptive capacity.

Climate vulnerability is highly differentiated across population groups, particularly impacting women in critical areas related to energy and water. A socio-economic assessment integrating gender reveals that women bear a greater responsibility for domestic supply, reflected in average annual expenditures for wood energy being slightly higher for women (1,980 FCFA) than for men (1,920 FCFA). This differential vulnerability is even more pronounced concerning water stress: household spending on drinking water supply is significantly higher for women (8,850 FCFA) than for men (8,000 FCFA), confirming their greater involvement in domestic water supply tasks. This gender-based differential vulnerability to water stress highlights the necessity of incorporating social dimensions into adaptation and management policies.^{[21]³}

Climatic hazards significantly heighten social vulnerability, serving as a source of intercommunity conflicts, domestic fires, housing degradation, and population displacement. Specifically, conflicts between farmers and transhumant herders, exacerbated by the scarcity of pastures, have led to loss of life and violence, particularly against women. The social consequences also include community tensions linked to the non-repayment of agricultural loans, increasing food prices leading to famine, and malnutrition. Among the most affected by these complex challenges are highly vulnerable groups such as women farmers, child mothers, and elderly women, who inherently possess reduced adaptive capacity to cope with these compounded risks.

Barrier Analysis

Delivering on the project strategy will require a careful mix of capacity building, multi-stakeholder dialogue, investment and wide diffusion of knowledge gained and lessons learned to ensure broad uptake and replication. These actions will be primarily aimed at removing a set of barriers currently standing in the way of success. These barriers include:

Barrier 1 – Limited institutional capacity for integrated, gender-responsive landscape and adaptation planning and governance

Development planning in the Central Region remains highly sectoral, with agricultural, forestry, and land policies often implemented in isolation and occasionally in conflict. Coordination mechanisms between ministries and administrative levels are weak, with fragmented mandates, limited data exchange, and little institutionalized cooperation for managing shared resources. The absence of spatially explicit data, integrated analytical tools, and cross-sectoral mechanisms prevents coherent land-use and climate adaptation planning that balances production, conservation, and adaptation goals. Gender and social inclusion remain insufficiently mainstreamed in planning and policy oversight, leading to decisions that overlook the priorities and vulnerabilities of women and marginalized groups. Local governments lack the technical and institutional frameworks for landscape-scale and climate-resilient planning, and national strategies often fail to cascade effectively to the commune and prefectural levels. These weaknesses create inconsistent guidance for land allocation, competing sectoral mandates, and missed opportunities for synergies between agricultural intensification, forest conservation, and climate adaptation that reduce vulnerability and strengthen resilience. Taken together, they also constrain the capacity of planning systems to translate adaptation priorities into locally actionable strategies.

Barrier 2 – Limited technical and operational capacity for large-scale restoration of degraded forest and productive landscapes, negatively impacting adaptation

Forest and land restoration initiatives in the Central Region are widespread but remain fragmented, short-term, and driven by external projects rather than long-term institutional commitments. Local management structures established for forest and landscape restoration exist in name but lack trained personnel, technical guidance, and financial resources to function effectively. Communities and cooperatives face challenges in applying sustainable forest management (SFM) practices due to the limited field presence of technical services and the chronic understaffing of the Ministry of Environment, Forest Resources, Coastal Protection, and Climate Change. As a result, restoration actions—though numerous—often lack continuity, standardization, and monitoring. Extension agents are few and poorly resourced, while the logistical and technical support needed to sustain activities such as reforestation, soil and water conservation, or controlled grazing is inadequate. This lack of capacity directly limits the ability of restoration activities to deliver their intended adaptation benefits—such as improved soil moisture retention, microclimate regulation, and reduced vulnerability to drought and flooding. Moreover, restoration efforts frequently overlook locally adapted species, soil potential, and water dynamics, reducing ecological success rates and diminishing community confidence in restoration as a viable livelihood option.

Barrier 3 – Limited adoption and investment capacity for climate-resilient and sustainable production systems

Smallholders, cooperatives, and MSMEs across the region face major obstacles in adopting and scaling up climate-smart agriculture, agroforestry, and sustainable land management practices. Technical knowledge is limited, as are the opportunities for hands-on learning through demonstration plots or farmer field schools. Many producers remain dependent on traditional, resource-depleting methods that degrade soils, lower productivity, and increase vulnerability to droughts and floods. Access to credit, insurance, and inputs for sustainable production remains highly constrained, and private sector engagement in restoration-oriented value chains is still weak. Extension services for both crops and livestock lack specialized staff and operational reach; in particular, the shortage of veterinarians and technicians undermines productivity in pastoral systems. Weather and seasonal forecasts rarely reach local producers, and the complexity of the Land Code creates uncertainty and discourages investment. These combined limitations constrain innovation and reduce the willingness and ability of producers to shift toward resilient, lower-impact systems.

Barrier 4 – Weak systems for knowledge management, communication, and diffusion of innovation

Knowledge generation and diffusion remain fragmented across the Central Region's institutions and communities. Lessons from past and ongoing initiatives—whether government-led, donor-supported, or locally innovated—are seldom compiled, shared, or scaled. Documentation of field-tested practices in restoration, sustainable agriculture, and adaptation is sporadic, and few platforms exist for peer-to-peer learning or institutional exchange. Weak communication channels between research institutions, local governments, and producers impede the translation of technical evidence into policy or practice. At the community level, low awareness of climate change risks, adaptation options, and environmental regulations constrains behavioral change. The absence

of organized information systems, combined with limited use of local and digital media, restricts the spread of knowledge to isolated or marginalized groups. As a result, successful experiences remain localized, adoption of effective techniques is slow, and opportunities for replication and scaling are frequently lost.

Tackling / addressing environmental degradation

The project design aims to fully exploit key concepts and principles fine-tuned during previous project cycles and encapsulated in GEF-8 programming guidance as well as STAP guidance^[22]. In particular, the project adopts an integrated, landscape-level approach, supported by extensive participation by a broad cross-section of stakeholders, whose thematic breadth extends across three focal areas, namely climate change adaptation—with the support of LDCF funding—land degradation and biodiversity. Strengthening economic empowerment through enhanced value chains that further support restoration and regenerative agriculture, and ultimately resilience, are key to this project's strategy. All project components will engage private sector enterprises in actions that further climate change adaptation and enhanced resilience. Likewise, they will engage Government institutions in developing and implementing plans and policies that will enhance their climate change adaptation capacity. People, landscapes and rangelands will benefit as a result.

Project components are organized by theme, e.g. restoration, agroecological intensification—rather than, for example, by protected and productive landscapes, further emphasizing the theme of integration. Finally, the project aims to extend and innovate in the area of knowledge management, learning and diffusion / uptake. These aspects will enable the project outcomes to endure in the face of changes in drivers, particularly those associated with climate change and conflict across resource uses.

The current landscape of investments

Significant baseline initiatives are underway aimed at reversing the above trends, including:

The GIZ "Forest for Future Project" (F4F) is strengthening the local capacities of vulnerable groups in the Tchamba prefecture for the restoration of landscapes and forests by developing innovative models with a gender and inclusion approach. This initiative facilitates the development of income-generating activities as alternatives to the marketing of forest products (firewood and charcoal), which has been the main source of income for women, single mothers, the elderly and young people. Likewise, community-level adaptation initiatives, such as support for community forests in the prefectures of Tchamba (Alibi, Bago, etc.) and Blitta (Kaweya, Mikona, Tondja, etc.) led by women's cooperatives aim to strengthen the community resilience in the face of climate change and associated hazards. Engaging vulnerable households in the management of community forests guarantees them substantial benefits and encourages them to better protect the forests.

The project: "Contribution to the fight against climate change through the promotion and popularization of improved ovens and stoves in the Savanes, Kara and Central regions of Togo", Grant 5 under the EU Support Program for the Fight Against Climate Change (PALCC), is enabling the supply of improved charcoal stoves to vulnerable and poor people in the Central Region. This project, initiated by the Togolese government and financed by the European Union (EU), is implemented by AGAIB Centrale. The objective is to promote and popularize subsidized improved charcoal stoves and stoves among vulnerable and poor people with a view to combating climate change. Through this project, AGAIB Centrale intends, *inter alia*, to ensure the effective distribution of improved ovens and stoves to identified vulnerable people. The project is also developing an updated database of these people and raising awareness concerning the socio-economic and environmental benefits of using improved charcoal ovens and stoves.

The Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) project is an FAO initiative launched in Togo in 2019 with the aim of creating resilient landscapes in the face of climate change and improving livelihoods with forestry and agricultural producer organizations as key actors of change. The FFF aims to enhance resilience by improving the livelihoods of rural populations through support to selected forestry and agricultural producer organizations. Its approach is to work with these organizations to implement actions that contribute to adapting to climate change, improving livelihoods and incomes while conserving the landscape in which everything develops. With the support of GIZ, FAO is implementing Phase II of the FFF (2018-2022), which aims to contribute to achieving at least 11 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNDP, in synergy with the Ministry of Environment, Forest Resources, Coastal Protection, and Climate Change (MERFPCCC), supports the government in: (i) local territorial governance of socio-economic and cultural development; (ii) the adaptation of production systems, inclusive growth and sustainable creation of green jobs and wealth; (iii) the sustainable use of natural resources and community conservation of ecosystems. In the central region, the village of Doufouli (Blitta1 commune), the village of Tabalo 1

(Tchaoudjo 1 commune) and the village of Boussoulou (Tchamba 1 commune) all benefit from an investment kit consisting of a mini water supply, a mini solar power plant with a LV network, public lighting, grain mills, cassava graters, needle machines, loading tables, all powered by the solar power plant, a market gardening area and honey production equipment.

To increase the preparedness of countries to face food insecurity and improve the resilience of food systems, at the level of the central region the FSRP in collaboration with the decentralized technical services are implementing (1) Pilot project to support market gardening kits composed of (certified market gardening seeds, biofertilizers, and market gardening tools; (2) Pilot project to support the production of compost on ZAAPs in the central region; (3) Pilot project to support the reforestation of fruit plants in the Integrated Landscape Planning zones in the central region; (4) Pilot project to support the construction of improved traditional chicken coops (PTA) and improved traditional sheepfolds and efficient breeding nuclei.

The Togo International Plan has developed Phase II of its five-year program for the period 2024 – 2028. This program is active in 55 cantons in four prefectures—Tchaoudjo, Blitta, Sotouboua and Tchamba—of the Central Region. The program is organized around several actions such as awareness-raising and capacity building related to climate change, land restoration and reforestation of public and community areas, socio-collective equipment and infrastructure. Specific areas of activity include supporting schools, markets, professional integration of young people and women, entrepreneurship training, the development of income generating activities for women and the promotion of gender-sensitive value chains in areas such as agriculture, non-wood forest products, breeding, etc.

How the project will build on the baseline and ongoing investments, both GEF and non-GEF

The project has been designed to avoid duplication of previous and ongoing projects. In particular, it has been designed to complement and leverage ongoing investments by Germany, France, AfDB, and the World Bank, rather than duplicate them. Baseline programs already support irrigation infrastructure, mechanization, and skills development in the Central Region. The project therefore focuses on closing gaps in climate risk integration, ecosystem restoration, agroecological practices, and value chain resilience, which are not fully addressed by infrastructure-heavy initiatives. Through the multi-stakeholder platforms and coordination mechanisms supported under Component 1 (including engagement with existing regional committees and development partners), the project will align planning, share data, and synchronize interventions, ensuring strategic complementarity, targeted co-financing opportunities, and operational synergies with ongoing programs.

The above-described efforts, including support from GEF and other donors, constitute a robust baseline upon which the present project will build. Overall, GEF incremental support will aim to secure global benefits related to sustainable land management, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation, in line with GEFTF and LDCF programmatic priorities. More specifically, GEF additional support will target the following:

Integrated landscape management: Building on existing governmental mechanisms (see below, **Table 3**), and working in parallel with support being provided by GEFID 11392,^[23] the project will support strengthening of local policy and planning frameworks and integrated, multi-stakeholder participation within priority landscapes of the Central Region.

Climate-resilient restoration: GLZ's F4F project support to building capacities of vulnerable groups for forest restoration represents one of the most significant baseline investments on which the project will build. Harvesting lessons learned by F4F, the present project will expand from F4F's geographic focus in Tchamba prefecture to additional priority landscapes in Tchaoudjo, Tchamba, Sotouboua and the eastern side of prefecture of Blitta. Importantly, the present project will benefit from F4F's restoration planning work, with restoration work targeted at 7,500 ha. of priority areas. The project will also continue and extend work by F4F and the Ministry of Commerce aimed at addressing key barriers facing MSMEs seeking to engage in restoration.

Sustainability: Unlike many previous projects that focused on isolated sites or short-term pilots, this project embeds restoration, SLM and regenerative agriculture within integrated landscape-level planning processes that are formally linked to regional and commune development plans and policy frameworks. Sustainability will be further strengthened through the use of structured learning platforms (FFS and RFS), which combine field-level demonstrations with peer-to-peer learning and extension system engagement, increasing the likelihood of continued uptake beyond the project period. In contrast to earlier interventions, the project explicitly links capacity building and demonstration to strengthened value chains and MSME development, helping to generate sustained economic incentives for maintaining nature-positive practices."

Climate-resilient and nature-positive agricultural practices: Here, the project will build on, among other initiatives, the FAO FFF support. In particular, FFF efforts to build capacities of forestry and agricultural producer organizations will greatly enable GEF support to extending climate-resilient and nature-positive agricultural practices across 35,000 ha.

Knowledge and lessons learned: The project will build on more project-specific approaches by previous projects, by introducing an innovative approach to knowledge and diffusion of innovations, involving several synergistic elements, including: (i) making full use of stakeholder platforms for knowledge dissemination/diffusion; (ii) improving landscape-level analytics, particularly in key areas related to global environment, i.e., land degradation, regenerative agriculture, biodiversity and climate change adaptation (iii) identifying key practices and understanding their baseline levels and geographic distribution; (iv) identifying and supporting innovators and early adopters of good / best practices; (v) synthesizing results as knowledge products^[24].

Alignment with country priorities: The project also contributes directly to **Togo's priorities under the Rio Conventions**. Under the **UNFCCC**, it operationalizes Togo's **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)** by promoting adaptive agriculture, land restoration, and community resilience. In support of the **UNCBD**, it reinforces objectives of the **National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP II)** through protection of habitats, restoration of degraded ecosystems, and sustainable management of community forests and OECMs. In alignment with the **UNCCD**, it contributes to Togo's **Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets**, focusing on rehabilitating degraded lands and improving soil fertility. These synergies reflect Togo's vision for integrated, climate-smart rural development—linking restoration, adaptation, and biodiversity management while addressing poverty reduction and gender equality within a unified sustainability framework.

Baseline scenario in the absence of the project

Under the baseline scenario, despite the best efforts of local stakeholders and their partners,^[25] existing problems of habitat, including forest, loss, land degradation and loss of ecosystem services and biodiversity, can be expected to persist, and in some cases may worsen. While solutions in the form of enhanced land management and restoration practices exist, their systematic introduction and diffusion across the region would proceed at a pace which would be too slow to effectively counteract the drivers associated with population increase, climate change and conflict. Capacity constraints would play a significant ongoing role in these negative trends, while financing of change would likewise remain inadequate. Finally, the potential for women to actively contribute to the implementation of solutions would remain underutilized.

In the absence of GEF support, it is anticipated that a number of the above trends related to degradation, loss of natural capital, and increasing vulnerability of local populations would likely continue and even worsen.

^[1] The term 'commune' is used in the present document.

^[2] RGPH-5, 2022

^[3] Strategie et plan d'actions national pour la biodiversite, SPANB, 2021-2030

^[4] FAO/MERF, 2025 : Plan Régional d'Adaptation au changement climatique, Région Centrale. Rapport provisoire, 67 p.

^[5] FAO/MERF, 2023. Évaluation socio-économique des impacts du changement climatique intégrant le genre dans les secteurs agriculture, foresterie et ressources en eau de la région Centrale. Rapport final, 58 p.

^[6] Direction des Statistiques Agricoles, de l'Informatique et de la Documentation (DSID), 2023. Les données statistiques agricole 2022.

^[7] Direction des Statistiques Agricoles, de l'Informatique et de la Documentation (DSID), 2022. Rapport du bilan de la campagne agro-pastorale 2021-2022 au Togo. Rapport final, 128 p.

^[8] GIZ, 2022. Plan d'Action Régional (PAR) de restauration de paysage forestier de la région Centrale. Rapport final, 88 p. + Annexes

^[9] Ibid

[10] République Togolaise, Plan d'Action Régional (PAR) de restauration de paysage forestier de la région Centrale. Rapport final, 88 p. + Annexes

[11] The transhumance calendar is developed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development (MAEDR). It runs from January 31 to May 31 of each year. However, since COVID-19 appeared, the ministry has suspended cross-border transhumance

[12] UNDP. 2024. « Profils biogéographique, socio-économique et vulnérabilités des ressources naturelles et des moyens de production de la région Centrale : Synthèse bibliographique. »

[13] République Togolaise, 2021. Monographie de la Région Centrale. 197 p.

[14] FAO/MERF, 2025. Regional Climate Change Adaptation Plan, Central Region, 67 p.; FAO/MERF, 2023. Evaluation socio-économique des impacts du changement climatique intégrant le genre dans les secteurs agriculture, foresterie et ressources en eau de la région Centrale. Rapport final, 58 p.

[15] GIZ, 2022. Plan d'Action Régional (PAR) de restauration de paysage forestier de la région Centrale. Rapport final, 88 p. + Annexes

[16] See Climate Risk Profile: Togo (2021): The World Bank Group

[17] FAO, 2023. Évaluation des risques et vulnérabilités climatiques du secteur de la foresterie dans la Région Centrale. Rapport final, 134 p.

[18] <https://earthmap.org> powered by FAO's Open Foris Initiative with the support of the Government of Germany through The International Climate Initiative (IKI) from the Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

[19] <https://earthmap.org> powered by FAO's Open Foris Initiative with the support of the Government of Germany through The International Climate Initiative (IKI) from the Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

[20] ND-Gain Index scores, see <https://gain-new.crc.nd.edu/country/togo#readiness>

[21] For additional details, see UNDP project document, Annex 10, Gender Analysis and Action Plan

[22] Stafford Smith, M., Ali, S., Carr, E.R., Donaldson, J., Metternicht, G., Ratner, B.D., and Bierbaum, R. 2021. *Enabling elements of good project design: A synthesis of STAP guidance for GEF project investment*. Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environment Facility. Washington, DC.

[23] GEF8. FAO Child Project *Strengthening conservation and resilience of forest landscapes in the sub-humid mountainous zone of Togo*

[24] UNDP Togo's Accelerator Lab is expected to provide technical support and guidance to this process.

[25] For details, see below sub-section on the current landscape of investments. CHECK

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF's policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

Geographic focus within the Central Region^{[1]⁴}

As noted above, the contiguous *project area* covers 639,598 ha, or approximately 47.5% of the entire Central Region. The project area, consisting of the colored area in Figure 5 below, is defined jurisdictionally, covering a total of 15 communes distributed across, and representing portions of four prefectures, namely Tchaoudjo, Sotouboua, Tchamba, and Blitta. The area is traversed by National Road No. 1 and serves as a transition zone between the western highlands (Atakora range) and the eastern penneplain (Central Plain).

Within this project area, six *intervention zones* (IZs) have been defined. Numbered 1-6 in **Figure 6**, these areas together total 265,129 ha. Each area consists of one or more communes, with a total of 11 communes included. The six IZs, together herein termed the *intervention area*, have been selected based on a variety of factors, notably including levels and trends in land degradation, presence

of a matrix of land uses, including productive and protected areas and a variety of environmental and socio-economic conditions across the six zones.

Key characteristics of the intervention area, which vary to a degree depending on the IZ in question, include:

Population and ethnicity: Total population across the intervention area is estimated at 197,057 individuals, with a population density of approximately 74 individuals per km². These include members of the following ethnic groups: Tem, Kabye, Kotokoli, Tchamba, Agnyanga, Nawda, Lamba, Fulani-Haoussa.

Socio-economic aspects: Local economies within the intervention area are dominated by agriculture (65% of the population), trade (15.7%) and crafts (9.3%), in line with regional statistics. As is the case nationally, agriculture in the area is characterized by low technical levels (less than 25%), modern farming routes and access to credit (less than 2%). The main household food crops include peanuts, maize, sorghum, yams, cowpeas, market garden products and cassava, which is increasingly adopted as an alternative to climate change. Soybeans, cotton, sesame, and cashew nuts are among the agricultural crops produced by medium-sized farmers in the area.

Land use and degradation: **Table 2** below presents land use / cover for each of the intervention zones and for the area as a whole. As shown in the table, within the area as a whole, some 77,151 ha are forested, 93,593 ha are savannah mosaic, and 93,235 ha are covered by agroforests and crops. **Table 3**, in turn, shows levels and degrees of land degradation within each of the Intervention Zones.

Livestock rearing: A diversity of livestock species is raised according to market needs and local eating habits. This includes small ruminants (goats, sheep, etc.), and poultry (chickens, guinea fowl, etc.). Cattle production for fattening and cheese takes place in Fulani hamlets and peri-urban neighborhoods in several of the zones. In many cases, there are difficult relationships between farmers and both sedentary and transhumant cattle herders.

Protected areas and OECMs: The intervention area includes: (i) eight protected areas, namely wildlife reserves and classified forests (41,408 ha); (ii) 19 community forests (7,945 ha), and; (iii) 49 sacred forests (area TBD). Additional details regarding the PAs and their management are found in the METT analyses. [\[2\]](#).

Planning: Of the 11 communes located within the intervention area, five (Tchaoudjo 1, Sotouboua 1, Blitta 1, Tchamba 1 and Tchamba 2) have approved commune development plans (CDPs) two have CDPs under development (Tchaoudjo 3 and Sotouboua 2), three have begun the process with F4F (Tchaoudjo 2, Tchaoudjo 4 et Sotouboua 3) and only one (Blitta 2) does not currently have a CDP planning process underway.

Table 2: Land use cover / area of the six intervention zones (2025)

Intervention zone	Total area	Breakdown of area			
		Forest	Savannah mosaic	Agroforest/ Crops	Urban
1	78,379.1	38,596.5	33,560.6	5,994.0	228.0
2	17,026.1	12,307.4	3,612.8	1,104.4	1.5
3	74,800.2	13,134.6	27,399.8	34,164.9	100.9
4	20,987.3	2,243.9	6,211.4	12,181.6	350.4
5	43,909.2	8,871.5	8,994.8	25,635.3	407.6
6	30,027.4	1,997.4	13,813.1	14,155.6	61.3
TOTALS	265,129.3	77,151.3	93,592.5	93,235.8	1,149.7

Table 3: Land degradation by land cover and degree (Intervention area) *

Intervention zone	Total (ha)	Low	Medium	High	Very high
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Site 1	78 379,07	3 312,02	38 278,17	31 232,73	5 556,15
Site 2	17 026,13	4 953,01	9 904,72	1 935,79	232,61
Site 3	74 800,21	1 713,90	13 593,47	39 095,35	20 397,49
Site 4	20 987,29	40,99	2 033,32	15 812,85	3 100,13
Site 5	43 909,24	4 430,14	8 492,26	23 721,98	7 264,86
Site 6	30 027,36	715,26	4 631,68	17 956,44	6 723,98
Total (ha)	265 129,31	15 165,32	76 933,63	129 755,14	43 275,22
% of overall total	100%	5.71%	20.01%	48.94%	16.32%

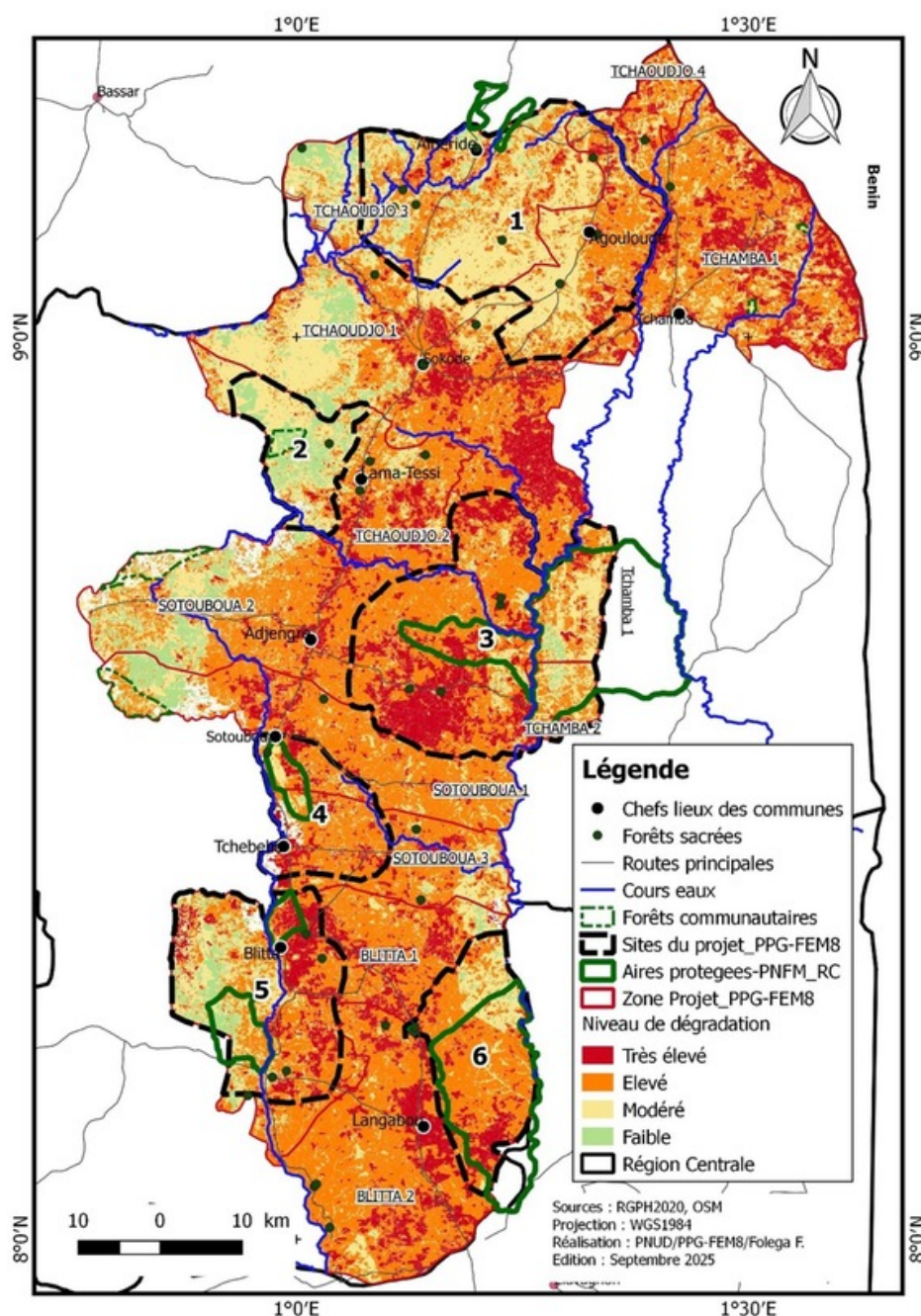


Figure 6: Levels of land degradation within intervention area and intervention zones

Detailed theory of change; what UNDP and partners will do; rationale

The project addresses all three direct drivers of environmental degradation identified in the above baseline description—namely uncontrolled agricultural expansion, unsustainable forestry and fuelwood harvesting, and overgrazing/transhumance—through integrated interventions that promote sustainable, climate-resilient land management and restoration. The project also tackles several underlying drivers, notably weak institutional capacity, land tenure insecurity, and climate change vulnerability, through governance strengthening (Component 1), participatory land-use planning, and analytical tools for climate and land assessment. As will be described below, under Component 2, degraded agricultural, forest, and rangeland areas will be rehabilitated using agroforestry, silvopastoral, and soil- and water-conservation practices. Component 3 introduces regenerative and climate-smart agricultural systems, improving productivity while reducing pressure on natural ecosystems. Together, these measures enhance ecological integrity, economic resilience, and social stability, helping to mitigate the indirect effects of population growth and

resource-based conflicts. As seen in Figure 7 below, the project's theory of change is structured around four interlinked pathways that address the primary drivers of land degradation, biodiversity loss, and climate vulnerability in Togo's Central Region. Each pathway responds to a distinct but complementary barrier that limits sustainable landscape management, restoration, resilient production, and knowledge diffusion. Together, these barriers reflect systemic weaknesses in governance, technical capacity, investment readiness, and information flow. By overcoming these constraints through targeted interventions under Components 1–4, the project will enable a transition from fragmented, sectoral, and short-term actions toward integrated, adaptive, and inclusive management of land, water, and biological resources, generating durable ecological, social, and economic benefits across the landscape.

Table 4: Pathways, barriers and enablers

Pathway for Change (Project Component)	Corresponding Barrier	Key Enablers
Pathway 1 – Strengthened governance and planning for integrated, gender-responsive landscape management	Limited institutional capacity for integrated, gender-responsive landscape planning and governance. Development remains sectoral and uncoordinated, with weak data systems and limited inclusion of women and vulnerable groups.	Existence of national and regional frameworks such as the Politique Forestière Nationale, the Regional Adaptation Plan (Plan Régional d'Adaptation), and ongoing FAO-supported planning tools (e.g., CIPA). Functioning though underutilized regional platforms (CROP, CORA, CPDD) provide institutional entry points.
Pathway 2 – Restoration and sustainable management of degraded forest, agricultural, and rangeland landscapes	Limited technical and operational capacity for large-scale restoration. Local restoration efforts remain fragmented, short-term, and poorly coordinated due to limited expertise and institutional support.	Recent experience from national reforestation and FLR programs (e.g., SPANB, PND, PNR), community forest initiatives, and NGO-led restoration pilots. Existing though under-resourced decentralized technical services and nurseries offer a base for scaling.
Pathway 3 – Climate-resilient and inclusive production systems and value chains	Limited adoption and investment capacity for climate-resilient and sustainable production systems, due to knowledge, financial, and technical constraints.	Ongoing Farmer Field Schools (FAO), local cooperative structures (OPFA, CVD, CCD), and MSME initiatives under the Politique Agricole and Plan National d'Investissement Agricole et de Sécurité Alimentaire (PNIASA). Networks of women's and youth associations provide potential channels for scaling.
Pathway 4 – Knowledge management, communication, and diffusion of innovation for landscape resilience	Weak systems for knowledge management, communication, and diffusion of innovation. Lessons remain localized, and information flow is limited.	Availability of national information platforms (e.g., MERFPCCC environmental observatory, SEPAL/FAO data tools), and local media and community radio networks. Previous communication efforts under GEF and FAO projects provide templates for outreach and horizontal learning.

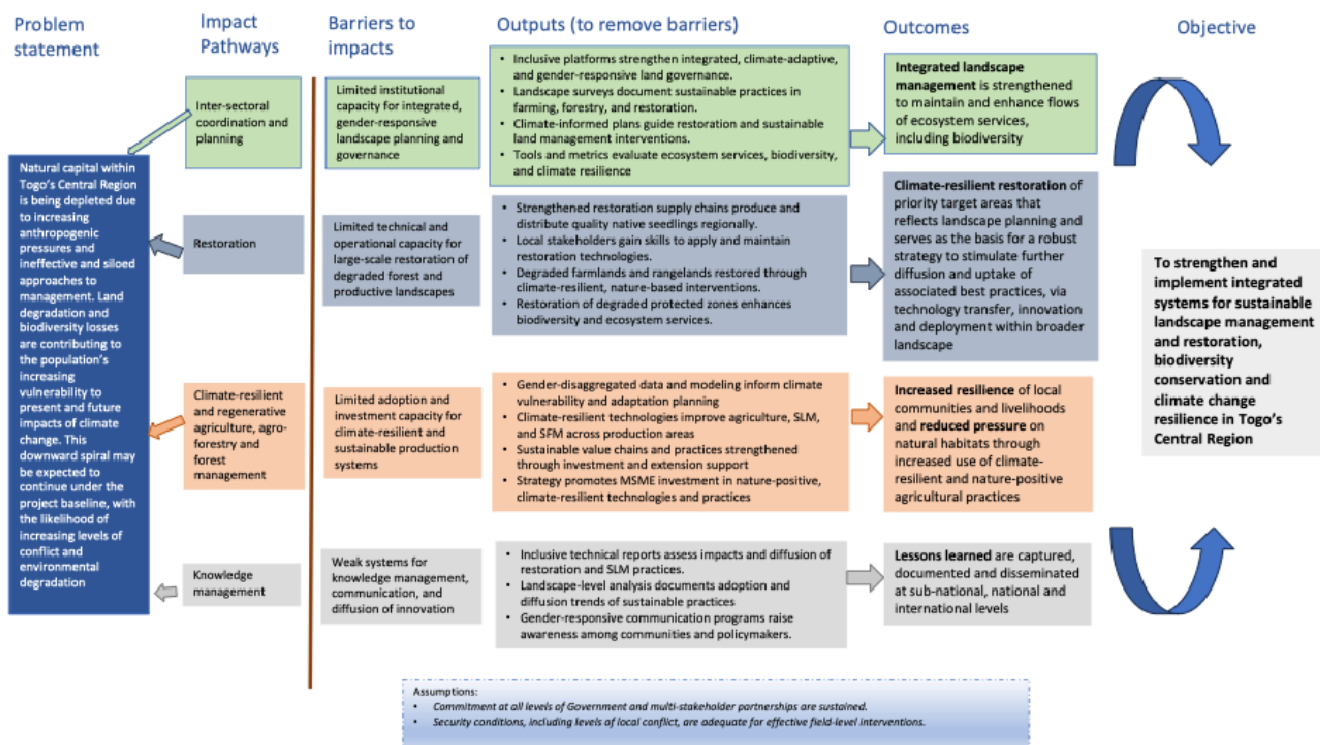


Figure 7: Theory of change

The project's theory of change (see **Figure 6**) identifies four impact pathways through which the baseline situation will be transformed. **Table 7** summarizes this pathway / barrier / enabler nexus. Each pathway faces a barrier while also benefitting from one or more baseline enablers. By effectively utilizing these enablers, while contributing strategic incremental support aimed at removing barriers, the project will deliver a set of outputs, leading to one of four project outcomes. Together, these outcomes will deliver the project objective, namely:

Expected Results:

The project's theory of change (see **Figure 7**) identifies four impact pathways through which the baseline situation can be transformed. Each pathway faces a barrier, which the project aims to remove through a set of outputs, leading to one of four project outcomes. Together, these outcomes will deliver the project objective, namely:

Project Objective: To strengthen and implement integrated systems for sustainable landscape management and restoration, biodiversity conservation and climate change resilience in Togo's Central Region

The impact pathways and associated outcomes and outputs are described below. A full set of **indicative project activities** is presented as part of the multi-year workplan in **Annex 4 of the UNDP project document**.

Impact Pathway 1: Inter-sectoral coordination and planning

Component 1: Multi-sectoral enabling framework for Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) and planning, integrating climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives.

Outcome 1: Integrated landscape management is strengthened to maintain and enhance climate resilience and flows of ecosystem services, including biodiversity.

The project's **first impact pathway** involves **inter-sectoral planning and coordination at landscape level**, also known as integrated landscape management (ILM). An important barrier under the project baseline consists of the limited capacities for ILM. As such,

siloed, sectoral approaches to development challenges often create problems in other domains, e.g., agricultural development plans leading to land clearance. Bringing together stakeholders through a multi-stakeholder platform provides an opportunity to generate integrated solutions which can take full account of natural resource related constraints and opportunities. In particular, the platform will help to coordinate inputs to, and validation / adoption of, ten-year action plans for restoration and regenerative agriculture, implementation of which will be supported under components 2 and 3, respectively.

Planning and coordination through a regional-level platform will offer a variety of benefits and opportunities in the case of Togo's Central Region. It will facilitate broad stakeholder participation and consensus on the development of landscape-level plans for restoration and agroecological intensification. In doing so, it will consider current and expected climate impacts on these landscapes, while accounting for adaptation needs. Consensus will be particularly important in a context where conflict, e.g., among ethnic groups and sectors (crop agriculture vs. livestock) have proven problematic and even dangerous in the past.^[1]

Multi-sectoral platforms will also enable sharing of data and information across sectoral lines, which will feed into the above plans. This will include information sharing regarding the baseline investment landscape and financing needs. Assembled data can then be used to underpin broader, landscape-level assessments in areas like LDN and measurement of adaptation impacts.^[2] Finally, a platform will offer an excellent opportunity for supporting the diffusion of climate-resilient, nature-positive practices under the project's thematic areas of restoration and agro-ecological intensification, and their relative contributions to climate change adaptation. Here, the platform will link closely with knowledge management efforts under the fourth pathway (see below).

The strengthening and enhancement of policy and legal frameworks, to be done as part of this component, will consider alignment with UNDP's policies and standards and will identify potential compliance gaps. Additionally, the planning processes for policy-level interventions will incorporate Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) methodologies to ensure that policy reforms have the broad support of all affected stakeholders, reflect their inputs, address key social and environmental issues and any potential adverse impacts, and capitalize on opportunities to strengthen sustainability.

As part of this component, technical support and capacity on safeguards implementation will also be provided to the PMU and project implementing partners.

Like all project components, implementation of Component 1 will be guided by the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework, Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Gender Action Plan, and project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism. Safeguard measures will ensure inclusive participation in multi-stakeholder platforms, mitigate risks of elite capture and gender-based exclusion, and apply conflict-sensitive approaches when facilitating dialogue among agricultural, pastoral, and forestry interests. These instruments will also guide meaningful consultation during policy and land-use planning processes, ensuring transparency in decision-making, and integration of social and environmental risk screening so that adaptation-focused ILM outcomes reflect community priorities and minimize unintended adverse impacts. As part of the safeguards measures to be developed during implementation, a scoped Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) will be conducted for Output 1.3 focusing on the assessment of potential impacts (notably exacerbation of conflicts amongst stakeholder groups and economic displacement as a result on restrictions in the access/use of natural resources) linked to the implementation of the commune-level support implementation plans and the site management plans. the commune-level support implementation plans, and the site management plans.

Planned outputs through which Outcome 1 will be achieved are described below.

Output 1.1: Strengthened multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder, and gender-responsive integrated land management (ILM) and planning, with climate risks and adaptation needs integrated, through (i) enhanced gender-responsive and inclusive landscape-level multi-stakeholder platforms for data sharing, planning, capacity and consensus building, and knowledge dissemination, and (ii) strengthened policy and legal frameworks

Multi-stakeholder platforms and committees at the Central Region (1) and Prefectural (4) levels will be established and operationalized to strengthen integrated, gender-responsive, and climate-adaptive landscape management, planning, and biodiversity conservation. These platforms will bring together civil society organizations, decentralized state services, women, youth, and children, ensuring broad and inclusive participation in decision-making. They will also coordinate closely with existing regional and local mechanisms, including the Regional Orientation and Steering Committee (CROP), the Regional Approval Committee (CORA), local transhumance management committees, Prefectural Sustainable Development Committees (CPDD), and consultation frameworks supported under GEF-8 ID 11392, to build on ongoing initiatives and avoid duplication of efforts.

Each platform will formalize its structure through membership confirmation, leadership selection, mission statements, terms of reference, rules of procedure, and workplans. Capacity-building activities will equip local officials, CSOs, and decentralized services to actively contribute to policy formulation, regulatory oversight, and planning processes.

Platforms will guide the review, alignment, and implementation oversight of key national and regional policies, programs, and investment plans—including SPANB, the Regional Adaptation Plan, Forest Policy, MEOR Central Region Strategy, protected area management plans, and Agricultural Policy—ensuring coherence with climate change adaptation, ecosystem restoration, and

conservation objectives. Emphasis will be placed on enabling meaningful participation of marginalized groups and women, including access to financial and technical resources, in line with the project's SESP. By institutionalizing inclusive platforms, the project will strengthen governance, facilitate iterative learning, and enhance equitable, climate-resilient interventions across the landscapes.

Output 1.2: Detailed landscape-level surveys of good / best practices and associated capacities in agriculture, agro-forestry, forestry and land restoration

A detailed baseline and database of key practices, capacities, and socio-economic conditions will be established for each of the six project intervention zones, building on initial surveys conducted during the PPG. The baseline will document agricultural, agroforestry, forestry, and land restoration practices, including inputs, outputs, productivity, ecological impacts, and technology adoption patterns, and will include livelihood and socio-economic assessments such as household income sources, market linkages, labor contributions, and access to resources. Practices will be assessed in terms of their potential contribution to climate resilience, ecosystem restoration, and nature-positive outcomes, as well as their inclusiveness from a gender and marginalized groups perspective. This analytical work will serve as a foundational source for designing targeted interventions under Components 3 and 4, including climate-resilient production, value chain development, and MSME investment strategies, and will provide the data necessary to track change, measure impact, and inform adaptive management.

Output 1.3: Detailed and operational implementation plans for land and forest restoration, SLM, and regenerative agriculture, informed by climate change projections, to strengthen sustainability and climate resilience of the project landscapes

Output 1.3 will develop detailed operational implementation plans to guide land and forest restoration, sustainable land management (SLM), and regenerative agriculture at multiple levels across the six intervention zones. At regional level, incremental support to the preparation of the Central Region's Regional Development Plan, with a focus on SLM, restoration of degraded forests, and climate adaptation priorities. At commune level, detailed implementation plans will be prepared, specifying locations, modalities, responsibilities, and synergies with local development plans in order to guide actions taking place under Components 2 and 3. At site level, management plans will be developed for Kéméni Protected Area and for ten selected community forests. Finally, a Sacred Forest network planning manual will be prepared for each of the ten communes, providing guidance for the management, restoration, and sustainable use of sacred and community forests. Together, these measures will operationalize climate-informed restoration strategies, strengthen landscape resilience, and support coordinated and sustainable management of forest, agroforestry, and agricultural systems across the project area.

Output 1.4: Enhanced analytical tools and metrics for measuring impacts on ecosystem services (including BD, land degradation, adaptation and resilience), including climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives, as well as livelihood/ economic benefits.

Output 1.4 will develop and implement enhanced analytical tools and metrics to measure impacts on ecosystem services, including biodiversity, land degradation, adaptation, and resilience, as well as climate projections, hydroflow modeling, crop performance, restoration objectives, and livelihood and economic benefits. The project will provide training to regional managers on tools for monitoring restoration efforts and carbon sequestration (Ex-Ante and Recsoil) and for rapid assessment of protected area management effectiveness (METT) in the AFOLU sector. The FERM platform of the United Nations Decade on Restoration will be promoted to support knowledge sharing, while an FLR database window for Togo will be established using SEPAL, Ground, and ABC (FAO) tools. Control and monitoring sites will be identified to track biodiversity, restoration progress, and carbon sequestration potential, and these dynamics will be regularly monitored and demonstrated using the Ex-Ante, Recsoil, and METT tools. Tools developed under this output will be utilized under Components 2 and 3 to inform the design, targeting, and adaptive management of restoration interventions, supply chain development, climate-resilient agricultural and agroforestry practices, and value chain and MSME investments.

Impact Pathway 2: Restoration

Component 2: Ecosystem restoration in degraded natural landscapes and protected landscapes

Outcome 2: Climate-resilient restoration of priority target areas that reflects landscape planning and serves as the basis for a robust strategy to stimulate further diffusion and uptake of associated best practices, via technology transfer, innovation and deployment within broader landscape.

The project's second impact pathway will involve the cost-effective, climate-resilient and nature-positive restoration of natural and agro-ecosystems in priority areas of the Central Region. Target areas will include portions of both the protected and production landscape: Agro-ecosystem restoration will take place entirely within the latter, while restoration of natural ecosystems will be primarily within the protected portions of the region. Restoration will complement efforts to avoid and reduce land degradation under the third impact pathway, jointly contributing to moving the region towards Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN).

Restoration efforts within protected areas will aim to ensure the long-term survival of globally and nationally significant biodiversity and maintain the flow of ecosystem services by targeting various challenges such as limited availability of seedlings, financial constraints, and knowledge gaps, while also incorporating traditional knowledge. The project will prioritize threatened native species and aim to support the maintenance and enhancement of ecosystem services, such as soil fertility and pollination. By embedding biodiversity-centered restoration within a broader landscape-level strategy that integrates conservation, restoration, and sustainable land use, including agriculture, the project aims to enhance resilience and durability of impacts. This approach will not only raise awareness of the importance of protected areas but also engage local communities in supporting conservation efforts by highlighting the benefits of improved ecosystem services. Key institutional partners likely to be involved include managers of respective protected areas, conservation organizations, and government agencies responsible for environmental management and policy implementation.

Restoration efforts within the production landscape will encompass aiding the recovery of areas that have been degraded, damaged, destroyed, or modified. Again, the project will target barriers, including those related to seedling availability, financing, knowledge gaps, and management, while integrating traditional knowledge systems within solutions. Agro-ecosystem restoration initiatives will encompass a range of activities tailored to local socio-economic contexts, including assisted natural regeneration of woodlands, community woodlot planting, shelterbelt establishment, agro-forestry and agro-silvo-pastoral models, as well as practices designed to enhance soil and water conservation, erosion control, and groundwater recharge. Anticipated impacts will include increased forest and vegetation cover, enhanced provisioning of agro-ecosystem services such as food and fuel for livelihoods, regulation of environmental factors such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and erosion, and supporting biodiversity by restoring and connecting habitats. The restoration and management of both restored and existing forest areas will be embedded within comprehensive land-use planning and protective measures. Community-based approaches will primarily drive restoration and sustainable forest management interventions, incorporating strategies to promote the rapid adoption of nature-positive and climate-resilient practices within and across communities.

Implementation of Component 2 will apply the project's Environmental and Social Management Plan (to be developed for the six intervention zones based on the results of the scoped ESIA), site-level screenings, and the Gender Action Plan and Stakeholder Action Plan to ensure that restoration activities are environmentally sound, socially inclusive, and conflict-sensitive. Safeguards screening will be conducted for all restoration sites to prevent adverse impacts such as restricted resource access, land-use disputes, or unintended pressures on vulnerable groups. Measures will address risks related to labor conditions, wildfire management, and the use of non-native species, while ensuring Free, Prior and Informed Consent where customary rights are involved. Community engagement processes, biodiversity-sensitive restoration protocols, and grievance redress mechanisms will guide implementation, helping ensure that climate-resilient restoration strengthens ecosystem services without exacerbating social tensions or environmental risks.

Finally, the open-source Terraso Platform will be explored for potential use across project components to facilitate participatory landscape mapping, and the sharing of information necessary for localized, science-driven, climate-smart decision-making. Utilizing its current capabilities, including access to the open-source KoboToolBox and the creation of maps to visualize shared data (i.e., 'storymaps'), Terraso will serve as a central hub for documenting restoration actions mapped across the project's six intervention zones.

Planned outputs through which Outcome 2 will be achieved are described below.

Output 2.1: Strengthened local and regional supply chain(s) support climate-resilient ecosystem restoration, including native tree seedling production and distribution, and associated capacities, with a strategy for further diffusion linked to strengthened value chains and sustainable practices (Output 3.3) and overall uptake of best practices (Output 4.2)

The project will focus on strengthening local and regional supply chains to support the production and delivery of high-quality native and agroforestry seedlings needed to restore approximately 50,000 hectares of degraded land within the project area. Activities will target key bottlenecks in the existing system—such as limited nursery capacity, inadequate logistics, and inconsistent quality control—through training, provision of essential equipment, and improved coordination among public, private, and community-based producers. A limited number of strategically located nurseries and seed supply hubs will be supported to ensure reliable delivery of diverse, climate-resilient planting materials for restoration and agroforestry activities under Components 2 and 3. A practical diffusion and sustainability strategy will also be developed to promote replication beyond the project's timeframe, linking the strengthened seedling supply chains to productive and restoration-related value chains (Output 3.3) and broader uptake strategies under Output 4.2.

Output 2.2: Enhanced capacities among key local stakeholders for adoption / deployment of restoration technologies through participatory learning and extension

Restoration Field Schools (RFS) are envisioned as participatory, hands-on learning platforms modeled on the successful Farmer Field School (FFS) approach used in agriculture but adapted specifically for ecosystem and landscape restoration. Just as FFS allow farmers

to experiment with and observe agricultural practices directly in the field, RFS will enable local stakeholders—including community members, cooperatives, extension agents, and municipal officers, nurserymen and women, members of OPFA, CVD, AVGAP, and community veterinary agents (CVAs)—to learn and apply restoration techniques in real-world project sites.

Five to six RFS locations will be established across the project landscapes, with up to 25 participants per school, including representatives from other Intervention Zones facing similar restoration challenges. Participants will engage in structured, season-long learning cycles, experimenting with methods of enrichment planting, Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR), riverbank stabilization, soil and water conservation, grafting, layering and fertility enhancement techniques, while monitoring and documenting outcomes. This experiential approach will foster a deep understanding of ecological processes, such as species selection, soil fertility enhancement, and hydrological function.

RFS will also incorporate modules on climate-smart practices, biodiversity conservation, integrated production systems, management of woody and non-wood species, and sustainable livelihoods, while emphasizing inclusive participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups. By blending demonstration plots with collaborative problem-solving, RFS will promote peer-to-peer knowledge exchange and community ownership of restoration activities. Each school will be closely linked to work under Outputs 2.2 and 2.3, enabling participants to replicate successful methods in surrounding areas, strengthen local capacities, and contribute directly to landscape-scale restoration. Ultimately, RFS will provide a dynamic mechanism to build practical skills, reinforce ecological literacy, and enhance adoption of restoration technologies across the project intervention zone and beyond.

Output 2.3: Selected priority degraded agricultural, forest and rangeland areas within the productive landscape undergoing climate risk informed and resilient restoration

Output 2.3 will restore and enhance selected priority degraded agricultural, forest, and rangeland areas within the productive landscape using climate risk-informed and nature-positive interventions. Across the six implementation zones, the project will implement agroforestry and silvopastoral systems, including hedgerows, bocage, and windbreaks, integrating tree–crop–livestock combinations with locally adapted species to restore ecological function, improve soil fertility, and enhance productivity. Orchards and productive tree–crop associations will be established in areas of low vegetation cover, linking resilient annual or perennial crops to increase biodiversity and rehabilitate degraded soils. Soil and water conservation measures, such as dikes, vetiver or grass strips, micro-catchments, and associated landscape structures will be implemented in agricultural lowlands and downstream of dams to reduce erosion, improve moisture retention, and mitigate land degradation. In degraded rangelands, managed pasture and transhumance systems will be established, including model grazing corridors, fodder shrubs, and rotational grazing schemes to enhance productivity, reduce social conflicts, and strengthen ecosystem resilience. Finally, the project will restore and integrate Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs) and multifunctional landscape elements, including sacred groves, community forests, and scattered trees outside forests, to improve habitat connectivity, provide buffer zones for protected areas, and enhance NTFP productivity. Together, these interventions will rehabilitate 4,500 ha of degraded productive landscapes, contributing to climate-resilient, multifunctional, and nature-positive land management.

Output 2.4: Priority degraded zones within protected areas under restoration for biodiversity and enhanced ecosystem services

As outlined in the project baseline description, there are eight protected areas located wholly or partially within the project intervention zones. These are: Alédjo Wildlife Reserve, Kéméni Reserve, Aou-Mono classified forest, Abdoulaye forest reserve, Sotouboua classified forest, Mont Balam Classified Forest, Tchorogo Classified Forest and Kpéssi Wildlife Reserve. The project area also supports some 49 sacred forests, many of which may be considered as OECMs, typically representing strictly protected areas of community forests.

In line with specific priorities and locations developed under previous planning efforts^[3], and further specified through operational plans to be developed under the present project (see Output 1.3 above), the project will implement restoration interventions across degraded zones within protected areas and sacred forests in the six Intervention Zones. Activities will include restoration campaigns and enrichment planting with threatened native and local species such as Khaya, fracké, ebony, Anogeissus, and Vitex, complemented by assisted natural regeneration (ANR) to facilitate natural recovery of woody species. Riverbanks, mountain slopes, and artisanal mining sites will be rehabilitated using bamboo, fromager, Gmelina, Senna, and vetiver to reinforce hydrological resilience, reduce erosion, and restore ecosystem functions. Green belts and enrichment of sacred and community forests will provide buffer protection, while wildlife watering points, fire prevention measures, and slope stabilization activities will enhance biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, and climate resilience across the intervention zones, while helping to reduce human-wildlife conflict.

Impact Pathway 3: Climate-resilient and regenerative agriculture, agro-forestry and forest management

Component 3: *Adoption of climate-resilient agro-ecological intensification, diversification and other regenerative practices in agriculture, agro-forestry and forest management*

Outcome 3: Increased resilience of local communities and livelihoods and reduced pressure on natural habitats through increased use of climate-resilient and nature-positive agricultural practices

The project's **third impact pathway** will be through the **adoption of climate-resilient agroecological intensification, diversification and other regenerative practices in agriculture, agro-forestry and forest management** within appropriate areas of the landscape. As highlighted in the GEF-8 Programming Directions, such practices "...rely on natural ecological processes to enhance yields and reduced agrochemical inputs for the benefit of the environment." Positive impacts include increasing species diversity in agricultural farms, improved soil quality and increased crop yields, and improved habitat connectivity and flow of ecosystem services. Such impacts will, *inter alia*, make a critical contribution towards enabling local communities' adaptation to, and resilience in the face of, climate change.

In order to deliver positive impacts along this pathway, the project will focus on addressing the currently limited capacities of local communities, extension services and MSMEs to adopt and invest in climate-resilient, resilient and reduced impact—on both land and biodiversity—agricultural, agro-forestry and forest management practices. These include specific practices related to sustainable and climate-smart agriculture, innovations for value chains and the bio-economy and circular economy (honey, shea, néré, cashew nuts, etc.), crop association, composting and manure/organic fertilizer, improved fallow lands and integrated soil fertility management (ISFM).

A range of activities, including: (i) agro-ecological methods and approaches including conservation agriculture and agroforestry; (ii) improving rangeland management and sustainable pastoralism, regulating livestock grazing pressure through sustainable intensification and rotational grazing systems, increasing diversity of animal and grass species, and managing fire disturbance; (iii) strengthening community-based natural resource management, including legitimate tenure rights recognition and safeguards; (iv) integrated watershed management, including wetlands where SLM interventions can improve hydrological functions and services for agro-ecosystem productivity. These activities are expected to be distributed across the Central Region identified in the project rationale above, including within Planned Agricultural Development Zones, a.k.a. ZAAPs.

In order to enable adoption of the above practices and to ensure their long-term resilience in light of climate change, the project will deliver several supporting outputs. The first of these will consist of enhanced modeling of climate change impacts, vulnerabilities and adaptation strategies associated with the above action areas. Next, priority value chains will be strengthened, supporting improved livelihoods and economic empowerment by communities. Finally, a plan will be developed, and its implementation initiated, to support development and growth of medium, small and micro-enterprises (MSMEs) through the value chains strengthened by the project.

Like all of the project components, implementation of Component 3 will apply the project's Environmental and Social Management Plan (to be developed for the six intervention zones based on the results of the scoped ESIA), site-specific screenings, Gender Action Plan, and Stakeholder Engagement Plan to ensure that agroecological intensification and value chain strengthening are socially inclusive, environmentally sound, and climate-resilient. Key risks—such as inequitable access to new technologies, increased pressure on land or water resources, labor and safety concerns within MSMEs, or conflict linked to rangeland and grazing management—will be mitigated through participatory planning, FPIC where customary rights are affected, and safeguards screening for all pilot and value chain investments. Climate-smart agriculture protocols, integrated pest management, wildfire-risk reduction, and biodiversity-sensitive agroforestry guidelines will steer interventions, while grievance mechanisms and gender-responsive training ensure that benefits reach women, youth, and vulnerable groups without creating unintended burdens or exclusions.

Planned outputs through which Outcome 3 will be achieved are described below.

Output 3.1: Enhanced, sex-disaggregated data and modeling of projected climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation needs in the target project area in Togo's Central Region, integrating enhanced analytical tools and metrics, including climate projections and impact modelling (ref. Output 1.4)

Output 3.1 will enhance gender-disaggregated data collection, climate modeling, and vulnerability assessment to support climate-resilient restoration and sustainable production systems in the Central Region. Building on tools and metrics developed under Output 1.4—including Ex-Ante, Recsoil, METT, FERM, SEPAL, Ground, and ABC—monitoring, control, and early warning sites will be established to track biodiversity, carbon stocks, ecosystem services, and climate hazards such as droughts, floods, and wildfires. Climate projections and impact models will be applied to assess hydrological dynamics, crop and forest performance, and ecosystem resilience under multiple scenarios, feeding into a multi-risk early warning system to inform adaptive management. National and local-level stakeholders, extension agents, and technical staff will be trained in the use of these tools, including interpretation and operational application of early warning information, to guide decision-making for restoration and productive landscapes. Findings will be integrated into adaptation planning and practical guidance for climate-smart restoration, agricultural, and natural resource management interventions, ensuring outputs directly inform subsequent activities under Outputs 3.2–3.4. Pilot applications and field demonstrations of monitoring, modeling, and early warning tools will validate approaches, build local capacity, and promote

scaling of best practices, thereby strengthening the ability of communities and technical partners to anticipate climate risks and implement resilient, nature-positive interventions.

Output 3.2: Improved climate risk informed and resilient agriculture, SLM and SFM practices, approaches and technologies in place in existing production areas and in unused agricultural lands, supported by strengthened extension and community/stakeholder capacities

Output 3.2 will deploy innovative climate risk-informed technologies, practices, and approaches to enhance resilience and sustainability across agricultural, agroforestry, and forested landscapes in Togo's Central Region. Ten Farmer Field School (FFS) plots, one per commune, will serve as demonstration and pilot sites where stakeholders can validate field applicability and observe adoption of best practices prior to scaling up across a target 50,000 ha. Subsequent activities, will include introducing alternating cropping patterns, crop associations, and drought- or flood-tolerant varieties adapted to local agro-ecological and hydraulic conditions; applying organic inputs such as compost, manure, cover crops, and green manures to maintain and enhance soil fertility; and deploying conservation agriculture techniques including minimum tillage, mulching, residue retention, and contour farming to protect soils, improve moisture retention, and reduce erosion. Agroforestry systems—including intercropping, alley cropping, live fences, and enrichment planting—will be established to enhance biodiversity, shade, and microclimates. Multi-use water control structures will support crops, livestock, and market gardening under variable climate conditions, while rangeland and transhumance corridors will be materialized with fodder shrubs, rotational grazing, and soil stabilization measures. Together, these interventions provide a comprehensive package of technologies, practices, and approaches to strengthen climate-resilient landscapes and production systems.

Output 3.3: Selected climate-resilient and sustainable agricultural, agroforestry and forestry value chains strengthened through investments and delivery of extension support.

Output 3.3 will strengthen selected climate-resilient and sustainable agricultural, agroforestry, and forestry value chains in Togo's Central Region through targeted investments and extension support. Activities will focus on enhancing the operational and logistical efficiency of seedling and nursery supply chains to ensure that forest, agroforestry, and agricultural seedlings produced under Output 3.2 reach both commercial farmers and restoration sites.

The project will support the creation or upgrading of 20 processing units for key products, including roasted cashew nuts, shea butter, nere mustard, honey, and other NTFPs, to enable value addition and improve market-ready products. Linkages between producers, cooperatives, SMEs, and buyers will be facilitated across multiple value chains, including support for pricing, storage, packaging, and distribution. Emerging opportunities for NTFPs, agroforestry products, and other climate-smart commodities will be supported to enhance rural incomes and resilience, while ensuring ecological benefits are realized in protected areas, community forests, and agroforestry landscapes. Targeted technical assistance, advisory services, and demonstration of best practices along the value chains will improve efficiency, profitability, and sustainability, while enabling small and medium enterprises to scale operations and maintain nature-positive production practices.

Output 3.4: Strategy developed and implemented to increase investment in adoption of nature-positive and climate-resilient technologies and practices, including by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) (also supporting Component 2)

Systematically drawing economic and financial lessons from field-level work under Output 3.2 and value chain strengthening under Output 3.3, this output will develop and implement a comprehensive investment strategy for climate-resilient and nature-positive technologies and practices in Togo's Central Region. Lessons learned will guide the scale up of these practices, including through the provision of financial incentives—such as grants, microfinance, and other innovative solutions to be developed—to MSMEs producing key products including roasted cashew nuts, shea butter, nere mustard, cashew honey, and baobab, enabling scaling and adoption of sustainable practices. Operational and business capacities of MSMEs will be strengthened through guidance on business planning, financing, management, and organizational development, while partnerships with cooperatives, research institutions, and technical service providers will enhance access to knowledge, innovation, and investment opportunities. Investor engagement and market visibility will be promoted through forums, fairs, and promotional events showcasing MSMEs and their products. Strategic support will facilitate diversification across climate-smart and nature-positive products, improving rural incomes and resilience while maintaining ecological benefits, without directly engaging in field-level production. The output will be implemented in partnership with local financial institutions (e.g., Fonds National de la Finance Inclusive (FNFI), microfinance networks), SME support agencies, cooperatives, and research institutions such as Institut Togolais de Recherche Agronomique (ITRA) and Institut de Conseil et d'Appui Technique (ICAT). Collaboration with chambers of commerce, private investors, and value-chain platforms will further strengthen financing, advisory services, and market linkages for MSMEs.

Impact Pathway 4. Knowledge management

Under the project's **fourth impact pathway**, the project will aim to develop new lessons learned and knowledge while working to ensure the uptake of the project's findings, together with pre-existing innovations which have not yet adequately been incorporated

in the form of enhanced practices for restoration and regenerative agro-ecology in the region. The knowledge management component plays a pivotal role in achieving this objective by serving as a conduit for disseminating insights and promoting the adoption of sustainable practices that promote resilience. Through various activities, the project will generate technical reports and conduct landscape-level assessments to provide valuable information on the impacts and diffusion patterns of climate-resilient, nature-positive restoration, and regenerative agriculture practices. These reports will offer insights into the effectiveness of different approaches and help identify trends in their adoption, including the roles of ethnic communities, women and of other vulnerable communities.

In addition, communication and awareness-raising efforts will take place at both sub-national and national levels, targeting local communities and policymakers. By engaging stakeholders and fostering understanding, these activities will aim to garner support for sustainable practices and facilitate their integration into policy frameworks.

Ultimately, the goal of the knowledge management component will be to empower stakeholders with the information and tools needed to embrace sustainable land management and restoration practices. By promoting awareness, fostering collaboration, and facilitating the uptake of innovative approaches, the project will contribute to building resilience and promoting sustainability in Togo's landscapes and agricultural systems.

Planned outputs through which Outcome 4 will be achieved are described below.

Output 4.1: Gender-responsive and inclusive thematic technical reports on impacts of individual restoration and SLM / intensification practices and technologies promoted by the project, including their diffusion

The project's experience and lessons learned through support to promising restoration and regenerative agro-ecological practices will be carefully tracked and analyzed. This will include analysis of technical aspects related to yields, impacts on soil quality, etc, as well as socio-economic factors associated with adoption and diffusion.

Output 4.2: Landscape-level report on practices and diffusion / uptake patterns and trends

The project will assess and document the diffusion of innovative climate-resilient, agroforestry, and restoration technologies within the six intervention zones to inform adaptive management and scaling strategies. Surveys and structured interviews with farmers, cooperatives, and extension agents will capture adoption rates, awareness, and use of specific practices, with disaggregation by gender, age, and socio-economic status to ensure equitable uptake. Spatial and temporal patterns of adoption will be mapped using GIS and participatory methods, linking adoption trends to environmental, social, and economic factors. Case studies and lessons learned will be compiled to highlight successful pathways, barriers to adoption, and enabling factors, including peer-to-peer knowledge transfer, Restoration Field School contributions, and linkages to value chains and MSME interventions.

Output 4.3: Gender-responsive and inclusive communication and awareness raising at sub-national, national levels, with dual emphasis on communicating to local communities and national policy makers

Even strong technical arguments in favor of sustaining and adapting project efforts, based *inter alia* on the report developed under Output 4.2, will require additional efforts in order to ensure sustainability. These will include a national-level effort to communicate and raise awareness about key project findings, priority practices and associated benefits. Lessons learned will be gathered and shared, within the Central Region and nationally. High-level efforts to reach policy makers will be complemented by consolidating efforts to identify and encourage innovators and early adopters within the landscape.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Outcome: *M&E and adaptive management, with an enhanced focus on gender inclusivity.*

Monitoring and gender-sensitive evaluation in place, ensuring transparency, effectiveness, and equitable consideration in project activities.

Finally, the project includes a dedicated Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system designed to track the progress of individual deliverables and comprehensively measure the collective impact of project outputs and outcomes. The M&E system will ensure continuous monitoring of project risks and compliance with social and environmental safeguards. Specifically, the M&E plan tracks the full implementation of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), with progress reported in annual GEF Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs). As part of its M&E efforts, the project will include two independent evaluations: an Independent Mid-term Review (MTR) and an Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE), to assess overall project quality and progress towards the overall objective, in the case of the MTR, to inform adaptive management strategies.

Gender

Not having decision-making power over forest resources, women find themselves at a disadvantage because they are excluded from discussions on the sustainable exploitation and protection of natural resources. However, Togo has increasingly taken a series of legal, economic and political measures to improve the situation of women. In terms of women's access to land, progress is being made thanks to the awareness-raising work of development organizations and NGOs. Women are beginning to inherit land in several communities even if in terms of plot area, they still receive less than men. In the forestry sector, a place is increasingly given to gender in biodiversity conservation actions due to women's dependence on forests for their income and subsistence. These tentative efforts need to be sustained and replicated.

In addition, a January 2024 stakeholder consultation mission to the region identified, and in some cases met with, several women's organizations and their representatives and members. These included organizations involved in provision of social services and credit.

Finally, in preparing UNDP's Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP), a risk has been identified that the project could "inadvertently reproduce discriminations based on gender, with resulting adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls." As a result, and in line with GEF policy in this area, project design will pay particular attention to existing discriminations against women (e.g., based on their level of education compared to men), and establish mechanisms to reduce the risk that these discriminations are inadvertently reproduced in project implementation.

During the project design phase, a full gender analysis and gender-segregated assessment was undertaken to understand the current role of women in ecosystems and natural resources use and management in the project area and to identify potential barriers/challenges for women's participation in the project activities. This analysis has supported the mainstreaming of gender considerations into the design of project activities and the project's strategic results framework. The results of this gender analysis are presented in the **Gender Analysis and Action Plan (GAAP)**, which is included as Annex 10 of the UNDP Project Document.

The gender analysis highlights deep, structural inequalities affecting women in Togo's Central Region, particularly in relation to land, natural resources, livelihoods, and decision-making. Although women contribute substantially to agriculture, forest-based livelihoods, and value chains (notably yam, soybean, shea, and néré), they face systematic disadvantages in access to land, inputs, credit, technologies, and markets. Customary land tenure and inheritance systems overwhelmingly favor men, discouraging women from investing in long-term, climate-resilient practices such as agroforestry or soil conservation.

Climate change acts as a threat multiplier, disproportionately increasing women's workloads and vulnerability through water scarcity, fuelwood depletion, declining agricultural productivity, and heightened exposure to health risks and gender-based violence. Women currently spend 1–3 hours per day collecting water and firewood, a burden exacerbated by droughts and ecosystem degradation. Despite their in-depth knowledge of non-timber forest products and local ecosystems, women remain largely excluded from forest governance and local decision-making bodies, where men dominate traditional and municipal institutions.

The analysis highlights that gender inequality is reinforced by rigid social norms, low literacy, limited mobility, and weak representation of women in governance. However, it also identifies enabling factors, including national gender policies, active women's associations, experience from prior projects, and the presence of state and civil-society structures capable of supporting gender-responsive implementation.

The Gender Action Plan translates the analysis into concrete, operational measures across the project components, with the objective of ensuring equitable participation, benefits, and resilience outcomes for women, men, and youth. It adopts a dual approach: strengthening women's economic and adaptive capacities while engaging men, traditional leaders, and institutions to address structural and normative barriers.

Key measures include securing women's access to land for project-supported activities through negotiated agreements; ensuring women's participation (with minimum quotas) in restoration committees, Farmer and Restoration Field Schools, water and forest management bodies; and prioritizing women's involvement in seedling production, agroforestry, non-timber forest product value chains, and MSMEs. The plan emphasizes labor-saving and climate-resilient technologies, improved access to inputs, finance, and training, and targeted support for women-led cooperatives and savings groups.

Gender mainstreaming is embedded in planning, safeguards, monitoring, and knowledge management. All indicators will be sex- and age-disaggregated, with gender-sensitive metrics such as control over income, time savings, and access to resources. The plan also includes awareness-raising, leadership training, risk mitigation, and close coordination with national and regional gender institutions to ensure accountability and sustainability.

Role of private sector

The private sector plays a crucial, integrated role in the project strategy, extending beyond mere participation to serve as a driver for resilience and economic growth. A key focus is on engaging private enterprises in actions that strengthen climate change adaptation, notably by bolstering selected climate-resilient value chains such as cashew nuts, shea butter, néré, and honey. This involves technical support for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), including the creation or upgrading of 20 processing units, providing guidance on business planning, management, and legal formalization. The project has a specific target of engaging 12 private sector enterprises in adaptation and resilience actions.

Crucially, the private sector (CAJOU ESPOIR, Complexe Cajou du Centre, etc.) will be engaged to address the financial barriers limiting the adoption of resilient practices by Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). This involves strengthening selected climate-resilient value chains, such as roasted cashew nuts, shea butter, and nere mustard, and collaborating with financial intermediaries to design and implement a strategy for increasing investment through grants, microfinance, and low-interest loans for MSMEs adopting nature-positive technologies.

The importance of the private sector, particularly MSMEs, lies in its capacity to overcome financial barriers that currently impede the adoption of resilient technologies and sustainable practices. To address this, the project aims to design and implement a comprehensive investment strategy using financial incentives like grants, microfinance, and other innovative solutions. Furthermore, the project envisages leveraging institutional support to submit bankable land management investment cases to private impact funds to secure long-term financial viability and stimulate the scaling up of successful nature-positive initiatives beyond the project lifespan.

Knowledge management and learning

The project will identify best conservation, restoration and sustainable management measures that require testing, validation and dissemination/rolling out, as well as capacity-building and technical support for their wider adoption and scaling. Project's lessons learned and good practices will be documented and packaged for wider dissemination with different stakeholders, including at national levels to inform policy dialogue, and at the sub-national levels with authorities overseeing forest resource management, and local communities (e.g., through CSOs, associations, businesses) to ensure awareness about the project's results and lessons and impact, to also inform long-term adoption and replication. As part of its knowledge management and communication strategy, the project will establish an online presence through which project resources and media pieces will be shared, and to facilitate interaction with the wider public. The various components of the project will generate significant data, information and knowledge products and these will be shared, as appropriate and through relevant means, with the different project stakeholders mentioned above.

The project will establish a systematic mechanism for capturing outcomes related to policy, regulatory improvements, and enhancing institutional capacities as well as record knowledge about conservation practices, sustainable management techniques, and landscape restoration. Regular meetings, workshops, and seminars to consult stakeholders in the generation of knowledge products and to share and discuss findings of studies and assessments and to raise awareness will also be used as opportunities to disseminate information and share progress on project activities and receive feedback from project stakeholders and beneficiaries.

At local and national levels, local and national media will be mobilized to share key information on available techniques and incentive mechanisms developed and promoted by the project. All relevant local and regional sectoral agencies will also be engaged to help disseminate lessons learned and good practices with the public. At the regional and international levels, existing networks and initiatives on ecosystem conservation, restoration and sustainable forest management will be leveraged, including in the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (UNDER) platforms and links may be established, as appropriate, with the GEF-8 Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Program.

Upscaling and replication potential

The project has a robust strategy to maximize upscaling and replication potential, mainly driven by Component 4: Knowledge management. It aims to overcome the barrier of limited capacity for managing and disseminating knowledge by ensuring wide

diffusion of knowledge gained and lessons learned to encourage broader uptake. Replication of successful, climate-resilient practices is built into the capacity development mechanisms, utilizing Restoration Field Schools (RFS) and Farmer Field Schools (FFS), which train participants to replicate successful methods in surrounding areas. Furthermore, extension services play an important role in enabling replication at the local and national level. To ensure long-term sustainability and scale, the project employs an innovative approach to knowledge sharing, utilizing multi-stakeholder platforms for knowledge dissemination and coordinating with open data platforms (such as SEPAL, Ground, and ABC) for sharing georeferenced information internationally. Finally, financial sustainability for upscaling is pursued by developing and submitting bankable land management investment cases to private impact funds (e.g., LDN Fund).

[1] Key sources used in developing the analysis of the Central Region include: Perception of land degradation and Indigenous land management practices in Mo basin watershed, Togo.' Journal of Soil & Water Conservation 14(3): 193-199. ISSN: 0022-457X; Biophysical and anthropogenic determinants of landscape patterns and degradation of plant communities in Mo hilly basin (Togo). Ecological Engineering 85 (2015) 132–143 doi:10.1016/j.ecoleng.2015.09.059; 0925-8574/© 2015 Elsevier B.V.; Potential storages and drivers of soil organic carbon and total nitrogen across river basin landscape: The case of Mo river basin (Togo) in West Africa. Ecological Engineering, 99: 298-309; Modelling soil erosion response to sustainable landscape management scenarios in the Mo River Basin (Togo, West Africa), Science of the Total Environment 625(1):1309-1320;

Plan régional d'adaptation au changement climatique, Région centrale, 2025; Monographie de la Région centrale, 2021

[2] See UNDP project document, Annex 17

[3] This issue is further discussed in the SESP and risk sections.

[4] Various tools for landscape-level assessments, such as the [Terraso Digital Landscape Platform](#) and [UNDP's Causality Assessment for Landscape Interventions](#), will be reviewed during the PPG for possible use during the full project.

[5] These include the Restoration Plan for the Central Region (2022).

Institutional Arrangement and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this project, including financial management and procurement. If possible, please summarize the flow of funds (diagram), accountabilities for project management and financial reporting (organogram), including audit, and staffing plans. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

Section 1: General roles and responsibilities in the projects' governance mechanism

UNDP Implementing Partner / GEF Executing Entity: The Implementing Partner / Executing Entity for this project is the Directorate of Forest Resources ('Direction des Ressources Forestières'), under the Ministry of Environment, Forest Resources, Coastal Protection, and Climate Change.

The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.

The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

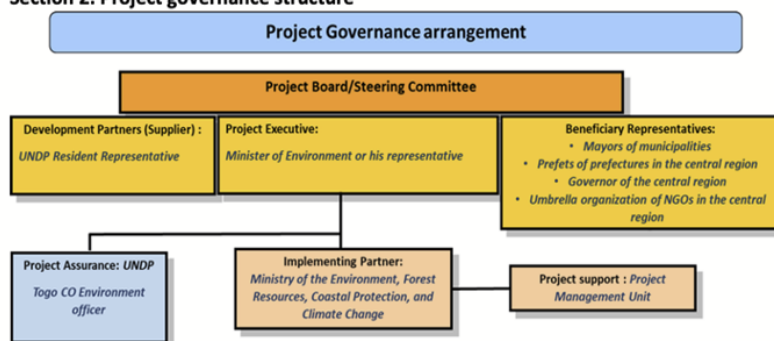
- Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems.
- Overseeing the management of project risks as included in this project document and new risks that may emerge during project implementation.
- Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.

- Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.
- Approving and signing the multiyear workplan.
- Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and,
- Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

Project stakeholders and target groups: Engagement of stakeholders and target groups is described in Annex 8, Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

UNDP: UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes overseeing project execution undertaken by the Implementing Partner to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with UNDP and GEF policies and procedures and the standards and provisions outlined in the Delegation of Authority (DOA) letter for this project. **The UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator, in consultation with UNDP Bureaus and the Implementing Partner, retains the right to revoke the project DOA, suspend or cancel this GEF project.** UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance function in the project governance structure and presents to the Project Board and attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

Section 2: Project governance structure



- First line of defense**
- Person providing oversight of execution support (COS) cannot report to UNDP staff providing project assurance or providing programmatic oversight support to the RR
- Second line of defense**
- Regional Bureau oversees RR and function of UNDP compliance in project assurance
 - BPPS RTA oversees functions of technical oversight and GEF compliance in project assurance. BBPS NCE PTA oversees RTA function.
 - UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator and Regional Bureau Deputy Director can revoke DOA/cancel/suspend project or provide enhanced oversight

The UNDP Resident Representative assumes full responsibility and accountability for oversight and quality assurance of this Project and ensures its timely implementation in compliance with the GEF-specific requirements and UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), its Financial Regulations and Rules and Internal Control Framework. A representative of the UNDP Country Office will assume the assurance role and will present assurance findings to the Project Board, and therefore attends Project Board meetings as a non-voting member.

Section 3: Segregation of duties and firewalls vis-à-vis UNDP representation on the project board:

As noted in the [Minimum Fiduciary Standards for GEF Partner Agencies](#), in cases where a GEF Partner Agency (i.e. UNDP) carries out both implementation oversight and execution of a project, the GEF Partner Agency (i.e. UNDP) must separate its project implementation oversight and execution duties, and describe in the relevant project document a: 1) Satisfactory institutional arrangement for the separation of implementation oversight and executing functions in different departments of the GEF Partner Agency; and 2) Clear lines of responsibility, reporting and accountability within the GEF Partner Agency between the project implementation oversight and execution functions.

In this case, UNDP is only performing an implementation oversight role in the project vis-à-vis our role in the project board and in the project assurance function and therefore a full separation of project implementation oversight and execution duties has been assured.

Section 4: Roles and Responsibilities of the Project Organization Structure:

- a) **Project Board:** All UNDP projects must be governed by a multi-stakeholder board or committee established to review performance based on monitoring and evaluation, and implementation issues to ensure quality delivery of results. The Project Board (also called the Project Steering Committee) is the most senior, dedicated oversight body for a project.

The two main (mandatory) roles of the project board are as follows:

- 1) **High-level oversight of the execution of the project by the Implementing Partner** (as explained in the [“Provide Oversight”](#) section of the POPP). This is the primary function of the project board and includes annual (and as-needed) assessments of any major risks to the project, and decisions/agreements on any management actions or remedial measures to address them effectively. The Project Board reviews evidence of project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, evaluations, risk logs and the combined delivery report. The Project Board is responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results.
- 2) **Approval of strategic project execution decisions of the Implementing Partner** with a view to assess and manage risks, monitor and ensure the overall achievement of projected results and impacts and ensure long term sustainability of project execution decisions of the Implementing Partner (as explained in the [“Manage Change”](#) section of the POPP).

Requirements to serve on the Project Board: *to be included in the TOR of the Project Board*

- ✓ Agree to the Terms of Reference of the Board and the rules on protocols, quorum and minuting.
- ✓ Meet annually; at least once.
- ✓ Disclose any conflict of interest in performing the functions of a Project Board member and take all measures to avoid any real or perceived conflicts of interest. This disclosure must be documented and kept on record by UNDP.
- ✓ Discharge the functions of the Project Board in accordance with UNDP policies and procedures.
- ✓ Ensure highest levels of transparency and ensure Project Board meeting minutes are recorded and shared with project stakeholders.

Responsibilities of the Project Board: *to be included in the TOR of the Project Board*

- ✓ Consensus decision making:
 - The project board provides overall overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and providing overall oversight of the project implementation.
 - Review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and the combined delivery report;
 - The project board is responsible for making management decisions by consensus.
 - In order to ensure UNDP’s ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition.

- In case consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the UNDP representative on the board will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, will take the final decision to ensure project implementation is not unduly delayed. *(Do not edit or delete this sentence!)*

✓ **Oversee project execution:**

- Agree on project manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters outlined in the project document, and provide direction and advice for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded.
- Appraise annual work plans prepared by the Implementing Partner for the Project; review combined delivery reports prior to certification by the implementing partner.
- Address any high-level project issues as raised by the project manager and project assurance;
- Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP and the donor and refer such proposed major and minor amendments to the UNDP BPPS Nature, Climate and Energy Executive Coordinator (and the GEF, as required by GEF policies);
- Provide high-level direction and recommendations to the project management unit to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily and according to plans.
- Track and monitor co-financed activities and realisation of co-financing amounts of this project.
- Approve the Inception Report, GEF annual project implementation reports, mid-term review and terminal evaluation reports.
- Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project.

✓ **Risk Management:**

- Provide guidance on evolving or materialized project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks.
- Review and update the project risk register and associated management plans based on the information prepared by the Implementing Partner. This includes risks related that can be directly managed by this project, as well as contextual risks that may affect project delivery or continued UNDP compliance and reputation but are outside of the control of the project. For example, social and environmental risks associated with co-financed activities or activities taking place in the project's area of influence that have implications for the project.
- Address project-level grievances.

✓ **Coordination:**

- Ensure coordination between various donor and government-funded projects and programmes.
- Ensure coordination with various government agencies and their participation in project activities.

Composition of the Project Board: The composition of the Project Board must include individuals assigned to the following three roles:

1. Project Executive: This is an individual who represents ownership of the project and chairs (or co-chairs) the Project Board. The Executive usually is the senior national counterpart for nationally implemented projects (typically from the same entity as the Implementing Partner), and it must be UNDP for projects that are direct implementation (DIM). In exceptional cases, two individuals from different entities can co-share this role and/or co-chair the Project Board. If the project executive co-chairs the project board with representatives of another category, it typically does so with a development partner representative. The

Project Executive is: Ministre de l'Environnement, des Ressources Forestières, de la Protection Côtière et du Changement Climatique or his Representative: Secrétaire Général du Ministère de l'Environnement, des Ressources Forestières, de la Protection Côtière et du Changement Climatique.

2. Beneficiary Representative(s): Individuals or groups representing the interests of those groups of stakeholders who will ultimately benefit from the project. Their primary function within the board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. Often representatives from civil society, industry associations, or other government entities benefiting from the project can fulfil this role. There can be multiple beneficiary representatives in a Project Board. The Beneficiary representative (s) is/are: Mayors of Municipalities representing Communes, Préfets, groups and cooperatives of producers and processors of the products, Representative of the Network of Development Organizations of the Central region (RESODERC), Representative of the Grassroots Community Organizations (OCB).

3. Development Partner(s): Individuals or groups representing the interests of the parties concerned that provide funding, strategic guidance and/or technical expertise to the project. The Development Partner(s) is/are: *UNDP Resident Representative, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, GIZ representative.*

b) **Project Assurance:** Project assurance is the responsibility of each project board member; however, UNDP has a distinct assurance role for all UNDP projects in carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. UNDP performs quality assurance and supports the Project Board (and Project Management Unit) by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions, including compliance with the risk management and social and environmental standards of UNDP. The Project Board cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the Project Manager. Project assurance is totally independent of project execution.

A designated representative of UNDP playing the project assurance role is expected to attend all board meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative. It should be noted that while in certain cases UNDP's project assurance role across the project may encompass activities happening at several levels (e.g., global, regional), at least one UNDP representative playing that function must, as part of their duties, specifically attend board meeting and provide board members with the required documentation required to perform their duties. The UNDP representative playing the main project assurance function is the Team Leader, Unit for Environment and Entrepreneurship, UNDP Country Office in Togo.

c) **Project Management – Execution of the Project:** The Project Manager (PM) (also called project coordinator) is the senior most representative of the Project Management Unit (PMU) and is responsible for the overall day-to-day management of the project on behalf of the Implementing Partner, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, responsible parties, consultants and sub-contractors. The project manager typically presents key deliverables and documents to the board for their review and approval, including progress reports, annual work plans, adjustments to tolerance levels and risk registers.

A designated representative of the PMU is expected to attend all board meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative.

The primary PMU representative attending board meetings is the Project Coordinator.

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

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

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

Coordination will be institutionalized with the support of gender-responsive multi-stakeholder platforms. Restoration efforts will directly build upon the foundation established by the GIZ 'Forest for Future' (F4F) project, replicating proven models and utilizing F4F's restoration planning work in expanded priority areas. Scaling climate-smart agriculture relies heavily on leveraging the capacity of FAO's Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) to strengthen producer organizations and diffusing practices via established national extension services (ICAT/ITRA).

Core Indicators

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

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
31500	74653	0	0

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
31500	74653	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Abdoulaye Wildlife Reserve de Faune de Abdoulaye	20978	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	30,000.00	30,000.00					
Aledjo Wildlife Reserve	20977	Protected area with sustainable use of		765.00					

		natural resources							
Amou-Mono Classified Forest	300807	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources		6,000.00					
Kemeni Classified Forest	300807	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources		798.00					
Kpessi Wildlife Reserve	555791378	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources		28,000.00					
Mont Belem Classified Forest	300807	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources		4,075.00					
Sotouboua Classified Forest	300807	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources		3,500.00					
Tchorogo Classified Forest	555791378	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	1,500.00	1,515.00					

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
9000	9000	0	0

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Cropland	4,000.00	4,000.00		

Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
3,000.00	3,000.00		

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Natural grass	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Woodlands	500.00	500.00		

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

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
50000	50000	0	0

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

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

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

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
50,000.00	50,000.00		

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

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

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

Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	4801870	4276485	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	4,801,870	4,276,485		
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2025	2026		
Duration of accounting	20	20		

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)
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Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	21,000	21,000		
Male	14,000	14,000		
Total	35,000	35,000	0	0

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

The project will contribute to multiple GEF8 core indicators, under the GEFTF and the LDCF, as follows:

GEF core Indicator #1: It will contribute to achievement of Core indicator 1.2 through improved management of terrestrial protected areas for conservation and sustainable use covering a combined area of 74,653 ha. The METT tool will be used for the purpose of quantifying improved management effectiveness in each of the protected areas.

The protected areas, areas in ha., and baseline METT scores, are as follows:

Protected area	Area (ha)	Baseline METT
Réserve de Faune de Abdoulaye	30,000	50
Aledjo Wildlife Reserve	765	44
Sotouboua Classified Forest	3,500	46
Mont Belem Classified Forest	4,075	42
Kemeni Classified Forest	798	44
Amou-Mono Classified Forest	6,000	45
Kpessai Wildlife Reserve	28,000	44
Tchrogo Classsified Forest	1,515	44

GEF core Indicator #3: The project will contribute to achievement of this indicator through restoration of targeted areas covering 9,000 ha, to be apportioned as follows:

- 4,000 ha of degraded agricultural lands restored (Indicator 3.1), through methods expected to include agroforestry, crop rotation/association, organic amendments and integrated soil fertility management.
- 3,000 ha of forest and forestland restored (Indicator 3.2), using practices such as defending areas, fighting vegetation fires, planting useful local species, reforestation areas and assisted natural regeneration.
- 2,000 ha of natural grass and shrubland restored (Indicator 3.3), with practices expected to include defending areas, planting local useful species, reforestation, improved fallowing and agroforestry.

Precise areas within the six intervention zones that were selected during the PPG (see Figure 6 above) will be determined based on their projected potential to deliver combined and synergistic global and national benefits associated related to the focal areas supported by the project.

GEF core Indicator #4: The project will contribute to achievement of this indicator through support to the introduction of improved land and resource use practices in the Central Region. These will include specific practices related to sustainable and climate-smart agriculture, innovations for value chains and the bio-economy and circular economy (honey, shea, néré, cashew nuts, etc.), crop association, composting and manure/organic fertilizer, improved fallow lands and integrated soil fertility management (ISFM). The project target will be for these and other improved practices to be adopted over an area of at least 50,000 ha., representing the area of the landscape under sustainable land management in production systems (Indicator 4.3).

LDCF core indicator #2(a): The area targeted for improved land and resource use practices under GEF core indicator #4 (50,000 ha) will simultaneously be supported for enhanced climate resilience. This will be achieved by the introduction of improved agroforestry practices, crop associations, grass strips along ditches, mulching, crop rotation and organic soil improvement, development of small-scale irrigation, introduction of short-cycle crops, drought- and heat-tolerant varieties, use of improved seeds, etc.

GEF core Indicator #6: The GHG emissions benefits, calculated over a 20 year horizon with the ExAct tool version 4.2, are estimated at 4,276,485 t CO₂eq. Of these, the largest amount (2,977,448 t CO₂eq) would result from improved management including agroforestry (eg parklands) on 54,000 ha of currently degraded croplands, 73,150 t CO₂eq from the improved management with agroforestry in 2000 ha of grassland, and the remainder from the restoration of 3000 ha of degraded dry forest land.

LDCF core indicator #3: Under Output 1.1, mainly sub-regional policies, plans and frameworks, including community development plans, will be developed / enhanced to incorporate strengthened climate adaptation capacities.

LDCF core indicator #4: Training and awareness activities will target approximately two percent of the population of the target landscapes, or approximately 35,000 individuals, including at least 60% women.

LDCF core indicator #5: Enterprises engaged in the following sectors will be targeted: Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and small and medium-sized industries (SMIs) in the areas of shea and cashew nut processing, as well as cooperatives of market gardeners, forest planters, nursery growers, livestock farmers, non-timber forest products and honey producers.

GEF core Indicator #11 / LDCF core indicator #1: The project will contribute to achievement of Core Indicator 11, Number of beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (co-benefit), by reaching an expected 35,000 direct beneficiaries, including 14,000 men and 21,000 women. The total beneficiaries estimate of 35,000 individuals is based on an average household size of 5.7 in the targeted rural areas. Members of at least 6,140 households will receive one or more of the following forms of support: (i) direct support for livelihood development, including through improved practices for agriculture, fisheries, and value chain development, (ii) direct support to MSME development in target sectors; (iii) training and awareness raising, and (iv) enhanced ecosystem services associated with restoration in the target villages. Project interventions will be designed to ensure that at least 60% of targeted beneficiaries will be women.

META INFORMATION – LDCF

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

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

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

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

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

This project will collaborate with activities begin supported by other adaptation funds. If yes, please select below

Green Climate Fund false	Adaptation Fund false	Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) false
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This Project has an urban focus.
true

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

This project will support South-South knowledge exchange
false

This Project covers the following sector(s)[the total should be 100%]: *

Agriculture	40.00%
Nature-based management	58.00%
Climate information services	0.00%
Coastal zone management	0.00%
Water resources management	2.00%
Disaster risk management	0.00%
Other infrastructure	0.00%
Tourism	0.00%
Health	0.00%
Other (Please specify comments)	0.00%
Total	100.00%

This Project targets the following Climate change Exacerbated/introduced challenges:*

Sea level rise false	Change in mean temperature false	Increased climatic variability true	Natural hazards true
Land degradation true	Coastal and/or Coral reef degradation false	Groundwater quality/quantity false	

CORE INDICATORS – LDCF

	Total	Male	Female	% for Women
CORE INDICATOR 1 Total number of direct beneficiaries	35,000	14,000.00	21,000.00	60.00%
CORE INDICATOR 2 (a) Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha) (b) Coastal and marine area managed for climate resilience (ha)	50,000.00 0.00			
CORE INDICATOR 3 Number of policies/plans/ frameworks/institutions for to strengthen climate adaptation	10.00			
CORE INDICATOR 4 Number of people trained or with awareness raised	35,000	14,000.00	21,000.00	60.00%
CORE INDICATOR 5 Number of private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience	12.00			

SUB INDICATOR 1

	Total	Male	Female
1.1 Number of direct beneficiaries from more resilient physical and natural assets	35000	14,000	21,000
1.2 Number of direct beneficiaries with diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income	35000	14,000	21,000
1.3 Number of direct beneficiaries from the new or improved climate information services including early warning systems	35000	14,000	21,000
1.4 Number of youth (15 to 24 years of age) benefiting from the project	15000	5,000	10,000
1.5 Number of elderly (over 60 years of age) benefiting from the project	4000	1,000	3,000
1.6 Increased income, or avoided decrease in income (per capita in \$ across all relevant beneficiaries)	0		

SUB-INDICATOR 2

2.1 Hectares of agricultural land
20,000

2.2 Hectares of urban landscape

5,000

2.3 Hectares of rural landscape

14,000

2.4 Hectares of forests

10,000

2.5 Hectares of marine area

0

2.6 Hectares of freshwater area

500

2.7 Number of residential houses

0

2.8 Number of public buildings

0

2.9 Number of irrigation or water structures

0

2.10 Number of fishery or aquaculture ponds or cages

0

2.11 Number of ports or landing sites

0

2.12 Km of road

0

2.13 Km of riverbank

0

2.14 Km of coast

0

2.15 Km of stormwater drainage

0

2.16 Number of new adaptation technologies supported

0

SUB INDICATOR 3

3.1 Number of policies/plans developed and strengthened that will mainstream climate resilience

(regional, national, sub-national)

10

3.2 Number of systems and frameworks established for continuous monitoring, reporting and review of climate adaptation impacts

5

3.3 Number of national climate policies and plans enabled, including national adaptation planning processes

7

3.4 Number of institutional partnerships or coordination mechanisms established or strengthened

10

3.5 Number of institutions with increased capacity to plan, implement, monitor, and report for climate adaptation

10

3.6 Number of institutions with increased capacity to attract, and manage climate adaptation finance

5

3.7 Number of local community organizations benefitting from and/or engaged in institution strengthening, partnerships, or financing

200

3.8. Number of climate risk and vulnerability assessments conducted

3

SUB INDICATOR 4

4.1 Number of people trained or made aware of climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation responses	Total	Male	Female
a) National government	35000	14,000	21,000
b) Local government	35000	14,000	21,000
c) Local community organizations	200	50	150
d) Extension services	0	0	0
e) Hydromet and disaster risk management agencies	0	0	0
f) School children, university students, and teachers	0	0	0
g) Youth	0	0	0

SUB INDICATOR 5

	Total	Male	Female
5.1 Amount of investment mobilized (US\$) from private sector sources			
5.2 Number of entrepreneurs supported for climate adaptation or resilience	0		
5.3 Total financial value of lines of credit and/or investment funds			
5.4 Number of MSMEs incubated/accelerated with technical assistance, financial matchmaking, and/or direct financing			

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Moderate	The restoration of agricultural lands, forests, and grasslands under Outcome 2 is highly vulnerable to accelerating climate pressures documented for the Central Region. Recent observations show minimum and maximum temperatures rising by +0.0228 to +0.0307 °C/year and +0.019 to +0.029 °C/year, trends projected to intensify to +0.0459 to +0.0558 °C/year by mid-century. Rainfall is becoming increasingly uncertain, with ERA5 data indicating a decline of –7.9 mm/year, and future projections showing continued decreases of –2.7 to –2.9 mm/year. These dynamics heighten risks of seedling mortality, reduced soil moisture, restoration failure, and increased fire incidence, underscoring the need for climate-responsive species selection, site planning, and adaptive management. This risk is substantially mitigated through the project’s integrated, climate-responsive design. Component 1 strengthens climate-adaptive planning by applying downscaled projections, vulnerability assessments, and hydrological and crop-growth modeling (Outputs 1.3–1.4) to guide restoration site selection and species choice. Component 2 embeds climate-resilient practices—such as Assisted Natural Regeneration, soil and water conservation structures, fire-management measures, and drought/flood-tolerant species—into all restoration activities. Component 3 further reduces risk by enhancing climate-smart agriculture and rangeland management. Continuous monitoring through sentinel sites and early-warning indicators enables adaptive management, ensuring restoration remains viable under shifting climate conditions.
Environmental and Social	Substantial	The introduction of sustainable landscape management systems at different planning levels (notably the through the implementation commune-level support implementation plans and the site management plans developed under Output 1.3), and the implementation of restoration activities in the six intervention zones requires the collaboration of different stakeholder groups with conflicting interests and might lead to restrictions (even temporary) on the access and use of natural resources. Potential effects on livelihoods of local communities might lead to the exacerbation of the existing conflict dynamics amongst natural resources users’ groups. Additionally, the implementation of restoration activities and the intensification of agroecological production systems under Components 2 and 3 might lead to various moderate adverse environmental and social risks (e.g., impacts on biodiversity values, pollution and waste generation, risks to the safety of communities associated with the construction of water control infrastructure, etc.). These environmental and social risks will be mitigated through a suite

		of safeguards measures including the development of a scoped ESIA (including conflict analysis and assessment of economic displacement) and associated project-level ESMP, the implementation of project-level Stakeholder Engagement Plan (including grievance redress mechanism) and Gender Action Plan, and the site-level screenings and monitoring of on-the-ground activities under Components 2 and 3. The ESMF developed during the design phase describes the procedures required to screen, assess and manage environmental and social risks during implementation. See more details on risks identified in the attached Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP).
Political and Governance	Moderate	Conflicts between communities have increased over time, representing both a cause and an effect of environmental degradation. Conflicts most typically ensue between transhumant Fulani and local farmers who seek to defend their crops and land, but also arise from unclear land tenure, weak enforcement of land-use rules, competition over increasingly scarce water points, and limited mechanisms for dialogue and conflict resolution at local and prefectural levels. The project mitigates these risks by strengthening inclusive governance structures, particularly through multi-stakeholder platforms and prefectural committees under Component 1 that institutionalize dialogue among farmers, pastoralists, traditional authorities, and decentralized services. Component 2 further reduces conflict potential by formalizing and restoring transhumance corridors, improving water access, and supporting rangeland management planning. Land-tenure-related grievances are addressed by integrating land governance awareness, community engagement, and safeguards measures, while capacity building enhances local conflict-prevention and negotiation skills. These interventions collectively reduce tensions and improve cooperative resource management.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	As part of Outcome 1, the Project will enhance/strengthen policy and legal frameworks to support multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder integrated landscape management (ILM) and planning. These changes in institutional and regulatory frameworks, in the absence of appropriate procedures, could trigger a variety of institutional risks or not being adopted as intended. Project will support targeted enhancement of institutional challenges to create and enabling framework for success. Agricultural development policies, including those related to intensified production, residual risks will need to be considered in context of project's support to regenerative agriculture.
Technological	Low	The project promotes the implementation of specific practices related to sustainable and climate-smart agriculture, innovations for value chains and the bio-economy and circular economy (honey, shea, néré, cashew nuts, etc.), crop association, composting and manure/organic fertilizer, improved fallow lands and integrated soil fertility management (ISFM). Project will be developed with support of national and international experts to address

		residual risks or uncertainty associated with the development or application of technological methods and innovations applied in project design.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	The risk that the lack of established financing mechanisms and viable business models will constrain investment in, and scaling of, climate-resilient and nature-positive practices by MSMEs. The Project will encourage private as well as public sources of investment finance, including engaging new financing partners to support solutions promoted by the project.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Moderate	Stakeholder capacity is generally weak, both within Government and at the local community level. As part of Outcome 1, the project will strengthen policy and legal frameworks, create a multi-stakeholder platform and develop 10-year climate resilient plans at the regional level for ecological restoration and sustainable land management. The project will work to enhance the capacities of relevant authorities and targeted communities to ensure that they have the required knowledge and skills to actively participate in project interventions, incorporate lessons learned and uptake nature-positive and climate-smart agricultural and restoration practices. It will support targeted enhancement of institutional and partner/ stakeholder capacity, including through adaptive management, M&E, skills and knowledge building.
Fiduciary	Substantial	Potential lack of financial safeguards in place. To minimize fiduciary risk, the project applies UNDP's financial management and oversight standards, including segregation of duties, competitive procurement, and routine financial reporting. The PMU finance officer will ensure robust accounting, expenditure tracking, and compliance with audit requirements. Capacity building for implementing partners, clear delegation of authority, and regular spot checks further reduce risks. A risk-based management approach ensures that fiduciary controls remain adaptive and responsive throughout implementation.
Stakeholder	Moderate	There is a risk that vulnerable/marginalized and other stakeholders' groups might be excluded or not meaningfully engaged in the planning activities and processes that will be implemented as part of the project, leading to grievances or objections being raised by affected stakeholders. Additionally, there is a potential for ethnic communities meeting the criteria for Standard 6 might be disproportionately impacted by the project or excluded from meaningful participation and benefits from project activities. The project will promote all aspects of accountability to stakeholders, both during the PPG process and implementation by: (i) enabling active, meaningful and culturally appropriate local community engagement and participation in project planning and decision-making, particularly targeted at those at risk of being left behind; (ii) ensuring transparency through provision of timely, accessible and functional information regarding supported activities, including on potential environmental and social risks and impacts and measures for their mitigation / management; (iii) ensuring stakeholders can communicate their concerns and have access to a rights-compatible complaints-redress process;

		and (iv) ensuring effective results monitoring—and, where appropriate, participatory monitoring with stakeholders—and reporting on implementation of social and environmental safeguard risk management measures. The project's key instruments for strengthening accountability include: a project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (implementation-ready), Gender Action Plan, and Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan and an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).
Other		
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial	The social risks related to the exacerbation of existing conflicts amongst resource users' groups (Human Rights principle) and the potential economic displacement (Standard 5) associated with restrictions to the access/use of natural resources have been classified as Substantial (see attached SESP for a full description of the identified social and environmental risks).

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

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

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

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

The project is fully aligned with the **GEF-8 Programming Strategies**, particularly under the **Food Systems, Land Use, and Restoration (FOLUR)**, as well as **GEF Integrated Programs, including the Ecosystem Restoration (ERIP)** and the Food Systems (FS-IP) IPs. It supports **Integrated Landscape Management (ILM)** through climate-resilient, biodiversity-positive, and gender-responsive practices in restoration, agroforestry, and sustainable production. By integrating digital monitoring, early warning systems, and value chain strengthening, the project advances GEF-8's emphasis on systemic transformation of food and land-use systems, enabling measurable global environmental benefits (GEBs) across biodiversity conservation, carbon storage, and sustainable land productivity.

The project will benefit rural households across five prefectures, with a strong focus on women's empowerment, and deliver global environmental benefits in line with GEF-8 objectives for Land Degradation, Biodiversity, and Climate Change Adaptation.

The project contributes to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) as shown below:

Primary links

GBF Target	Brief summary of project contribution
Target 2 – Restore degraded ecosystems	Large-scale restoration of degraded forest, agricultural, rangeland, and riparian ecosystems in protected and productive landscapes.
Target 3 – Conserve 30% of land and sea	Restoration and ecological strengthening of priority protected areas and OECMs in Togo's Central Region.
Target 10 – Sustainable management of agriculture and forestry	Deployment of climate-resilient, nature-positive SLM and SFM practices across production landscapes.

Target 11 – Ecosystem services and resilience	Restoration actions enhance ecosystem services (soil, water, pollination) and climate resilience of landscapes and livelihoods.
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Secondary links

GBF Target	Brief summary of project contribution
Target 20 – Capacity building	Strengthening capacities of communities, extension services, MSMEs, and local institutions for restoration, SLM and SFM.
Target 21 – Participation and knowledge sharing	Multi-stakeholder platforms, knowledge dissemination, and community participation in planning and implementation.
Target 22 – Inclusion of IPLCs and local communities	Inclusive engagement of local communities in restoration and sustainable land management interventions.
Target 23 – Gender equality	Gender-responsive project design, M&E framework, and targeted support to women's participation in restoration and value chains.

The project also contributes directly to **Togo's priorities under the Rio Conventions**. Under the **UNFCCC**, it operationalizes Togo's **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)** by promoting adaptive agriculture, land restoration, and community resilience. In support of the **UNCBD**, it reinforces objectives of the **National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP II)** through protection of habitats, restoration of degraded ecosystems, and sustainable management of community forests and OECMs. In alignment with the **UNCCD**, it contributes to Togo's **Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets**, focusing on rehabilitating degraded lands and improving soil fertility. These synergies reflect Togo's vision for integrated, climate-smart rural development—linking restoration, adaptation, and biodiversity management while addressing poverty reduction and gender equality within a unified sustainability framework.

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

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

Yes

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

Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

Yes

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

Select what role civil society will play in the Project

Consulted only; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier; No

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

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain)

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguards

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

Yes

Please provide overall Project/Program Risk Classification

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
High or Substantial	High or Substantial		

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described during Project Preparation in the Project Description and that these activities have been budgeted and an anticipated timeline for delivery of relevant outputs has been provided.

Yes

Socio-economic Benefits

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

Yes

The project will generate substantial socio-economic benefits by improving livelihoods, enhancing resilience, and fostering inclusive local economies. By supporting sustainable agricultural intensification, agroforestry, and restoration value chains, it will increase productivity and diversify income sources for rural households. Strengthened micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and processing units for products such as shea butter, cashew, honey, and baobab will create new jobs and stimulate regional markets. Restoration and Farmer Field Schools will enhance local capacities, enabling farmers to adopt profitable and climate-resilient practices while reducing dependence on unsustainable resource use. Improved land and water management will stabilize production systems, lower vulnerability to climate shocks, and strengthen food security. Special emphasis on women and youth inclusion will expand equitable access to opportunities, promoting empowerment, social cohesion, and sustainable economic growth across the Central Region's rural landscapes.

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
UNDP	GET	Togo	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	1,115,189.00	105,943.00	1,221,132.00
UNDP	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-1	Grant	800,000.00	76,000.00	876,000.00
UNDP	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-2	Grant	744,537.00	70,731.00	815,268.00
UNDP	LDCF	Togo	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	3,989,589.00	379,011.00	4,368,600.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)						6,649,315.00	631,685.00	7,281,000.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

200000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

19000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
UNDP	GET	Togo	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	33,543.00	3,187.00	36,730.00
UNDP	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-1	24,063.00	2,286.00	26,349.00

UNDP	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-2	22,394.00	2,127.00	24,521.00
UNDP	LDCF	Togo	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	120,000.00	11,400.00	131,400.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)					200,000.00	19,000.00	219,000.00

Please provide Justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
UNDP	GET	Togo	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,257,862.00
UNDP	GET	Togo	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	1,742,138.00
Total GEF Resources					3,000,000.00

Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
BD-1-1	GET	1,115,189.00	27018804
LD-1	GET	800,000.00	19382403
LD-2	GET	744,537.00	18342015
CCA-1-1	LDCF	3,989,589.00	96356409
Total Project Cost		6,649,315.00	161,099,631.00

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

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	Investment mobilized	6000000

Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Animal Resources and Food Sovereignty	Loans	Investment mobilized	63917000
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment, Forest Resources, Coastal Protection and Climate Change	Grant	Investment mobilized	60510187
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment, Forest Resources, Coastal Protection and Climate Change	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	30672444
Total Co-financing				161,099,631.00

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

UNDP: UNDP has jointly prepared the integrated rural development project for the Mô plain (central region) with the Islamic Development Bank, in which the UNDP is providing funding in the form of a cash grant of \$5,000,000. In addition, UNDP will also provide a further grant of \$1,000,000 from investment mobilized from other UNDP projects funded by TRAC resources over the project period.

Government of Togo: The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Animal Resources, and Food Sovereignty in Togo (MAPRASA) is implementing the Integrated Rural Development Project in the Mô Plain, Phase 2 (PDRI-MÔ 2) in the central region of Togo. The project aims to increase rice, maize, and soybean yields by improving farmers' working conditions and inputs, with a focus on innovation, mechanization, modernization, access to relevant infrastructure, and capacity-building initiatives in the prefecture of Mô. This project is co-financed by the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) to the tune of a \$63.6 million loan, together with \$271,000 in grants.

Government of Togo: The Ministry of Environment, Forest Resources, Coastal Protection, and Climate Change (MERFPCCC) is implementing the Program to Support the Fight Against Climate Change, and Biodiversity and Agroecological Protection Support Program (PALCC+), funded by the European Union to the tune of €30,000,000 and Luxembourg to the tune of €22,500,000, for a total of €52,500,000 (US\$60,510,187). The program aims to strengthen the governance and sustainable management of protected areas and community and classified forests, promote a local and resilient green economy in the targeted territories, structure public solid waste management services in regional capitals and develop a national strategy, and support the capacities of the relevant administrations, local authorities, and local actors in integrated environmental planning.

In addition, the Togolese government is financing phase 2 of the national reforestation project (PNR2) from its own funds, at a cost of US\$21,973,572, and the national wood energy project (PBE) at a cost of US\$8,698,872, for a total of US\$30,672,444 in the central region. The overall objective of these two projects is to increase national timber and wood energy production by restoring the national forest cover to contribute to increasing the forestry sector's share of GDP, reducing poverty, and creating jobs for rural youth. They thus contribute to climate change mitigation, poverty reduction, and improving the living conditions of the region's populations.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	12/19/2025	Nancy Bennet, Executive Coordinator		nancy.bennet@undp.org
Project Coordinator	12/19/2025	Bonnie Rusk, Regional Technical Advisor		bonnie.rusk@undp.org

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

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

Name of GEF OFF	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Comlan AWOUGNON	Administrative and Financial Affairs Director	Ministry of Environment, Forest Resources, Coastal Protection, and Climate Change	4/18/2024

ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Please indicate the page number in the Project Document where the project results and M&E frameworks can be found. Please also paste below the Project Results Framework from the Agency document.

Note for the Reviewer

We would like to bring to your attention that **this section** does not display in full on the GEF Portal review page due to a formatting limitation. Please note that the information is **fully captured and accurate** in this section of the Portal. If the display issue persists, we kindly invite you to refer to the **Word version of the CEO ER**, where Annex C appears in full on **page 51**.

Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goal (s):

- SDG1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- SDG5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- SDG8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (Target 15.3: By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world)

Intended Outcome as stated in the UNSDCF/Country [or Regional] Programme Results and Resource Framework:

- By 2026, institutions and communities sustainably manage natural resources and are more resilient to the adverse effects of climate change and disaster risks

Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan: A.4.2 Financing for climate and nature-based solutions expanded to promote prosperity while protecting the planet

Project title and Quantum Project Number: Strengthening the resilience of natural and agro-ecosystems and communities to climate change in Central Togo, TBD

Objective and Outcome Indicators (no more than a total of 20 indicators)		Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target
Project Objective:	To strengthen and implement systems for integrated landscape management and restoration, biodiversity conservation and climate change resilience in Togo's Central Region			
	<u>Indicator 1 (GEF CI-1.1):</u> Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management	0	30,000	75,653
	<u>Indicator 2 (GEF CI-6):</u> Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated (metric tons of CO ₂ e)	NA	2,000,000 t CO ₂ e	4,276,485 t CO ₂ e
	<u>Mandatory Indicator 1 (GEF CI-11):</u> People benefiting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (count), with at minimum 60% women; <u>LDCF CI-1: Number of direct beneficiaries</u>	0	15,000 (8,000 women, 7,000 men)	35,000 (21,000 women, 14,000 men)
Project component 1	Multi-sectoral enabling framework for Integrated Land Management (ILM) and planning, integrating climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives			

Project Outcome 1: Integrated landscape management is strengthened to maintain and enhance climate resilience and flows of ecosystem services, including biodiversity	Indicator 4: Area of land covered by approved climate-resilient, landscape-level SLM and sustainable intensification plans (ha)	0	100,000 ha under draft intensification plans	265,129 ha under intensification plans submitted for local or regional validation
	Indicator 5: Landscape-level multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral platforms created or strengthened and operating with majority female participation (minimum 60% women)	Enabling legislation in place	Five platforms established, one at level of Central Region and one each at level of four participating prefectures	Five platforms established, operational and helping to guide the development of enhanced and aligned policies and programs
	Indicator 6 (LDCF CI-3): Number of policies / plans / frameworks / institutions with strengthened climate adaptation capacities	Policies, plans and frameworks that do not fully reflect and integrate ILM principles	5 policies, plans and/or frameworks drafted that reflect and integrate ILM principles	10, including: One new Municipal Development plan; four Municipal development plans with new implementation frameworks; five new or revised municipal and/or regional policies
	Indicator 7: Number of analytical tools and metrics in place for measuring landscape-level impacts on ecosystem services and community economic / livelihood benefits	0	3 tools developed, identified and/or adapted, with training and data gathering initiated.	3 tools in place and with 10 metrics in use
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1	Output 1.1: Strengthened <i>multi</i> -sectoral, multi-stakeholder, and gender-responsive integrated landscape management (ILM) and planning, with climate risks and adaptation needs integrated, through (i) enhanced gender-responsive and inclusive landscape-level multi-stakeholder platforms for data sharing, planning, capacity and consensus building, and knowledge dissemination, and (ii) strengthened policy and legal frameworks. Output 1.2: Detailed landscape-level survey of good / best practices in <i>agriculture</i> , agro-forestry, forestry and land restoration. Output 1.3: Detailed and operational <i>implementation</i> plans for land and forest restoration, SLM, and regenerative agriculture, informed by climate change projections, to strengthen climate resilience of the project landscapes. Output 1.4: Enhanced analytical tools and metrics for measuring impacts on ecosystem services (including <i>BD</i> , land degradation, adaptation and resilience), including climate projections, impact modelling on hydrological flows, crop types and restoration objectives, as well as livelihood/ economic benefits.			
Project component 2	Ecosystem restoration in degraded natural landscapes and protected landscapes as a strategy to strengthen resilience			
Outcome 2: Climate-resilient restoration of priority target areas that reflects landscape planning and serves as the basis for a robust strategy to stimulate further diffusion and uptake of associated best practices, via technology transfer, innovation and deployment within the broader landscape	Indicator 8: Number of local stakeholders (disaggregated by gender) trained in climate-smart restoration technologies through Restoration Field Schools (RFS)	0	500 stakeholders trained in restoration techniques	1,000 stakeholders trained in restoration techniques
	Indicator 9 (LDCF CI-5): Number of private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience action (i.e. supply chains, nursery development / management, other tbd during year 1)	0	5 enterprises engaged in adaptation and resilience actions related to either restoration or improved agricultural practices	12 enterprises engaged in adaptation and resilience actions related to either restoration or improved agricultural practices
	Indicator 10 (GEF CI-4): Area of land and ecosystems under (climate-risk informed) restoration	0	4,000 ha, consisting of: 2,000 ha of priority degraded productive lands 2,000 ha of priority degraded lands in protected areas	9,000 ha, consisting of: 6,000 ha of priority degraded productive lands 3,000 ha of priority degraded lands in protected areas
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2	Output 2.1: Strengthened local and regional supply chain(s) supporting climate-resilient ecosystem restoration, including native tree seedling production and distribution, and associated capacities, with a strategy for further diffusion linked to strengthened value chains and sustainable practices (Output 3.3) and overall uptake of best practices (Output 4.2). Output 2.2: Enhanced capacities among key local stakeholders for adoption / deployment of restoration technologies through participatory learning and extension. Output 2.3: Selected priority degraded agricultural, forest and rangeland areas within the productive landscape undergoing climate risk informed and resilient restoration. Output 2.4: Priority degraded zones within protected areas under restoration for biodiversity and enhanced ecosystem services.			
Project component 3	Adoption of climate-resilient agro-ecological intensification, diversification and other regenerative practices in agriculture, agro-forestry and forest management			

Outcome 3: Increased resilience of local communities and livelihoods and reduced pressure on natural habitats through increased use of climate-resilient and nature-positive agricultural practices	Indicator 11: Area of production landscapes under improved practices (GEF CI-4) and managed for climate resilience (LDCF CI-2)	0	Nature-positive and climate smart / resilient agricultural practices expanded to 20,000 ha	Nature-positive and climate smart / resilient agricultural practices expanded to 50,000 ha
	Indicator 12: Number of direct beneficiaries (including vulnerable populations and disaggregated by gender) with enhanced income from value chains targeted by climate risk informed regenerative agriculture practices (supported by metrics developed in Output 1.5)	0	750	2,000
	Indicator 13: Number of new or enhanced medium, small and micro-enterprises in place from green agriculture value chains.	0	15	30
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3	Output 3.1: Enhanced, sex-disaggregated data and modeling of projected climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation needs in the target project area in Togo’s Central Region, integrating enhanced analytical tools and metrics, including climate projections and impact modelling (ref. Output 1.4). Output 3.2: Improved climate risk informed and resilient agriculture, SLM and SFM technologies in place in existing production areas and in unused agricultural lands, supported by strengthened extension and community/ stakeholder capacities. Output 3.3: Selected climate-resilient and sustainable agricultural, agroforestry and forestry value chains and associated sustainable practices strengthened through investments and delivery of extension support. Output 3.4: Strategy developed and implemented to increase investment in adoption of nature-positive and climate-resilient technologies and practices, including by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) (also supporting Component 2).			
Project component 4:	Knowledge management			
Outcome 4: Knowledge management	Indicator 14: Number of solutions / lessons learned transformed into knowledge sharing products	0	3	8
	Indicator 15: # Number of best practices identified, documented and disseminated	0	10	15
Outputs to achieve Outcome 4	Output 4.1: Gender-responsive and inclusive thematic technical reports on impacts of individual restoration and SLM / intensification practices and technologies promoted by the project, including their diffusion. Output 4.2: Landscape-level report on practices and diffusion / uptake patterns and trends. Output 4.3: Gender-responsive and inclusive communication and awareness raising programs at sub-national and national levels, with dual emphasis on communicating to local communities and national policy makers.			
Monitoring & Evaluation				
	Indicator 16: Gender action plan (GAP) fully implemented and reported in PIRs, MTR and TE	GAP developed and disseminated	Positive review of GAP implementation in MTR	Gender equality action plan fully implemented and reported in preliminary assessment reports, mid-term reviews and independent preliminary evaluations
Monitoring and Evaluation	Monitoring and gender-sensitive evaluation in place, ensuring transparency, effectiveness, and equitable consideration in project activities.			

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

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

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed

Project Development Specialist (PPG Team Leader) to support the articulation of project strategy, including ToC, and results framework, conduct review of baseline situation, including policy and regulatory frameworks, prepare project budget and workplan, M&E plan and strategy, knowledge management strategy.	45,500.00	37,305.00	8,195.00
International Social and Environment Safeguards expert to conduct a screening of the project-related risks and develop mitigation and management plans to address confirmed SES risks, including ESMF, GRM and the required management frameworks/plans as appropriate, such as Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), and Report of initial Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) consultations with indigenous peoples in the targeted landscape.	21,000.00	15,305.00	5,695.00
Expert on Sustainable Land Use & Planning Specialist to summarize technical studies on land use and planning, prepare baseline data sets relevant to LDN targets carbon sequestration targets and climate change adaptation targets, METTs for all relevant project sites, and UNDP capacity scorecard, provide georeferenced maps of the project sites, support UNDP Capacity Scorecard.	21,000.00	15,305.00	5,695.00
Expert on climate change adaptation specialist to prepare summary of technical studies on climate change adaptation, support preparation of georeferenced maps of the project sites, and baseline data sets relevant to and climate change adaptation targets and carbon sequestration targets.	21,000.00	15,305.00	5,695.00
Social & Environmental Safeguards specialist (national consultant) to support the screening of the project-related risks and develop mitigation and management plans to address confirmed SES risks, including ESMF, GRM and the required management frameworks/plans as appropriate, such as Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), and Report of initial Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) consultations with indigenous peoples in the targeted landscape.	17,500.00	12,705.00	4,795.00
Gender and Livelihood Development expert (national consultant) to conduct a socio-economic baseline study, develop a livelihoods assessment report, identify opportunities for private sector engagement and co-financing and develop a Livelihood Action Plan, Gender Analysis and Action Plan, and support documentation of initial Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) consultations with Safeguards Expert.	17,500.00	12,705.00	4,795.00
Printing production and audio-visual costs to support stakeholder consultations, with translation services of printed documents to support local stakeholders and office consumables.	5,750.00	3,771.00	1,979.00
Office supplies and office consumables to support PPG activities.	400.00	400.00	
Communication, internet, and other travel expenses, not directly covered by activities.	600.00	600.00	
Cost for local travel within Togo by the International Team Leader, 4 local consultants with local DSA for 2 days for the validation meeting and field visits. The travel cost for 5 Working Group members for inception workshop and validation workshop.	37,950.00	35,106.00	2,844.00
Costs related to Inception Workshop; costs related to 3 workshops with beneficiaries at local level; Validation Workshop costs	11,800.00	10,000.00	1,800.00
Total	200,000.00	158,507.00	41,493.00

ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES

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

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
IZ-1	9.1289	1.24396	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
IZ-2	8.87568	1.00346	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
IZ-4	8.66555	1.21059	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
IZ-4	8.47134	1.02562	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
IZ-5	8.27665	0.96142	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

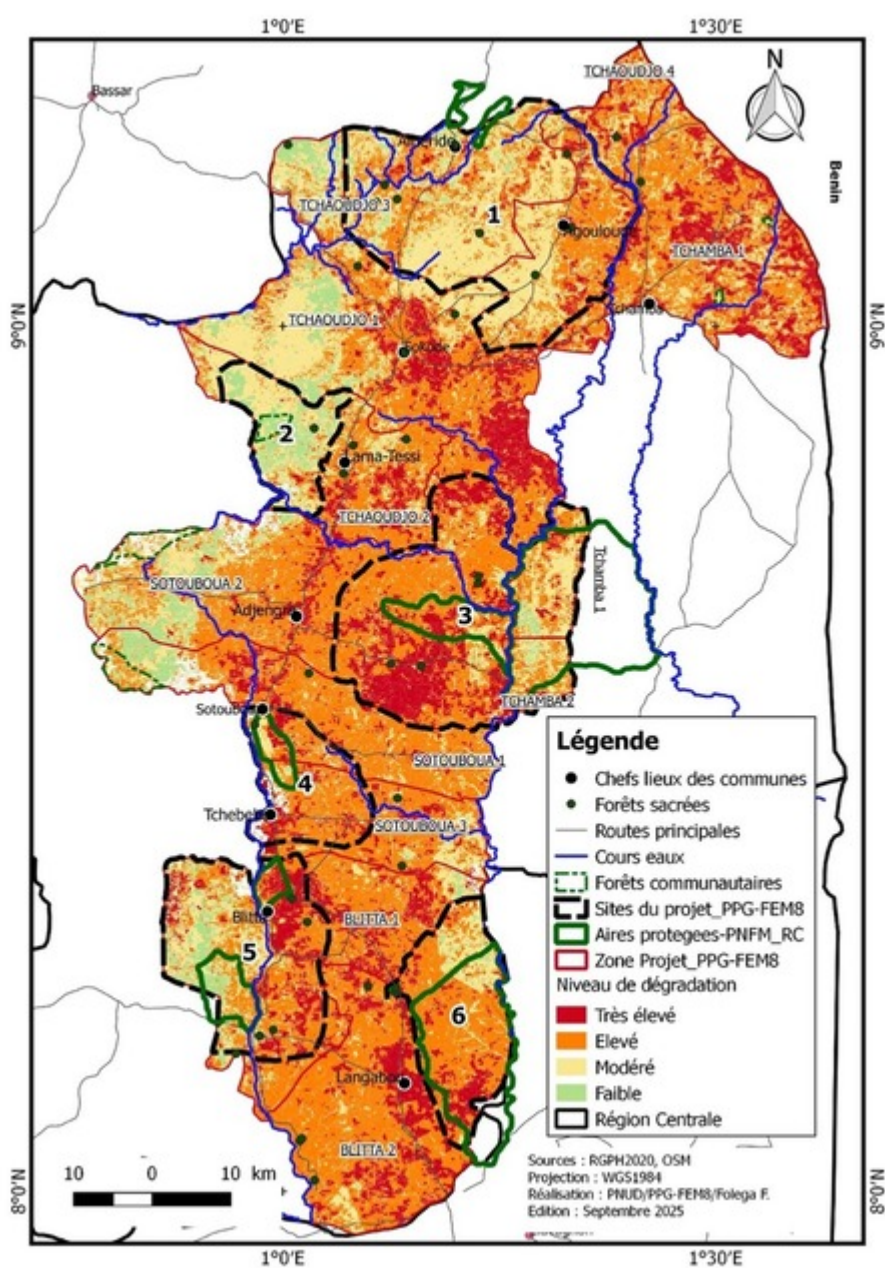
Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
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IZ-6	8.20318	1.20296	
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Location Description:

Activity Description:

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



Levels of land degradation within intervention area and intervention zones

ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

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

Title

PIMS 9764 ESMF_20Feb2026

PIMS 9764_Togo SESP_20Feb2026

ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)						Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)[1]
		Component 1	Component 2	Component 3	Component 4	M&E	PMC		
		Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3	Outcome 4				
Contractual services- Company	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of the contracts for a firm to conduct the MTR @\$40,000 and a firm to conduct the Final Evaluation of the project approximately @\$40,000					80,000		80,000	UNDP
	Engagement of firms to conduct detailed baseline surveys, socio-economic and livelihood analyses, and mapping of restoration sites @ \$135,000 (100% GEF)	135,000						135,000	MERFPCCC
	Engagement of firms to develop FLR databases, including SEPAL/ABC integration and demonstration site monitoring @ \$107,000 (100% LDCF)	107,000						107,000	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 42% (GEF) and 58% (LDCF) of the costs associated to the Firms contracted for restoration implementation and field interventions (\$386,633), Protected Area and OECM Restoration (\$412,883) Monitoring, Baseline and Analytical Support (\$286,633) and Capacity Building, Technical Facilitation, and Community Engagement (\$396,633) Details in Annex 7		1,482,782					1,482,782	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 72% (GEF) and 28% (LDCF) of the cost associated with the engagement of a firm specializing in large-scale FFS demonstration plots and piloting of climate-resilient agricultural and agroforestry technologies @ \$776,000, including planning, mobilization, execution, supervision, and reporting			776,000				776,000	MERFPCCC
	100% (LDCF) of cost to establishment and operationalization of 20 processing units, value chain linkages, and MSME support interventions @ \$500,965 including facilitation, training, and coordination			500,965				500,965	MERFPCCC
	100% (LDCF) for cost to soil and water conservation structures, multi-use water control, and integrated rangeland management interventions across demonstration sites @ \$450,965, including material provision, installation, technical supervision, and monitoring			450,965				450,965	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 43% (GEF) and 57% (LDCF) of the cost associated with subcontracting companies supporting community radio production, multimedia content for awareness campaigns, GIS mapping services, and technical support for dissemination of findings @\$53,133				53,133			53,133	MERFPCCC
	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of the cost associated with international consultancy firm, Social and Environment Safeguard expert to conduct a scoped ESIA/ESMP based on the baseline studies that are conducted during the project preparation phase				50,000			50,000	MERFPCCC
Subtotal Contractual Services – Company		242,000	1,482,782	1,727,930	103,133	80,000	-	3,635,845	
	100% (LDCF) of cost of Contractual appointment of an Administrative and Finance Assistant - 60 months @ \$1,000/month						60,000	60,000	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 34% (GEF) and 66% (LDCF) of the cost associated with long-term engagement of one Livelihoods and Climate Change Adaptation Expert to undertake FFS coordination, field supervision, and facilitate MSME, for 60 months at \$2,000/month to provide technical support for demonstration plots, climate-resilient practice trials, value chain support, and MSME development			120,000				120,000	MERFPCCC

	Approximately 39% (GEF) and 61% (LDCF) of the cost associated with the engagement of one Environmental Protection and Safeguards Specialist with technical field staff and training skills for 60 months at \$2,000/month to implement RFS, restoration campaigns, and protected area interventions		120,000					120,000	MERFPCCC
	Cost associated with the engagement of a Monitoring , Knowledge and Evaluation Expert as follows: - approximately 54% (GEF) and 46% (LDCF) of 20 months @ \$2,000 per month to undertake field data collection under component 4, - approximately 40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of 40 months @ \$2,000 per month under M&E component				40,000	80,000		120,000	MERFPCCC
	Engagement of a Project Coordinator as follows: - approximately 40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of 35 months @ \$3,450/month under component 1 for activities related to biodiversity conservation and landscape restoration - approximately 42% (GEF) and 58% (LDCF) of 25 months @ \$3,450/month to liaise with communities, support participatory mapping and radio station engagement, and oversee dissemination activities under PMC	120,750					86,250	207,000	MERFPCCC
Subtotal Contractual services-Individual		120,750	120,000	120,000	40,000	80,000	146,250	627,000	
Equipment	Approximately 78% (GEF) and 22% (LDCF) of costs associated with the purchase of PMU computer equipment (6 laptops with docking stations, two printer/copiers, one of which is color) and furnishings						46,884	46,884	MERFPCCC
	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of costs associated with the purchase of communications and audio equipment including but not limited to two cameras, two video projectors, 6 compasses, 6 GPS devices, and other field equipment for PMU staff						30,000	30,000	MERFPCCC
Subtotal Equipment		-	-	-	-	-	76,884	76,884	
International Consultants	Climate Impact and Ecosystem Modeling Expert: 100% (GEF) of 40 days @ \$650/day, providing guidance on climate projections, hydroflow modeling, and adaptive capacity assessments			26,000				26,000	MERFPCCC
	Farmer Field School (FFS) Design and Implementation Specialist: Approximately 69% (GEF) and 31% (LDCF) of 40 days @ \$650/day, advising on demonstration plot selection, FFS structure, and facilitation methodologies			26,000				26,000	MERFPCCC
	Climate-Resilient Agricultural Practices Expert: 100% (LDCF) of 40 days @ \$650/day = \$26,000, supporting piloting of drought/flood-tolerant crops, crop associations, and soil fertility enhancement			26,000				26,000	MERFPCCC
	Value Chain and MSME Support Specialist: 100% (LDCF) of 40 days @ \$650/day = \$26,000, providing technical guidance on linkages, processing units, and MSME development			26,000				26,000	MERFPCCC
	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Early Warning Systems Expert: 100% (LDCF) of 40 days @ \$650/day = \$26,000, supporting monitoring of adoption, carbon and biodiversity outcomes, and early warning system integration			26,000				26,000	MERFPCCC
	Forest Management and Restoration Expert: 40 days @ \$650/day, focusing on sustainable forest management, non-timber benefits, and carbon assessment (100% GEF);	26,000						26,000	MERFPCCC
	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Specialist: 30 days @ \$650/day, supporting planning and assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem service impacts (100% GEF);	19,500						19,500	MERFPCCC
	Climate Adaptation and Land Use Expert: 30 days @ \$650/day, supporting climate risk-	19,500						19,500	MERFPCCC

	informed planning and adaptation strategies (100% GEF);								
	Decision-Support Tools and Training Specialist: approximately 5% (GEF) and 95% (LDCF) of 50 days @ \$650/day, providing training and guidance on Ex-Ante, Recoil, METT, and other modeling and analytical tools	32,500						32,500	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of the cost associated with the recruitment of 2 Development Policy Experts for 30 months at \$1,853/month each to provide technical support to Component 1 activities across six intervention zones	111,180						111,180	MERFPCCC
	Restoration Field School (RFS) Design and Implementation Expert: approximately 62% (GEF) and 38% (LDCF) of 40 days @ \$650/day, providing guidance on site selection, RFS structure, and facilitation methodologies		26,000					26,000	MERFPCCC
	Agroforestry and Silvopastoral Systems Specialist: 100% (GEF) of for 35 days @ \$650/day, advising on tree-crop-livestock integration and species selection for degraded productive landscapes		22,750					22,750	MERFPCCC
	Protected Area and Biodiversity Restoration Expert: 100% (LDCF) of 30 days @ \$650/day, supporting enrichment planting, ANR, sacred forest and community forest interventions		19,500					19,500	MERFPCCC
	Soil and Water Management and Hydrological Systems Expert: 100% (LDCF) of 35 days @ \$650/day, providing technical support for dikes, grass strips, micro-catchments, and riverbank stabilization		22,750					22,750	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 46% (GEF) and 54% (LDCF) of cost associated with contracting 1 international Gender Responsive Planning and Knowledge Management Expert to prepare survey design, technical assessments, socio-economic analyses, and report regarding the Gender-responsive and inclusive thematic technical reports on impacts of individual restoration and SLM / intensification practices and technologies promoted by the project, including their diffusion for 25 days @ \$650 /day				16,250			16,250	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 46% (GEF) and 54% (LDCF) of cost associated with contracting 1 international Natural Resources Management and Planning and Knowledge Management Expert to prepare survey design, technical assessments, socio-economic analyses, and report regarding landscape-level report on practices and diffusion / uptake patterns and trends for 25 days @ \$650/ day (for Outputs 4.1 and 4.2)				16,250			16,250	MERFPCCC
Subtotal International Consultants		208,680	91,000	130,000	32,500	-	-	462,180	
Local Consultants	FFS Field Implementation Specialist: 100% (GEF) 80 days @ \$350/day, supporting on-site facilitation of Farmer Field Schools			28,000				28,000	MERFPCCC
	Value Chain and MSME Support Consultant: 100% (LDCF) 70 days @ \$350/day, assisting with processing units, linkages, and business development			24,500				24,500	MERFPCCC
	Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist: 100% (LDCF) 60 days @ \$350/day , tracking adoption of practices and outcomes for climate-smart interventions			21,000				21,000	MERFPCCC
	Socio-Economic and Livelihood Assessment Consultant: 100% (LDCF) 60 days @ \$350/day, conducting household surveys and economic analysis to guide FFS and value chain interventions			21,000				21,000	MERFPCCC
	Communications and Training Materials Consultant: 100% (LDCF) 60 days @ \$350/day, preparing manuals, guides, and supporting knowledge dissemination for FFS and MSME activities			21,000				21,000	MERFPCCC

	Approximately 78% (GEF) and 22% (LDCF) of cover Climate-Resilient Agriculture and Agroforestry Advisor cost: 70 days @ \$350/day, providing technical guidance on crop associations, intercropping, and soil fertility techniques			24,500				24,500	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 41% (GEF) and 59% (LDCF) of contracts for national consultants supporting design and operationalization of RFS curricula, baseline and site surveys, socio-economic and ecological assessments, restoration planning for agricultural, forest, and rangeland systems, and facilitation of participatory restoration interventions Estimated 400 consultant days at \$350/day		140,000					140,000	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 46% (GEF) and 54% (LDCF) cost associated with 1 national consultant, Development, Planning and Knowledge Management Expert: (i) to collect and compile technical data on restoration and SLM/regenerative agro-ecological practices promoted by the project, including measurements of crop yields, soil quality, water retention, biodiversity, and other ecological indicators at selected pilot and demonstration sites for 25 days @ \$350/day (activity 4.1.1) and (ii) to compile case studies and lessons learned on successful adoption pathways, barriers, and enabling conditions, including peer-to-peer knowledge transfer, Restoration Field School contributions, and connections to value chains and MSME interventions for 28 days @ \$350/day (activity 4.2.3)				18,550			18,550	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 42% (GEF) and 58% (LDCF) a Communication Specialist to liaise with communities, support participatory mapping and radio station engagement, and oversee dissemination activities 20 days @ \$325 per day				6,500			6,500	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 53% (GEF) and 47% (LDCF) of the cost dedicated to 1 Expert in Regional Development specializing in regional planning supporting the design and operationalization of platforms 80 days@ \$375/day	30,000						30,000	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 53% (GEF) and 47% (LDCF) of the cost dedicated to 1 Decentralization Expert 1*35 days @ \$375/day to support technical working groups design and operationalization	13,125						13,125	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 53% (GEF) and 47% (LDCF) of the cost dedicated to 1 Expert specialized in Natural Resource Management 1*35 days@ \$375/day to support technical working groups design and operationalization	13,125						13,125	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 53% (GEF) and 47% (LDCF) of the cost dedicated to 1 Development Planning Expert to conduct baseline and socio-economic surveys 80 days@ \$375/day, site management plans	30,000						30,000	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 53% (GEF) and 47% (LDCF) of the cost dedicated to: - 5 Forest Management Experts 5*26 days @ \$375/day; one for each prefecture covered by the project - 2 Forest Management Experts to prepare sacred Forest network manuals 2*35 days @ \$375/day, and alignment with regional and commune development plans (1 per lot)	75,000						75,000	MERFPCCC
Subtotal Local Consultants		161,250	140,000	140,000	25,050	-	-	466,300	
Office Supplies	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of costs associated with the purchase of office supplies and consumables for PMU						25,000	25,000	MERFPCCC
Subtotal Office Supplies		-	-	-	-	-	25,000	25,000	
	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) for audit fees and spot checks @ \$3,700/year						18,500	18,500	UNDP

Other Operating Costs	Approximately 49% (GEF: \$26,500) and 51% (LDCF: \$27,000) for the Production and printing of manuals, guidance documents, Sacred Forest network planning manuals, and analytical reports Includes design, printing, and digital dissemination @ \$27,000 (100% LDCF)	53,500						53,500	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 35% (GEF) and 65% (LDCF) of the cost associated with the production of technical manuals, training materials, demonstration protocols, guidance documents, maps, reports, and promotional materials for FFS, demonstration plots, value chains, and MSME support Includes translations, printing, and digital dissemination for all stakeholders @ \$162,000			162,000				162,000	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 43% (GEF) and 57% (LDCF) of the costs associated with the production of training manuals, technical guidance documents, maps, reports, and educational materials for RFS, restoration campaigns, agroforestry systems, and community engagement Includes translations, printing, and digital dissemination for stakeholders at regional, commune, and village levels @ \$70,500		70,500					70,500	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 55% (GEF) and 45% (LDCF) of the cost associated with the production of training manuals, thematic reports, guidance documents, radio scripts, and promotional materials for community awareness, participatory mapping, and dissemination of lessons learned @ \$55,015				55,015			55,015	MERFPCCC
Subtotal Other Operating Costs		53,500	70,500	162,000	55,015	-	18,500	359,515	
Training, Workshops, Meetings	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of costs associated with organizing a series of 5 meetings for the project board members @ \$2,500 each, 2 communications and diffusion workshops @ \$3750 each						20,000	20,000	MERFPCCC
	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of the cost associated with the project's inception workshop and corresponding report @ \$20,000					20,000		20,000	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 34% (GEF) and 66% (LDCF) of the cost associated with the organization of 18 stakeholder workshops @ \$5,500 each, 10 FFS training sessions @ \$4,435 each, 15 participatory planning and review meetings @ \$3,950 each, 6 MSME forums @ \$7,300 each, and 6 demonstration events @ \$5,850 each Includes venue rental, materials, facilitation, per diems, and travel support to ensure inclusive participation and effective knowledge transfer			281,500				281,500	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of the cost associated with the organization of training and awareness raising sessions for municipal staff, CSOs, extension agents, and local communicators, including venue rental, facilitation, materials, per diems, and travel support for participants @ \$50,000				50,000			50,000	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 42% (GEF) and 58% (LDCF) of the costs associated with the organization of 14 field-level RFS training sessions and consultations @ \$5,520 each, along with 10 participatory planning workshops @ \$4,000 each, and 11 restoration monitoring reviews @ \$3,430 each Includes venue rental, materials, facilitation and per diems for participants to ensure inclusive participation and effective knowledge exchange		155,010					155,010	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 50 % (GEF) and 50% (LDCF) for the cost dedicated for the Organization of 12 stakeholder workshops and consultation sessions @ \$5,500 each , 8 technical working group meetings @ \$3,999 each and 6 training events @ \$3,570 each for platform members, local authorities, CSOs, and other partners Includes venue rental, materials, facilitation,	119,412						119,412	MERFPCCC

	per diems, and travel support for participants to ensure inclusive participation								
Subtotal Training, Workshops, Meetings		119,412	155,010	281,500	50,000	20,000	20,000	645,922	
Travel	International and domestic travel to intervention zones for consultants, project staff, and stakeholders Includes 4 international trips @ \$5,250/trip and 30 domestic trips @ \$750/trip to conduct field assessments, consultations, and training sessions across the Central Region (100% GEF)	43,500						43,500	MERFPCCC
	Domestic travel to intervention zones for consultants, project staff, and stakeholders Includes 46 domestic trips @ \$750/trip to conduct field assessments, consultations, and training sessions across the Central Region (100% LDCF)	34,500						34,500	MERFPCCC
	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of costs associated with 4 domestic missions per year @ \$1,500/mission by project team members (over 5 years) related to project management						30,000	30,000	MERFPCCC
	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of the budget allocated for supervision missions @\$6,000					6,000		6,000	
	40% (GEF) and 60% (LDCF) of the travel for monitoring and evaluation travel activities including travel for the consultants and the PMU M&E expert's supervision mission @\$7,669					7,669		7,669	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 50% (GEF) and 50% (LDCF) of international and domestic travel costs to six intervention zones and protected areas for consultants, technical staff, and participants in RFS and restoration activities Includes 4 international trips @ \$5,250/trip and 80 domestic trips @ \$1,000/trip for field supervision, training, and coordination		101,000					101,000	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 39% (GEF) and 61% (LDCF) of the cost associated with international and domestic travel for consultants, project staff, and participants to support FFS, demonstration plots, technology testing, value chain interventions, and MSME linkages Includes 4 international trips @ \$5,000/trip and 126 domestic trips @ \$750/trip across intervention zones			114,500				114,500	MERFPCCC
	Approximately 52% (GEF) and (48% (LDCF) of the cost associated with domestic travel for consultants and staff to survey sites, participatory mapping locations, demonstration plots, and local/community radio stations Includes 18 trips @ \$750/trip				13,500			13,500	MERFPCCC
Subtotal Travel		78,000	101,000	114,500	13,500	13,669	30,000	350,669	
Project Total		983,592	2,160,292	2,675,930	319,198	193,669	316,634	6,649,315	

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

ANNEX I: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS

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

STAP COMMENT	RESPONSE
STAP is pleased with the land degradation assessment using satellite images. STAP recommends assessing the land potential to complement this analysis, or ground-truth the remote sensing data. This land assessment will also be necessary to strengthen the technical soundness of the restoration activities in component 2. Such assessments will help identify the most suitable restoration techniques based on local conditions, ensuring that interventions are feasible and optimized for the landscape's potential. STAP's Land Degradation Neutrality Guidelines offer guidance on conducting a land assessment.	A multicriteria GIS—remote sensing analysis has been completed using land use, soil, and land productivity indicators through the Earth Map platform to identify degradation levels and restoration opportunities. To complement this, the project will conduct field verification and land potential assessments in each intervention zone prior to launching restoration and SLM activities under Components 2 and 3. These ground assessments—integrated within the baseline surveys (Output 1.2) and planning exercises (Output 1.3)—will validate remote sensing data, refine land suitability classifications, and guide the selection of site-appropriate restoration and SLM techniques, in line with STAP's Land Degradation Neutrality guidelines.
STAP welcomes the analysis of plausible futures based on climate change projections. To strengthen this analysis further, STAP recommends analyzing the trends between climate change, population pressure, and conflict (the three drivers identified in the project), and developing a narrative of the plausible futures to help identify robust interventions to these drivers. At the moment, the simple future narratives only include climate change and its implications for land resources. Population pressure and conflict are missing, as so are the effects of these drivers on adaptation capacity. Equally important is to ensure the application of future narratives when designing interventions.	The project builds on a robust climate risk baseline developed under the FAO-supported Regional Adaptation Plan (CIPA-RC/FAO/GCP/TOG/022/GCR) for the Central Region. This analysis will be expanded to integrate population pressure and conflict dynamics, examining their interactions with climate change and implications for adaptive capacity. Under Output 1.4, scenario modeling and analytical tools (e.g., SEPAL, Ground, Ex-Ante, METT) will support the development of plausible future narratives combining these three drivers. These narratives will directly inform land-use planning (Output 1.3) and the design of climate-resilient interventions in Components 2 and 3, ensuring that strategies are robust, inclusive, and adaptive under multiple socio-environmental futures.
STAP also recommends expanding the climate impact assessment to include community-level vulnerabilities, such as access to resources, food security, and socio-economic resilience, alongside the focus on land and agricultural impacts. This will ensure that the project	During project preparation, community-level vulnerabilities were assessed through participatory rural appraisals (PRAs) and focus group

addresses both ecological and human resilience in the face of climate change.	discussions, which gathered data on access to land and water resources, livelihood diversification, and food security. These findings complemented the FAO-supported climate impact potential assessment (CIPA-RC/FAO/GCP/TOG/022/GCR), providing an integrated view of both ecological and socio-economic resilience in the Central Region. Under the full project, Output 1.2 will expand this work through detailed baseline analyses disaggregated by gender and socio-economic status, while Output 1.4 will apply climate modeling tools to assess combined ecosystem and community vulnerabilities. Together, these efforts will strengthen both ecological and human resilience, ensuring that adaptation interventions directly respond to local livelihood and vulnerability conditions.
Component 2 and 3 focus on value chains, yet, a distinction between the value chains for each component is not clear. Both value chain interventions appear to have the same outcomes – that is, to be climate resilient and generate benefits from restoration, agroforestry, and agriculture. It seems more logical to combine the value chains under one component and design the interventions to be climate resilient. See the point above.	In response to this comment, the project design has been revised to clarify the distinction between Components 2 and 3. All value chain-related activities have now been consolidated under Component 3, which focuses on strengthening climate-resilient agricultural, agroforestry, and forestry value chains, including restoration-linked products such as seedlings and non-timber forest products. Component 2, in contrast, is now fully dedicated to on-the-ground restoration, soil and water management, and landscape rehabilitation interventions.
To improve the technical soundness of the theory of change, identify the assumptions for each outcome. The risks associated with each assumption should also be specified (e.g., climate risks affecting agroforestry or agricultural production; soil health is good and capable of restoring ecosystems). The risk table should include risks that remain despite good project design.	Assumptions are included in the theory of change diagram
For the risk table, consider revisiting it and embedding the climate risks, or the outcomes from the climate analysis that will be carried out during the PPG phase, into the project design. The same applies to the political and governance risks. For innovation risks, suggest paying close attention to residual risks associated with restoring land (once a land potential assessment has been done) – that is, what risks remain for soil health to be restored, ecosystems to be generated, and adaptive capacity to be strengthened, as a result of the land potential assessment.	The risk table has been revised based on PPG assessment. In addition, the proposal has integrated STAP's recommendations by embedding climate, governance, and innovation risks directly into project design. Climate analysis, hydrological

	modeling, early warning inputs, and scenario-based planning are incorporated into Outputs 1.3, 1.4, 2.2, and 3.1, while governance risks are addressed through strengthened multi-stakeholder platforms and clearer coordination mechanisms under Component 1. Land potential assessments and ground-truthing guide restoration design, and monitoring tools help manage residual ecological risks.
Besides integrated land use management, the project would benefit from incorporating integrated land use planning (See reference: https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/ba284804-d5d0-4e5c-94da-e0eee64f1f0d/content)	Integrated land-use planning has now been fully incorporated into the project's design through Component 1. Activities include landscape-level spatial analyses, participatory land-use mapping, and the preparation of commune-level and regional implementation plans that align restoration, agriculture, and conservation priorities. Multi-stakeholder platforms will guide the planning process, ensuring that land-use decisions integrate climate risks, adaptation needs, gender considerations, and cross-sector coordination to deliver coherent and climate-resilient landscape outcomes.
While the project adopts an integrated approach by addressing key land uses—arable, forest, and grazing—it is crucial to clarify and enhance interventions for grazing lands, particularly in managing water resource conflicts among agro-pastoralist communities. A targeted strategy should be developed to improve water access, promote sustainable water management practices, and establish conflict- resolution frameworks and shared governance models to ensure equitable access and reduce tensions over increasingly scarce water points.	The project strengthens grazing-land and water-management interventions through several targeted activities described in Annex 4. Under Outputs 1.1 and 1.3, multi-stakeholder platforms and land-use planning processes explicitly address transhumance management, shared water-point governance, and conflict-resolution mechanisms. Activity 2.3.4 further improves water access by establishing managed grazing corridors. Together, these measures provide an integrated strategy to reduce resource-based conflicts and enhance sustainable water management for agro-pastoralist communities.
It is commendable that the proposal considers both distal and proximal causes of environmental degradation. However, the analysis would benefit from a more thorough literature review to strengthen its foundations. For instance, existing research on the impact of agriculture on environmental degradation has not been cited, despite its relevance to the proposed interventions. Incorporating relevant	Key references used in developing the site analysis are listed in footnote 26 of the project document

studies will provide a more robust understanding of the issues, help identify proven solutions, and ensure that the proposed actions are informed by the latest evidence and best practices in the field.	
To achieve transformative impact (sustainable, systemic change at scale), the project should prioritize capacity development to address key barriers and integrate land governance into the policy component to resolve resource conflicts among agro-pastoralist communities.	The project fully integrates capacity development as a core strategy for removing the key barriers that currently limit sustainable, systemic change. Across Components 1–4, the project delivers targeted capacity building for local authorities, technical services, community organizations, and value-chain actors—ranging from integrated land-use planning and climate-risk analysis to restoration technologies, agroecological intensification, and knowledge management. Land governance is explicitly incorporated into the policy and planning work under Component 1, where multi-stakeholder platforms and technical working groups address tenure issues, transhumance governance, and mechanisms for preventing and resolving land resource conflicts among agro-pastoralist communities.

Council comments

Comment	Response
- I find that the project contributes to the UK climate objectives this project is aligned with the Kunming-Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework target to which UK was is committed. I also appreciate the multi-stakeholder approach, and the private sector approach and the community involvement and empowerment (especially of women). The project also tackle various type of barriers, from institutional level to the field level (communities). - Only 12 private sector companies will be supported, which I think is too few for this large project. I would also like to know if there is a target for supporting women-owned companies. - I also understood that Togo is in a transition from a presidential to a parliamentary regime. Maybe this should be added in the risk register, with mitigation action for continued engagement with the government on improving the policy land management framework. - And finally I can see that a lot of crucial aspects of the projects will need to be refined during the PPG, I hope	<u>Re. 12 private sector companies / women-owned companies:</u> The submission targets a total of 20 private sector companies, at least 8 of which will be women-owned companies in areas such as shea butter, nére, baobab and cashew fruits transformation. <u>Re. presidential / parliamentary transition issue:</u> At the time of this project resubmission (February 2026), Togo's political system is no longer considered to be in transition. The transition has been a relatively smooth one and thus this has not been added to the risk register at the country office level.

that the budget (200K) will be sufficient to conduct of the PPG activities/studies.	
Japan welcomes the work program, which realized almost equal formulation of projects in all 5 focal areas, while contributing to the implementation of different MEAs. We are, however, concerned that some projects with a large (almost 1:10) co-financing proposed by one country, such as ID 11548, 11693, and 11697, may have been inflated. We hope that this risk is taken into account in project designs, and recommend careful review to backcheck the proposed figures for co-financing as well as the value of the grants proposed.	<u>Re. cofinancing:</u> All cofinancing figures have been carefully reviewed and confirmed by letter.
<u>Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final program proposal:</u> Germany welcomes the planned expansion of the FLR measures beyond the prefecture of Tchamba to the prefectures of Tchaoudjo, Sotouboua, Blitta and Mo as part of the project evaluated here is a further step towards the dissemination of agroforestry approaches. The agroecological approach promotes diversification and at the same time ensures the economic participation of the local population through various value chains. The planned knowledge management ensures the adoption of best practices (including FLR). Germany welcomes the priority given to ensure food security through irrigation and mechanization. Several international partners are already involved in this area, such as France, Germany, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the World Bank (WB) are implementing extensive programmes to build irrigation infrastructure, promote mechanization and train skilled workers. These ongoing projects are making a significant contribution to strengthening agricultural production and could be made even more effective through targeted coordination. Germany suggests to avoid duplication and use its resources strategically to close existing gaps and create synergies with the ongoing measures.	<u>Re. avoiding duplication:</u> The project team has gone to great lengths to avoid duplication of previous and ongoing projects. In particular, it has been designed to complement and leverage ongoing investments by Germany, France, AfDB, and the World Bank, rather than duplicate them. Baseline programs already support irrigation infrastructure, mechanization, and skills development in the Central Region. The project therefore focuses on closing gaps in climate risk integration, ecosystem restoration, agroecological practices, and value chain resilience, which are not fully addressed by infrastructure-heavy initiatives. Through the multi-stakeholder platforms and coordination mechanisms supported under Component 1 (including engagement with existing regional committees and development partners), the project will align planning, share data, and synchronize interventions, ensuring strategic complementarity, targeted co-financing opportunities, and operational synergies with ongoing programs.

Convention Secretariat comment

Comment	Response
Regarding C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES Very much appreciate the mapping with the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF). If possible, please kindly regroup in terms of primary links and secondary links link with the KM-GBF targets (ii) Secondary link with the KM-GBF targets	The alignment with KM-GBF targets is now presented in the form of a table with two sections, for primary and secondary links.