GEF-8 PPG REQUEST FOR GBFF PROJECTS

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General Project Information

Project Title:

Advancing integrated participatory spatial planning to enhance Samoa's globally significant biodiversity at a national scale

Region:	**GEF Project ID:**
Samoa	11582
Country(ies):	**Type of Project:**
Samoa	GBFF
GEF Agency(ies):	**GEF Agency Project ID:**
FAO	751067
Anticipated Executing Entity(s):	**Anticipated Executing Type:**
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE)	Government
GEF Focal Area (s):	**Submission Date:**
Biodiversity	3/27/2024

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Taxonomy

Biodiversity, Focal Areas, Mainstreaming, Species, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Productive Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Food Security, Land Degradation, Sustainable Forest, Sustainable Land Management, Sustainable Agriculture, Sustainable Livelihoods, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Climate Change Mitigation, Climate Change, Small Island Developing States, Climate Change Adaptation, Sustainable Development Goals, Learning, International Waters, Stakeholders, Indigenous Peoples, Private Sector, Civil Society, Academia, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Behavior change, Communications, Public Campaigns, Awareness Raising, Beneficiaries, Information Dissemination, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Participation, Consultation, Local Communities, Gender Equality, Participation and leadership, Gender results areas, Women groups, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Capacity Development, Knowledge Exchange, South-South, Peer-to-Peer, Training, Knowledge Generation, Theory of change

Type of Trust Fund:	**Project Duration (Months)**
GBFF	36
GEF Project Financing: (a)	**GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)**
1,009,361.00	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	**Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant: (d)**
95,889.00	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	**Total Co-financing:**
1,105,250.00	1,150,000.00
PPG Amount: (e)	**PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)**

50,000.00	4,750.00
PPG total Amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)
54,750.00	1,160,000.00

Project Tags:

GBF Target 1, GBF Target 3, GBF Target 10, Support IPLC, GBF Target 22, GBF Target 23

Indicative Project Overview

To support integrated participatory spatial planning within Samoa's landscapes to enhance globally significant biodiversity and ecosystem functionality

Project Components

Component 1 - Enabling environment for effective biodiversity conservation and management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
240,000.00	273,440.00

Project Outcomes:

Outcome 1 – Enhanced cross-sectoral coordination and capacities to support participatory, integrated, and inclusive biodiversity spatial planning

Project Indicator 1: Number of national institutions with enhanced spatial planning capacities.

Baseline: 1

Target: At least 4

Project Indicator 2: Existence of a geo-spatial platform to support access to BD datasets and inform spatial planning

Baseline: no

Target: yes

GEF Core Indicator 11: People benefiting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (count).

Target: 2,525 men and 2,525 women, (including 50 Gov. staff and 5,000 community members).

Project Outputs:

Output 1.1 –Samoa's Spatial Information Agency (SIA) supported to foster policy coherence and biodiversity mainstreaming in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sectors
Output 1.2 – Two (2) Modular hands-on training delivered on the use of geospatial tools; IPLC-governance, food security and sustainable livelihoods in OECMs

Output 1.3 – Two (2) Data gap analysis conducted, including National Forest Inventory (NFI) design, and scenario analyses of CC impacts on BD conservation in forest and costal ecosystems

Output 1.4 – One (1) online geo-spatial platform established and hosted by MNRE as a "One Stop Shop" to support access, searchability and interoperability between national BD datasets

Component 2 - Integrated participatory spatial planning and management effectiveness

Component Type	Trust Fund
	GBFF
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
500,000.00	569,667.00

Project Outcomes:

Outcome 2 - Enhanced spatial planning and management effectiveness in terrestrial protected areas and OECMs

Project Indicator 3: Number of hectares covered by participatory, integrated, and inclusive biodiversity spatial planning

Target: 281,900ha

GBFF Action Area 1: Percent of land and seas covered by biodiversity-inclusive spatial plans.

Target: 100% of land covered in Upolu and Savaii
GEF Core Indicator 1.1: Terrestrial protected areas newly created.
Target: 10,000ha
GEF Core Indicator 1.2: Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness.
Target: 11,462ha
GEF Core Indicator 4.5: Terrestrial OECMs supported.
Target: 53,000ha.

Project Outputs:

Output 2.1 – Integrated participatory spatial plans developed for the two main islands of Upolu and Savaii

Output 2.2 – Terrestrial PAs identified in forest and coastal areas of particular importance for biodiversity and submitted for official designation

Output 2.3 – Three (3) management plans of terrestrial national parks developed/updated and submitted for official adoption

Output 2.4 – Terrestrial OECMs identified in community conservation areas and submitted for official declaration

Component 3 – Knowledge management, learning and gender mainstreaming

Component Type	Trust Fund
	GBFF
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
127,601.00	145,380.00

Project Outcomes:

Outcome 3 – Enhanced Knowledge, awareness and learning using gender-responsive approaches inclusive of IPLCs

Project Indicator 4: *Number of gender-responsive and culturally inclusive knowledge products generated and disseminated.*

Target: At least 2, including one on the identification of terrestrial OECMs in community conservation areas

Project Indicator 5: *Number of women and youth from IPLCs who benefited from empowerment sessions*

Target: At least 750 women and 750 youth

Project Outputs:

Output 3.1 – Knowledge related to integrated participatory spatial planning generated and disseminated
Output 3.2 – Learning supported through South-South Cooperation and regional Pacific exchanges
Output 3.3 – Women and youth from IPLCs within PAs/OECMs empowered to fully benefit from project interventions

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
50,000.00	56,967.00

Project Outcomes:

M&E platform established

Project Outputs:

Gender-responsive M&E platform designed and operational

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
Component 1 - Enabling environment for effective biodiversity conservation and management	240,000.00	273,440.00
Component 2 - Integrated participatory spatial planning and management effectiveness	500,000.00	569,667.00
Component 3 – Knowledge management, learning and gender mainstreaming	127,601.00	145,380.00
M&E	50,000.00	56,967.00
Subtotal	**917,601.00**	**1,045,454.00**

Project Management Cost (PMC)	91,760.00	104,546.00
Total Project Cost ($)	**1,009,361.00**	**1,150,000.00**

Please provide justification

Project Concept Description (No more than seven pages total, including 5 pages of text maximum. Concepts longer than 7 pages will be returned. Please note the portal entry will be limited to up to 19,400 characters of text and up to two figures.).

Context and baseline

1.   The independent State of Samoa (Samoa) is bordered to the south by Tonga, north by Tokelau, west by Wallis and Futuna, and to the east by the Cook Islands and American Samoa. Its land area is about 2,820 km2 including two main islands, Upolu and Savaii, with an exclusive economic zone covering about 120,000 km2[1][1]. The 2021 census showed a population of 205,557[2][2] out of which 49% were female. Most of the population lives in coastal and rural areas within the two main islands, and rely on the biodiversity-based economy, including agriculture, fisheries and tourism[3][3].

2.   Samoa had a GDP per capita of 3,745.6 in 2022[4][4], its economy relies on its narrow resource base and remains highly vulnerable to external factors including commodity price volatility, global supply chain disruptions, crop diseases, tourism demand and natural disasters. Samoa's Human Development Index for 2021 positioned it at 111 out of 191 countries and territories, while ranking 99 out of 170 countries on the Gender Inequality Index[5][5], with women making 13% in the Parliament and seven out of 54 MPs. Samoa heavily relies on remittances which represented over 33% of the GDP in 2022[6][6].

3.   Samoa lies within the Polynesia-Micronesia Biodiversity Hotspot which has high levels of endemism resulting from millions of years of isolation, it's flora and fauna is highly endangered due to habitat

destruction, invasive species[7] and rapid environmental changes, making it one of the most highly threatened hotspots in the world with high extension rates among species of birds and land snails.

4.   Samoa has about 2,500 species of insect[8], 770 known species of Native Vascular Plants, 40 known species of breeding birds, 3 known species pf native mammals, 8 known species of terrestrial reptiles, and 64 known species of native land snails[9]. It also has a rich marine biodiversity with 890 coral reef fish, 200 coral, and different species of turtles, dolphins, and whales[10] including the Humpback whales which are listed as endangered on IUCN's Red List[11]. Samoa's terrestrial vegetation includes upland and cloud forests, lowland forests, and coastal vegetation.

5.   The state of Samoa's PA is not accurately known given the gaps and inconsistencies in the available records. Samoa has about 99 PAs, covering 238.02 km² of landscapes and 190.54 km² of seascapes[12], most of which are governed by IPLCs under the designation of community conservation areas and community-based fishery reserves. Despite the increase in PAs in terms of area coverage, PAs and community conservation areas need to be effectively managed, with no management effectiveness evaluations conducted[13]. Samoa's Spatial Information Agency (SIA) which is hosted by MNRE, compiles and maintains the databases of core spatial datasets.
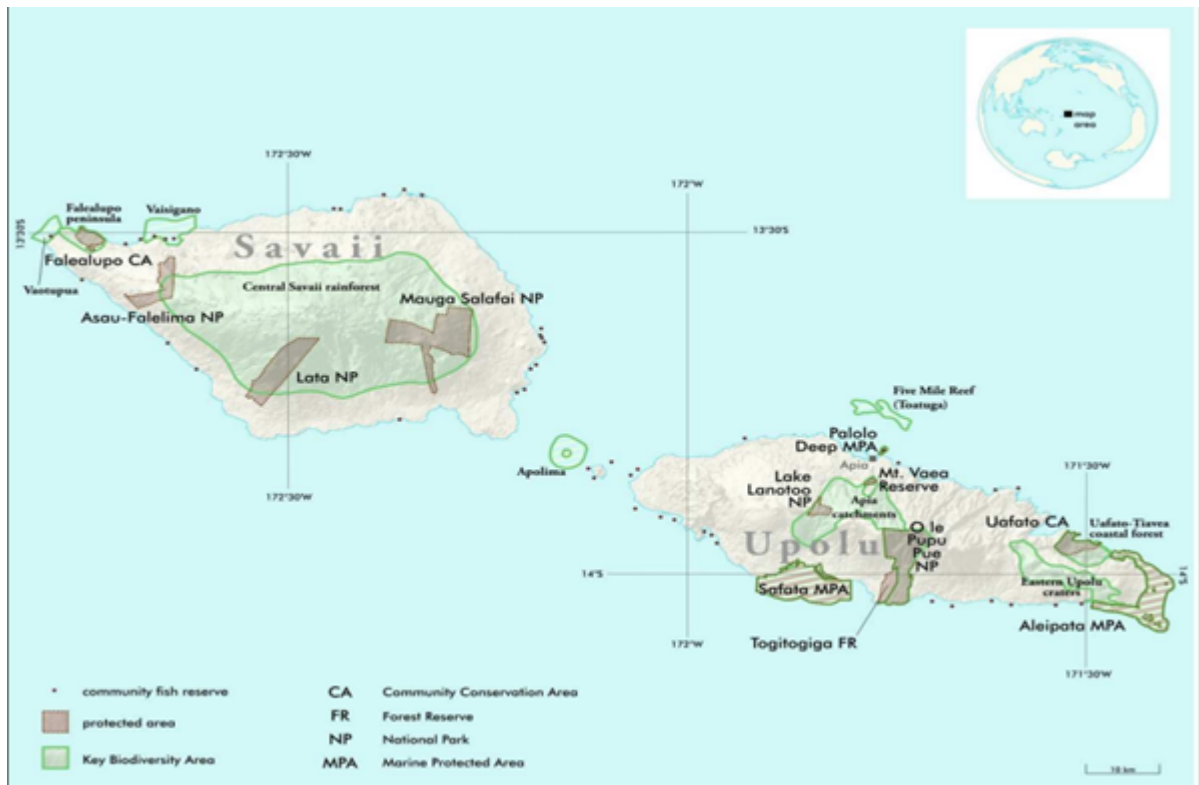
Figure 1: Protected Areas and Key Biodiversity Areas of Samoa[14][14]

System drivers / Problems to be addressed

6.   Samoa's biodiversity and ecosystems are facing unprecedented challenges. Biodiversity loss is primarily driven by land use changes, overexploitation of resources including in inshore areas, invasive pests and species, climate change, land tenure, and socio-economic changes. Land use changes can be seen through agricultural encroachment, deforestation, and infrastructure development with most of Samoa's settlements concentrated in coastal areas. Samoa's merchantable forests were nearly depleted in the late 80s, pigeons and bats are seasonally harvested, and most fishing occurs in the reef and the inshore area. More than 80% of Samoa's land is governed through the traditional land tenure system, which encourages a free-for-all regime while the rules governing the use of land under communal ownership have not been effective. Outflows of skilled workforce and youth, and the increasing reliance on remittances could further affect consumption patterns leading to high environmental footprint and pollution.

7.   Invasive alien species have had serious consequences on Samoa's economy and environment. Local Taro varieties went extinct in the 90s after being infected by the taro leaf blight wreaking havoc in Taro

exports and revenues. The 2019 tsunami had an impact on marine and terrestrial habitats[15][15], hence the importance of integrating scenarios of climate change impacts to inform spatial planning processes.

8. Future narratives, including factors related to population growth, household consumption patterns, climate change, and external shocks are set to further disrupt the fragile equilibrium in Samoa's natural ecosystems leading to further loss of habitats, species, and ecosystem services.

Goal and objectives

9. This project aims to support integrated participatory spatial planning in Samoa, working with IPLCs including women and youth groups, to identify priority areas for conservation, ecological restoration, and connectivity enhancement at a national scale (Action Area 1); and enhance coordination and policy coherence to mainstream biodiversity into agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors (Action Area 6). In the baseline scenario, there is a need to scale up site-level spatial planning efforts to the national level using the island as the spatial unit for an effective management of areas of particular importance for biodiversity.

Justification for project interventions

10. **Limited policy coherence, capacities, and datasets for effective spatial planning:** Despite the progress made there is insufficient cross-sectoral coordination to ensure policy coherence for the sustainable use of biodiversity in productive sectors. Persisting gaps in spatial datasets including with regards to forest inventories and climate impacts on biodiversity conservation and community resilience. Moreover, the limited institutional and technical capacities for the use of geo-spatial tools and platforms, continue to hinder the effective use of integrated participatory spatial planning at a national scale.

11. **Insufficient measures to enable integrated participatory spatial planning and improve management effectiveness:** Due to resources and knowledge constraints, existing PAs, KBAs, and potential OECMs are not effectively managed. In the absence of a data-driven national-level spatial planning using the island as the spatial unit, planners are lacking the science-based decision support system to inform geospatial reasoning for an effective conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in forest and coastal ecosystems. Moreover, the insufficient understanding of the cultural dimensions of natural ecosystems impedes the success of spatial planning interventions in effectively engaging IPLCs to strengthen land-use governance and support sustainable and resilient livelihoods in community conservation areas.

12. **Limited Knowledge, awareness and understanding of integrated, participatory, inclusive and gender-responsive spatial planning**: Despite the substantive investments made to date, policymakers and planners have llimited access to knowledge and learning opportunities that codify spatial planning experiences and raise awareness about its use to sustainably use and conserve biodiversity and enhance

ecological integrity. Similarly, the limited understanding of cultural aspects and values, constrains the ability to effectively engaging IPLCs, including women and youth groups, to fully benefit from project interventions and contribute to its results.

Expected results (including GEBs and GBF headline indicators)
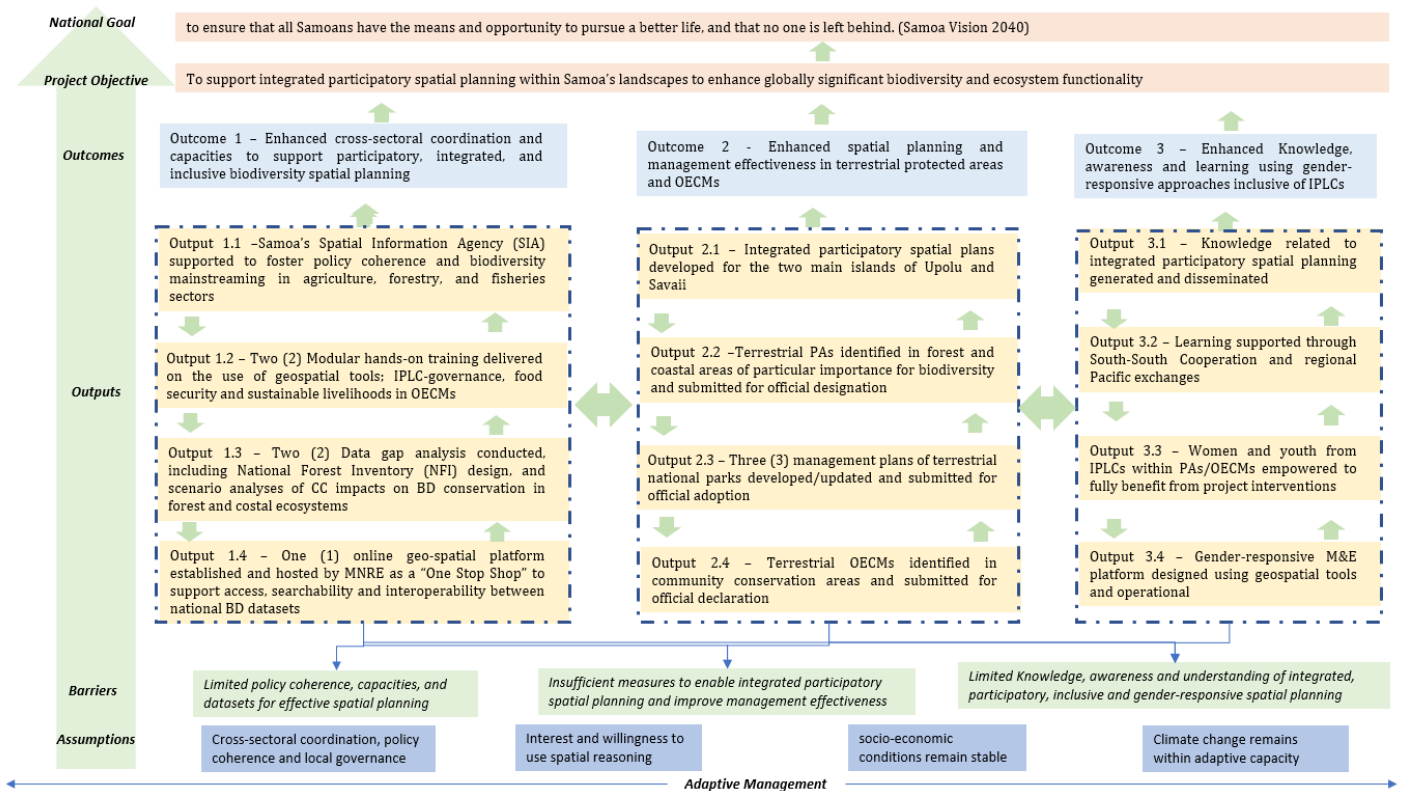
13. The project will support integrated participatory spatial planning at a national scale working with IPLCs and using a whole of government and society approaches. Island-based spatial planning using a geo-spatial platform will inform geospatial reasoning to identify priority areas for conservation of habitats for endemic and highly threatened native flora and fauna, inform ecological restoration interventions to maintain ecosystem functionality and enhance connectivity within an extended mosaic of PAs/KBAs and community conservation areas (Action Area 1). Cross-sectoral coordination and policy coherence will support biodiversity mainstreaming in Forestry, agriculture and fisheries (Action Area 6). The project will contribute to the following GBF headline indicators: 1.1 Per cent of land and seas covered by biodiversity-inclusive spatial plans; 3.1 Coverage of protected areas and OECMs; and B.1 Services provided by ecosystems.

Project Description

14. The project ToC showcases the causal pathways according to which integrated participatory spatial planning, that is inclusive of IPLCs, supports globally important biodiversity and ecosystem functionality through enhanced geospatial reasoning and improved management effectiveness. First, we focus on strengthening policy coherence, cross-sectoral coordination, datasets (including the design of an NFI using FAO's Voluntary Guidelines on National Forest Monitoring), and geospatial capacities, leading to the development of integrated spatial plans for the two main islands of Upolu and Savaii, using participatory and gender responsive approaches.

15. A central piece of this causal connection is the use of enhanced geospatial reasoning at a national scale to deliver better conservation outcomes, by expanding areas covered by PAs, identifying potential OECMs and improving management effectiveness to enhance ecological integrity and connectivity in areas of particular importance for biodiversity. Interventions will focus on forest ecosystems at 800m above sea level, and coastal ecosystems to complement the ongoing marine spatial planning putting Samoa on track for its 30x30 conservation target.

16. To do so, the project will use adapted knowledge management, M&E and learning approaches to enhance capacities to facilitate the use of geospatial tools and platforms. It will generate gender-responsive knowledge products, adapted to the local context and disseminated for deep scaling. The project will also use community-based participatory and inclusive approaches working directly with traditional Councils of Chiefs and Women's Committees at village level to empower women, youth and IPLCs and ensure their effective engagement in project interventions.

17. The following assumptions were made for the project to achieve its targets. First, there should be strong coordination at the institutional and local levels to enable policy coherence and improve local governance of customary land. Second, planners and decision makers should be willing to use evidence-based spatial reasoning and implement the improved management plans for PAs/KBAs. Third, the socio-

economic conditions should remain stable in the absence of major natural disasters and external shocks. Last, climate change should remain within the adaptive capacity of native fauna and flora.

ToC Diagram

National Goal	to ensure that all Samoans have the means and opportunity to pursue a better life, and that no one is left behind. (Samoa Vision 2040)
Project Objective	To support integrated participatory spatial planning within Samoa's landscapes to enhance globally significant biodiversity and ecosystem functionality

Outcomes

Outcome 1 – Enhanced cross-sectoral coordination and capacities to support participatory, integrated, and inclusive biodiversity spatial planning

Outcome 2 - Enhanced spatial planning and management effectiveness in terrestrial protected areas and OECMs

Outcome 3 – Enhanced Knowledge, awareness and learning using gender-responsive approaches inclusive of IPLCs

Outputs

Output 1.1 –Samoa's Spatial Information Agency (SIA) supported to foster policy coherence and biodiversity mainstreaming in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sectors

Output 1.2 – Two (2) Modular hands-on training delivered on the use of geospatial tools; IPLC-governance, food security and sustainable livelihoods in OECMs

Output 1.3 – Two (2) Data gap analysis conducted, including National Forest Inventory (NFI) design, and scenario analyses of CC impacts on BD conservation in forest and coastal ecosystems

Output 1.4 – One (1) online geo-spatial platform established and hosted by MNRE as a "One Stop Shop" to support access, searchability and interoperability between national BD datasets

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Output 2.3 – Three (3) management plans of terrestrial national parks developed/updated and submitted for official adoption

Output 2.4 – Terrestrial OECMs identified in community conservation areas and submitted for official declaration

Output 3.1 – Knowledge related to integrated participatory spatial planning generated and disseminated

Output 3.2 – Learning supported through South-South Cooperation and regional Pacific exchanges

Output 3.3 – Women and youth from IPLCs within PAs/OECMs empowered to fully benefit from project interventions

Output 3.4 – Gender-responsive M&E platform designed using geospatial tools and operational

Barriers

Limited policy coherence, capacities, and datasets for effective spatial planning

Insufficient measures to enable integrated participatory spatial planning and improve management effectiveness

Limited Knowledge, awareness and understanding of integrated, participatory, inclusive and gender-responsive spatial planning

Assumptions

Cross-sectoral coordination, policy coherence and local governance

Interest and willingness to use spatial reasoning

socio-economic conditions remain stable

Climate change remains within adaptive capacity

Adaptive Management

Project description

18. **Component 1** will strengthen spatial planning coherence and effectiveness building on the mandate of the Spatial Information Agency hosted by MNRE, facilitate access to biodiversity-related datasets and strengthen capacities to use geospatial tools and platforms. **Component 2** will support the development of integrated participatory spatial plans for the two main islands of Upolu and Savaii, expand PAs/KBAs, community conservation areas and potential OECMs to improve ecological connectivity in areas of particular importance for biodiversity, and enhance management effectiveness using participatory and gender responsive approaches, inclusive of local communities. **Component** 3 will support learning and exchanges for wider dissemination and deep scaling while empowering IPLCs, with special focus on women and youth groups.

19. The project will work in complementarity with other baseline investments including: 1/ GEF8 Samoa BGI Child to integrate NBS into planning processes and targeting 10,000ha of terrestrial PAs on Upolu and Savaii islands; 2/SGP program to support NBS benefiting IPLCs within the target landscapes; and 3/ GEF8 SCCF/TF proposal being developed to support climate scenario analysis for biodiversity conservation.

The project will also build on the lessons learned from previous investments including GEF7 10410 focusing on IAS and unsustainable land use practices, and the BIORAP project focus on surveying fauna and flora of Savaii's cloud forests.

20. **Stakeholders Table**

Stakeholder	Role
MNRE	MNRE will be the GEF executing agency. It will coordinate spatial planning efforts at the national level, host the interactive geo-spatial online platform, lead national efforts supporting PAs extensions, OECMs identification, management effectiveness, and deep scaling of knowledge.
MAF	MAF will work with MNRE to enhance cross-sectoral coordination and policy coherence with the Agriculture and Fisheries sectors and support national efforts for PA/KBA extensions and management effectiveness through agro-biodiversity and sustainable fisheries, and deep scaling of knowledge.
STA	STA will work with MNRE to enhance cross-sectoral coordination and policy coherence with the Tourism sector and support national efforts for PA/KBA extensions and management effectiveness through responsible tourism, and deep scaling of knowledge.
Chamber of Commerce	CoC will support the engagement of the private sector in project activities to encourage pollution-free investments and promote the sustainable trade of wild species.
IPLCs/MWCSD	IPLCs will be engaged at the national level the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development, and at the local level through Councils Chiefs and Women Committees at village level.
CSOs	The project will work with Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organizations (SUNGO) to engage CSOs and CBOs trough participatory consultations.

Alignment with GBFF Action Areas

21. The project is expected to make the following contributions: 1/inform geospatial reasoning to identify priority areas for conservation of habitats for endemic and highly threatened native flora and fauna, inform ecological restoration interventions to maintain ecosystem functionality and enhance connectivity at a national scale within an extended mosaic of PAs/KBAs and community conservation areas (Action Area 1); 2/enhance cross-sectoral coordination and policy coherence to support biodiversity mainstreaming in forestry, agriculture and fisheries (Action Area 6; and 3/work closely with IPLCs to strengthen their stewardship of natural resources building on the existing traditional governance schemes at village level.

GBFF Criteria

a. <u>GEBs generated and GBFF results Indicator:</u>

- **GEF Core Indicator 1 (CI 1)**: Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management. Target: 21,462ha including 10,000ha of Terrestrial protected areas newly created to expand PAs coverage and enhance connectivity in central Savaii's rainforest and Upolu's Apia catchment (CI 1.1) and 11,462ha of Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness (CI 1.2) within 3 national parks.

National Park	Island	Area in Ha	WDPA ID	IUCN Category
Mauga o Salafai	Savaii	5,973	555697605	II
O Le Pupu Pu'e	Upolu	5,019	2559	II
Lake Lanotoo	Upolu	470	28496	II

- **GEF Core Indicator 4 (CI 4):** Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas). Target: 53,000ha. It will support Terrestrial OECMs (CI 4.5) working with IPLCs within community conservation areas in Upolu and Savaii in target forest ecosystems at 800m above sea level and coastal ecosystems.
- **GEF Core Indicator 11:** People benefiting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (count). Target: 2,525 men and 2,525 women, including training 50 staff (from MNRE, SIA and MAF) and governance/livelihoods support to 5,000 community members.
- **GBFF indicator Action Area 1**: Percent of land and seas covered by biodiversity-inclusive spatial plans. Target: 100% of land areas covered in Upolu and Savaii.
- **GBF headline Indicator 3.1:** Coverage of protected areas and OECMs. Target: 30% of terrestrial PAs and OECMs, counting the existing terrestrial PAs at 23,802ha, the new PAs under GEF CI 1.1 (10,000ha) and the OECMs supported under GEF CI 4.5 (53,000ha).
- **GBFF indicator Action Area 6**: Services provided by ecosystems.
- **GBF headline Indicator 10.2:** Progress towards sustainable forest management. Target: 100% of Samoa's forest under management plan. The project will support the design of a National Forest Inventory.

b. The project is in line with Samoa's 2015-2020 NBSAP namely: Target 2 under Strategic Goal A on integrating biodiversity into national development and planning processes; and Target 11 under Strategic Goal C on conservation of terrestrial and coastal areas of particular importance for biodiversity. At inception, the project will be re-aligned with Samoa's updated NBSAP. The project is also in line with Samoa's vision 2040, Pathway for the Development of Samoa 2021-2026, Ocean Strategy 2020-2030 which aims to implement a Marine Spatial Plan at a national scale in cooperation with local communities, Food System Pathways 2030, Tourism Sector Plan 2022-2027, and the Community Development Sector Plan 2021-2026.

c. The project will strengthen cross-sectoral coordination and policy coherence to support biodiversity conservation and effective management at a national scale working with a wide spectrum of institutional stakeholders involved in spatial planning and biodiversity mainstreaming in the forestry, agriculture and fisheries sectors (See stakeholders table).

d. The project will work with the Chamber of Commerce, in synergy with the GEF8 BGI Child project, to enable private investments and de-risk flows of private capital into biodiversity-compatible economic growth in Samoa.

e. The project will closely work with the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development, village councils and women committees to co-design and co-execute the national spatial plans. Indigenous and traditional knowledge will inform the design of spatial plans, and IPLCs will be playing key roles in the identification and monitoring of areas of high biodiversity importance. The project will also work with IPLCs to document traditional practices related to spatial governance to inform the spatial planning processes.

[1] https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ws/ws-nbsap-v2-en.pdf

[2] https://www.sbs.gov.ws/census/

[3] https://www.sbs.gov.ws/images/sbs-documents/Economics/SAMOA-AGRICULTURE-CENSUS/SAMOA_AGRICULTURE_CENSUS_2019.pdf

[4] https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD?locations=WS

[5] https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/specific-country-data#/countries/WSM

[6]https://www.theglobaleconomy.com/Samoa/remittances_percent_GDP/#:~:text=Remittances%20as%20percent%20of%20GDP&text=The%20average%20value%20for%20Samoa,173%20countries%20is%205.36%20percent

[7] https://www.sprep.org/att/IRC/eCOPIES/Pacific_Region/47.pdf

[8] https://www.conservation.org/docs/default-source/samoa-documents/priority-sites-for-conservation-in-samoa.pdf?sfvrsn=7828915e_2

[9] https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/final.polynesiamicronesia.ep_.pdf

[10] https://www.conservation.org/docs/default-source/samoa-documents/priority-sites-for-conservation-in-samoa.pdf?sfvrsn=7828915e_2

[11] https://www.sprep.org/news/whales-and-dolphins-survey-concluded-successfully-for-upolu-and-savaii-islands

[12] https://pipap.sprep.org/country/ws

[13] https://www.protectedplanet.net/country/WSM

[14] https://www.sprep.org/att/IRC/eCOPIES/Countries/Samoa/191.pdf

[15] https://www.sprep.org/att/IRC/eCOPIES/Countries/Samoa/171.pdf

Core Indicators

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)
21462	0	0	0

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
10000	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)
			10,000.00			

Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
11462	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Lake Lanotoo	28496	National Park	470.00						
Mauga o Salafai	555697605	National Park	5,973.00						
O Le Pupu Pu'e	2559	National Park	5,019.00						

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)
53000	0	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)
53,000.00			

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

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

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

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

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
		53,000.00			

Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	2,525			
Male	2,525			
Total	**5,050**	**0**	**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)

• GEF Core Indicator 1 (CI 1): Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management. Target: 21,462ha including 10,000ha of Terrestrial protected areas newly created to expand PAs coverage and enhance connectivity in central Savaii's rainforest and Upolu's Apia catchment (CI 1.1) and 11,462ha of Terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness (CI 1.2) within 3 national parks

• GEF Core Indicator 4 (CI 4): Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas). Target: 53,000ha. It will support Terrestrial OECMs (CI 4.5) working with IPLCs within community conservation areas in Upolu and Savaii in target forest ecosystems at 800m above sea level and coastal ecosystems.

• GEF Core Indicator 11: People benefiting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (count). Target: 2,525 men and 2,525 women, including training 50 staff (from MNRE, SIA and MAF) and governance/livelihoods support to 5,000 community members.

ANNEX A: PROJECT FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

Indicative 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	GEF Project Grant($)	Agency Fee($)	Total GEF Financing ($)
FAO	GBFF	Samoa	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 1	706,553.00	67,122.00	773,675.00
FAO	GBFF	Samoa	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 6	302,808.00	28,767.00	331,575.00

Total GEF Resources ($)	1,009,361.00	95,889.00	1,105,250.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount ($)

50000

PPG Agency Fee ($)

4750

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	PPG ($)	Agency Fee($)	Total PPG Funding($)
FAO	GBFF	Samoa	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 1	Grant	35,000.00	3,325.00	38,325.00
FAO	GBFF	Samoa	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 6	Grant	15,000.00	1,425.00	16,425.00
Total PPG Amount ($)						**50,000.00**	**4,750.00**	**54,750.00**

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

(Only for Multi-Trust Fund projects where GEF TF is included)

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total($)
Total GEF Resources					**0.00**

Indicative Action Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Co-financing($)
GBFF Action Area 1	GBFF	706,553.00	805,000.00
GBFF Action Area 6	GBFF	302,808.00	345,000.00
Total Project Cost		**1,009,361.00**	**1,150,000.00**

Amount of resource allocated to support actions by IPLCs for the conservation, restoration, sustainable use and management of biodiversity:

Amount
201,872.00

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
Recipient Country Government	MNRE	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	500,000.00
Recipient Country Government	MNRE	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,000.00
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	Investment mobilized	150,000.00
Total Co-financing				**1,150,000.00**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Co-financing includes:1/Prospective investments by MNRE in Spatial planning and terrestrial protected areas over the 2025-2028 period; and 2/TCP funding from FAO to support the National Forest Inventory in Samoa, funding from the ACP MEAs project and additional TCP funding to support the updating of Samoa's NBSAP in line with the GBF and the Pacific Action Plan for Mainstreaming Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (2024–2030).

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Jeffrey Griffin	3/27/2024			

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

| Ms. Frances Reupena | Chief Executive Officer | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment | 3/27/2024 |