

# GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO CHILD ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

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### **General Child Project Information**

Child Project Title					
"Forests for life - Intact Tropical Fores	t Landscape conservation in Tha	ailand			
Region	GEF	GEF Project ID			
Thailand	111	04			
Country(ies)	Тур	e of Project			
Thailand	FSP				
GEF Agency(ies)	GEF	Agency Project ID			
FAO					
Project Executing Entity(s)	Pro	ject Executing Type			
Department of National Parks, Wildlife	e, and Plant Conservation Gov	vernment			
(DNP), Government of Thailand  Ministry of Natural Resources		vernment			
Ministry of Natural Resources Government of Thailand	and Environment,				
GEF Focal Area (s)	Sub	Submission Date			
Multi Focal Area	6/2:	6/21/2024			
Type of Trust Fund	Pro	Project Duration (Months)			
GET	60	60			
GEF Project Grant: (a)	Age	Agency Fee(s) Grant: (b)			
6,650,153.00	598	598,513.00			
PPG Amount: (c)	PPG	PPG Agency Fee(s): (d)			
200,000.00	17,9	17,999.00			
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Tot	Total Co-financing			
7466665	80,0	80,685,465.00			
Project Sector (CCM Only)					
AFOLU					
Rio Markers					
Climate Change Mitigation Cli	imate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation		
Significant Objective 1 Significant Objective 1	gnificant Objective 1	Principal Objective 2	Significant Objective 1		

#### **Project Summary**

Provide a brief summary description of the project, to offer a snapshot of what is being proposed. The summary should include: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? ii) as a child project under a program, explain how the description fits in the

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broader context of the specific program; (iii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

Even though Thailand is a sentinel in safeguarding primary forests in tropical Asia, their loss and degradation remain crucial threats. As part of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)-8 Indo-Malaya Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program (I-M CFB IP), the "Forests for life - Intact Tropical Forest Landscape conservation in Thailand" project works on curbing these threats with the objective "to contribute to securing the long-term integrity of Thailand's primary forests to maximize Global Environmental Benefits related to biodiversity and carbon". This will be achieved through five interlinked components that are mirrored across all projects of the I-M CFB IP. These components utilise the four GEF-8 levers of transformation to (1) create an enabling policy & governance environment for primary forest conservation and sustainable management of forests; (2) safeguard Thailand's key primary forest landscapes through increased management effectiveness of the Protected Areas (PAs) that harbour them; (3) place productive landscapes surrounding PAs under improved practices and increase resilience of forest dependent communities; (4) scale up innovative finance and investment to support forest conservation and sustainable livelihoods; and (5) improve coordination, access to knowledge, capacities, and communication to contribute to primary forest conservation. The Project will lead to Global Environment Benefits in terms of (i) globally significant biodiversity conserved, (ii) components of globally significant biodiversity sustainably used with equitable sharing of benefits, (iii) conservation and enhanced carbon stocks in agriculture, forest, and other land use, and (iv) improved provision of ecosystem goods & services.

The Project's main innovation lies in a truly cross-sectoral and integrated approach, which is manifested at multiple levels including at the landscape level through the operationalization of the landscape approach. While most primary forests in Thailand are conserved in PAs, the project will focus on the improved management of these PAs by additionally addressing drivers of primary forest loss that emerge in their wider landscape contexts. Additionally, to ensure the integration of gender and ethnic minority provisions, special attention will be given to designing activities that prevent harm and promote equal participation and benefits for ethnic minorities, men and women in all interventions.

The Project will be linked to and benefit from the programmatic approach of I-M CFB IP provided through the Regional Coordination and Technical Support Project (RCP) and its programmatic institutions, services, and processes, such as Program Steering Committee, Annual Conference, thematic working groups related to the technical foci of Components 1 to 4, demand-based technical support, as well as coordination mechanisms related to the cross-cutting issues of knowledge management, monitoring, communications, capacity development and safeguards.

The RCP will be supported by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) as the responsible GEF Agency and executed by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation, Government of Thailand (DNP). DNP will be supported by several national government and non-government partners in cross-sectoral and integrated implementation of the project.

Child Project Description Overview

**Project Objective** 

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To contribute to securing the long-term integrity of Thailand's primary forests to maximize Global Environmental Benefits related to carbon and biodiversity

#### **Project Components**

# 1. Enabling environment for inclusive conservation and sustainable management of primary forest landscapes

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
468,783.00	2,278,084.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1: Enabling policy & governance environment created for primary forest conservation and sustainable management of forests

Output:

- 1.1: Implementation of forest policy and regulatory framework strengthened
- 1.2: Gender-responsive integrated landscape governance in targeted landscapes demonstrated

#### 2. Improved management of PAs harbouring primary forests

Component Type	Trust Fund	
Investment	GET	
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	
1,333,304.00	34,684,126.00	

Outcome:

Outcome 2: Thailand's key primary forest landscapes safeguarded through increased management effectiveness of the Protected Areas that harbour them

Output:

- 2.1: Management and inclusive governance of PAs improved
- 2.2: Best practices of on-the-ground primary forest conservation mainstreaming gender and inclusivity principles demonstrated

#### 3. Improved management of primary forests in buffer zones

Component Type	Trust Fund	
Investment	GET	
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	
2,007,119.00	30,680,735.00	

Outcome:

Outcome 3: Productive landscapes under improved practices buffer PAs and increase resilience of forest dependent communities

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Output:

3.1: Land utilization conflicts resolved, management of land inside PAs allocated to communities strengthened and multiple-benefit green buffers around villages created 3.2: Ecological functions of production land buffering PAs enhanced 3.3: OECMs in targeted landscapes recognized

#### 4. Innovative finance, investment and scale-up

850,140.00	2,669,958.00
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Technical Assistance	GET
Component Type	Trust Fund

Outcome:

Outcome 4: Innovative finance and investment support sustained scaling up of forest conservation for livelihood benefits

Output:

- 4.1: Diversified financing streams for Thailand's primary forests integrating access by women and ethnic minorities identified
- 4.2: Inclusive and gender-responsive carbon financing projects piloted in target landscapes
- 4.3: Gender-responsive and forest-positive livelihood options of communities demonstrated

#### 5. Project coordination, knowledge management, capacity development, monitoring and evaluation

1,484,129.00	6,896,294.00
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Technical Assistance	GET
Component Type	Trust Fund

Outcome:

Outcome 5: Improved coordination, access to knowledge, capacities, and policy support contribute to primary forest conservation

Output:

- 5.1: Programmatic approach and networks for learning and coordination effectively utilized
- 5.2: Primary forest monitoring improved
- 5.3: Gender-responsive capacity development delivered
- 5.4: Communication strategy, advocacy and awareness on Thailand's primary forests delivered
- 5.5: Knowledge, tools, and best practices emerging out of the project collected, synthesized, stored, and disseminated with attention to gender and inclusivity aspects

#### M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
190,004.00	

Outcome:

Effective M&E supporting adaptive management and knowledge generation

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#### Output:

5.6 Effective results-based adaptive management supported by participatory monitoring and evaluation system with attention to sex-disaggregated data and the reporting of gender related results

#### **Component Balances**

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1. Enabling environment for inclusive conservation and sustainable management of primary forest landscapes	468,783.00	2,278,084.00
2. Improved management of PAs harbouring primary forests	1,333,304.00	34,684,126.00
3. Improved management of primary forests in buffer zones	2,007,119.00	30,680,735.00
4. Innovative finance, investment and scale-up	850,140.00	2,669,958.00
5. Project coordination, knowledge management, capacity development, monitoring and evaluation	1,484,129.00	6,896,294.00
M&E	190,004.00	
Subtotal	6,333,479.00	77,209,197.00
Project Management Cost	316,674.00	3,476,268.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	6,650,153.00	80,685,465.00

Please provide Justification

#### **CHILD 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. Since this is a child project under a program, please include an explanation of how the context fits within the specific program agenda. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

#### **Global Environmental Problem**

High biodiversity and large carbon stocks render the primary forests of the Indo-Malaya Critical Forest Biome<sup>2</sup> (I-M CFB) and the ecosystems services they provide essential at the global scale. However, these forests are under sustained

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threat due to anthropogenic drivers of change.<sup>3</sup> Thailand, located at the heart of the region, harbours outstanding biodiversity with at least 15,000 plant species (approx. 8% of plant species globally)<sup>4</sup> and is home to a high number of threatened and endemic species. Thailand's primary forests provide ecosystem services,<sup>5</sup> that include high carbon sequestration potential,<sup>9</sup> climate regulatory functions<sup>6</sup> and the direct livelihood base of a substantial proportion of the population. Owing to high biological diversity, which at the same time is at substantial threat, Thailand is part of the Indo-Burma global biodiversity hotspot.<sup>7</sup>

Thailand is a sentinel in safeguarding primary forests<sup>8</sup> and Intact Forest Landscapes (IFL)<sup>9</sup> that remain in tropical Asia – one third of all IFLs of mainland Southeast Asia, and 7% of all primary forests across the biome are in Thailand.<sup>10</sup> Between 2004 and 2023, Thailand experienced 2.79% primary forest loss, which indicates that both deforestation and degradation of primary forests remain threats. However, during 2012-2023, annual deforestation of primary forests dropped to 4,800 ha per year.

TARLE 1. KEY DATA ON THE TARGETED LANDSCAPES

Scale/	Total area	Primary P. forest 2022	, i	PA		Buffer					Total buffer area	
landscape					Natural restoration		64 & 121	Nationa	l reserve fore		Sor por kor**	
		Total	Core PA	Adjacent PAs	area	Core PA	Adjacent PAs	Community	Kor tor chor*	Other		
Thailand	51.3 m <sup>a11</sup>											
Doi Inthanon	100,454.83	79,964.29	42,861.00	12,138.66	790.12	3,867.68	523.04	1,652.28	616.80	not cons.	1,052.84	7,712.64
Om Koi	481,584.71	393,475.26	117,400.91	165,918.28	2,206.94	2,618.35	7,443.95	34,729.01	2,537.06	not cons.	2,687.75	50,016.14
Phanom Dong Rak	75,520.28	39,899.52	31,013.80	3,720.22	1,799.32	610.07	72.46	441.50	1,774.13	not cons.	11,226.65	14,124.81
Thung Yai Naresuan	345,997.75	312,535.38	193,346.07	108,895.23	238.67***	25,725.04	5,960.31	342.60	-	not cons.	125.34	32,153.28
Total	1,003,557.57	825,874.44	384,621.78	290,672.39	5,035.05	32,821.14	13,999.76	37,165.39	4,927.99	n/a	15,092.58	104,006.87

All figures provided in hectares; \*khor tor chor: degraded watershed forests; \*\*sor por kor: agriculture land reform areas; \*\*\* The natural restoration area in Thung Yai Naresuan calculated as tree planting across areas of Art 64 and 121 (at planting distance of 4 m \* 3 rows, 200 trees/rai)

#### Systems description

The conservation of primary forests is characterised by multiple government departments and stakeholders which necessitates an integrated and multi-stakeholder approach to land governance and management. Forest land is reserved under government ownership in Thailand, managed along institutional divides defined by tenurial classification into (i) Protected Areas (PAs) under the mandate of the Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation (DNP), (ii) plantation and secondary, as well as smaller areas of primary forests under the mandate of the Royal Forest Department (RFD), (iii) Agriculture Land Reform Areas (Sor Por Kor) that are legally forest land de facto void of forest vegetation under the mandate of the Agriculture Land Reform Office (ALRO). Despite the importance of integrated and multi-stakeholder approaches (e.g. integrated land use planning), it hasn't been institutionalized and exist only in pilots.

Thailand's primary forests - geographically clustered into 19 Forest Complexes based on the ecosystem approach are to 75% whereas IFLs to 66% contained within the PA system. Despite adequate coverage, dry forest ecosystems, as well as threatened bird and mammal species are under-represented within the PA system. <sup>12</sup> Disproportionately low loss of IFLs inside PAs indicates their conservation effectiveness (Table 1). Four PAs were selected as the target landscapes that can exemplify the challenges and potential solutions to the conservation and sustainable use of primary forests in Thailand. The PAs (Doi Inthanon (DINP), and three Wildlife Sanctuaries (WS - IUCN Cat. Ia): Om Koi (OKWS), Phanom Dong Rak (PDWS), and Western Thung Yai Naresuan (WTNWS)) were chosen based on their predominant primary forest cover, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, as well as management challenges representative of forest complexes across the country, their predominantly ethnic minority population, and transboundary collaboration opportunities (see also Table 1). The target PAs are buffered by other PAs, as well as

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production landscapes consisting of reserved forests; community forests; degraded watershed forests; private plantations of rubber, areca nut, and economic timber species; agriculture land reform areas and private land used for sedentary agriculture; as well as land used for settlements and infrastructure. Rotational farming / shifting cultivation prevails in forest land primarily in DINP, OKWS, and WTNWS landscapes, as well as across the Cambodia border directly affecting PDWS.

The effective engagement of ethnic groups and local communities are critical for the successful conservation and sustainable use of primary forests. Thailand's primary forest landscapes overlap to a substantial extent with the settlement areas of the country's 12 ethnic minorities that contribute to the intactness of these forests and depend on the ecosystem services they provide. For DINP, OKWS, WTNWS landscapes they include the Karen, whereas for PDWS the Thai-Khmer. DINP also has Hmong, whereas in OKWS there are Lahu populations. Thailand initiated the recognition of low levels of communal forest land rights, which currently cover negligible forest areas across the country and in the target landscapes. Primary forest conservation and sustainable utilization offer untapped potentials to improve the livelihood base of ethnic minority communities, while generating distinct biodiversity outcomes.

#### **Drivers of change**

The key proximate (direct) drivers of deforestation and forest degradation include commodity-driven deforestation from agriculture expansion (primarily for rubber, horticulture, and corn), followed by infrastructure development, wildlife poaching and unsustainable NTFP harvest, and forest fires, <sup>14</sup> caused by NTFP collection (39%), hunting (24%), land clearing for agriculture (19%), accidents (10%), illegal logging (2%), and others (6%), such as mining, and infrastructure development, including for roads and dams. In the Project's target landscapes, common drivers include agriculture encroachment and forest fires from agriculture and NTFP harvest. Illegal logging is a key driver in OKWS and PDWS, as is livestock grazing in OKWS and WTNWS (Table 2).

**Ultimate**<sup>15</sup> (indirect) drivers include rapid economic development, population growth coupled with rural-urban migration, limited cooperation on multi-stakeholder governance of land resources, unclear and insecure recognition of boundaries and land utilisation, illegal trade, and human-wildlife conflicts. Excessively high tourism pressure is a key driver in DINP

The effects of all proximate and ultimate drivers are further compounded by climate change. Subject to the emission pathway, climate change is expected to lead to 0.95°C–3.23°C rise in mean annual temperature by 2090 against the 1986–2005 baseline, together with increased precipitation, concentrated during the monsoon season. The major impacts include floods (with Thailand ranked among the top ten countries affected globally), droughts, and storms linked to cyclones. Agriculture as a main livelihood source and forests as essential providers of ecosystem services show high vulnerability to climate change. Forest floristic regions are expected to shift, and a substantial proportion of species in PAs will likely become threatened or extinct.

In the baseline situation, the following barriers to resolving the global environmental problem remain: (i) limited cooperation on multi-stakeholder governance of primary forest landscapes, (ii) incoherent implementation of the policy and legal framework, (iii) non-fully-inclusive PA governance and unrecognized community tenure, (iv) gaps in information, capacities, and connectivity (including across borders) in PA management, (v) limited livelihood opportunities inside PAs, (vi) barriers to enhanced community engagement in forest management, (vii) gaps in ensuring legal compliance, (viii) insufficient buffering functions of productive landscapes surrounding PAs, (ix) lack of an enabling investment environment, and inadequate financing of PAs, Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs), and sustainable landscapes, (x) weak multi-level linkages for CFB, and (xi) limited access to information and capacities on primary forests and best practices.

The drivers and barriers translate to several common management challenges across Thailand. Table 2 shows common and landscape-specific challenges, which inform project design, including ineffective multi-stakeholder governance, and management, forest land tenure and associated conflicts, un-sustainable tourism, forest encroachment, forest crime, lack or limited forest-positive livelihoods and sustainable financing, transboundary issues, and human-wildlife conflict.

TABLE: DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION AND COMMON MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN THE LANDSCAPES

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Scope	Proximate <sup>a</sup> drivers of deforestation and forest degradation	Common management challenges
Thailand	agriculture-driven deforestation infrastructure development wildlife poaching and overharvesting of NTFPs forest fires <sup>20</sup>	Institutionalize multi-stakeholder governance  Demarcate jurisdictions and clarify land tenure  Engage ethnic minorities into forest management  Adaptation & mitigation to climate change  Provide sustained financing for conservation  Build sustainable livelihoods & value chains/enterprises  Sustainably manage buffer landscapes (SLM/SFM)  Improve use of information & strengthen capacities
Doi Inthanon Landscape	tourism  agriculture (corn, horticulture & strawberry)  forest fires (rotational farming, NTFPs, persecution)  monocultural farming (corn)  livestock grazing  over-tourism	Manage tourism (incl. diversification) & waste  Prevent forest fires  Curb forest encroachment  Manage fragile habitats in high altitude  Manage water resource  Build the community contract not to cultivate monoculture  Limit chemical fertilizer, pesticide and herbicide over-use  Livestock registration, livestock & open grazing area restriction
Om Koi Landscape	illegal logging (Padauk)  forest fires (rotational farming, expansion of agricultural land, NTFPs, hunting, persecution)  Livestock grazing  Monocultural farming (corn, cassava, ginger)  Tourism (waste, fuelwood)	Curb forest crime (illegal logging)  Prevent forest fire from agriculture / NTFP harvest  Livestock registration, livestock & open grazing area  Curb forest encroachment  Build the community contract not to cultivate monoculture  Limit chemical fertilizer, pesticide and herbicide over-use  Improve local species conservation (red goral)  Behave and educate local people involving tourism  Strictly enforce the law on tyrants, implement good governance at all levels
Phanom Dong Rak Landscape	illegal logging (rosewood) & wildlife trade forest fires (NTFPs & agriculture waste) agriculture (cassava & rubber)	Curb forest crime (illegal logging)  Prevent forest fires from agriculture / NTFP harvest  Improve transboundary collaboration  Curb forest encroachment

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Thung Yai Naresuan Landscape	Agriculture (cassava & rubber), rotational farming Livestock grazing Forest fires (rotational farming)	Curb forest crime (wildlife poaching & illegal logging)  Balance conservation and livelihoods inside PAs  Reduce conflicts on land & resource use with communities
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> human activity that directly alters forests

#### **Baseline and future narratives**

The enabling environment is provided through key national policies and strategies that spell out forest conservation and sustainable use, 40% forest cover, deforestation free status, carbon neutrality in 2050, net-zero emissions in 2065, adaptation to climate change, and transboundary collaboration as distinct national priorities. These are in line with Thailand's commitment to multilateral environmental agreements and related processes and targets, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF). The legal framework maintains government ownership over forest land, identifies measures to curb forest loss, enables community forestry outside PAs, encourages private plantations, but also makes forest land available for agriculture. Recent legislation legalises community settlements, mandates land allocation for household use and defines forest user rights inside PAs. Yet, important gaps in implementation remain, primarily linked to multi-stakeholder forest landscape governance, the securing of local communities' land tenure and user rights inside PAs, and certain perverse incentives for increasing agricultural production at the cost of forest conservation. The formal recognition of benefits of community-based forests are largely limited to the collection of NTFPs. Primary forests are mostly conserved within the largest PA system across Southeast Asia with solid technical and human capacities. However, biodiversity conservation contributions of areas located outside PAs remain unrecognized.

Thailand has partially enabled multi-stream financing towards forest conservation and sustainable management. Economically valuable trees can now be used as business collateral for loans, the LULUCF sector was enabled to enter the domestic carbon market through certificates issued according to the T-VER standard also for community-managed forests, and bio-circular green economy (BCG economy) compliant soft loans are made available. However, these remain insufficient for incentivizing the halting of primary forest loss, as evidenced by the rate of forest loss. Private sector engagement in primary forest conservation and sustainable management is largely non-existent.

Baseline investments related to information systems supporting conservation and sustainable management of primary forests include the SMART patrol system, near-real-time deforestation alerts, shared geospatial platforms across sectors with frequently conflicting data, timber tracing systems and the National Forest Inventory. Important gaps include the reconciliation of sectoral geospatial information, particularly on jurisdictional boundaries, combination of these systems for holistic monitoring of primary forests and linking these to alerts triggering on-the-ground verification by multiple institutions.

Key baseline projects focus on REDD+ and the establishment of the national OECM system. Baseline GEF investments focus on the use of Natural Capital Accounting in landscape management (GEF-9542), combatting illegal wildlife trade (GEF-9527), transboundary collaboration on forest conservation (GEF-10794), mainstreaming biodiversity into tourism (GEF-10409), and integrated forest landscape management in northeastern Thailand (GEF-10390). Primary forest conservation and sustainable use as the main objective remains unaddressed in a systematic manner in the baseline.

In the baseline situation, the probability of deforestation risk of primary forests in Thailand is low to moderate.<sup>21</sup> Deforestation risk in the target landscapes is disproportionately high in DINP and OKWS, and disproportionately low in PDWS and WTNWS (Table 1). Highlighting the challenges in making projections under the existing baseline data gaps, lack of adequate models, and the stochasticity of highly complex social-environmental and political systems, different baseline scenarios may be anticipated without the GEF intervention:

Scenario A – full sustainability transition leading to a rapid transgression of the forest transition curve with conservation of remaining primary forests receiving highest policy priority. This scenario is marked by an enabling policy environment, adequately high standards of living of forest dependent local communities built

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on deforestation free livelihoods and effective participation in forest management, an effective PA network complemented by OECMs, and national adaptation and global mitigation efforts minimizing climate change impacts. Scenario A would effectively safeguard remaining primary forests without major impacts. Thailand will achieve all or most biodiversity conservation (KM-GBF) and climate change Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets.

Scenario B — delayed sustainability transition marked by low-rate primary forest loss. Primary forest conservation and sustainable use will have low policy priority, partially conflicting policies, and institutional divides will prevail. Conflicts and disincentives will continue to hamper participation of local communities in forest conservation and management. Primary forests will sustain climate change impacts, leading to altered disturbance regimes and species compositions. The effectiveness of the PA system to conserve primary forests will be partially compromised. With low rates of primary forest loss, Thailand will fail to achieve a part of biodiversity conservation and climate change targets.

Scenario B appears more plausible, projecting further loss and degradation of primary forests. This calls for urgent transformative change at national to local scales, addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and developing responses to the common management challenges identified above.

#### **Project justification**

The above justifies the project objective "to contribute to securing the long-term integrity of Thailand's primary forests to maximize Global Environmental Benefits related to biodiversity and carbon" and presents a clear opportunity for GEF-8 funding to build systematically on the baseline, producing transformational change by removing barriers in target systems to achieve multiple Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs). The project will benefit from the regional programmatic approach that will upscale national and scattered regional efforts, provide technical guidance, exchange of knowledge, best practices, capacity building, outreach, and linkages, and transboundary, regional and global joint action on primary forests. This in turn will catalyse transformational change by the Thailand country project.

The project will build on the baseline specifically by (i) guiding the implementation of baseline legal provisions to increase policy coherence and land use security, (ii) introducing multi-stakeholder landscape governance and management approaches to conservation and management of baseline management units, (iii) resolving conflicts and thereby demonstrating mutually reinforcing situations for existing biodiversity conservation and local community livelihood initiatives, (iv) piloting the practical application of existing alternative financing pathways for primary forest conservation, and (v) enhancing the use of existing information systems for forest monitoring. The design incorporates experiences and lessons learned from previous GEF and other initiatives, and is synergistic with on-going ones, as described under the baseline.

The engagement of multiple stakeholders is essential in terms of (i) government organizations for coherent implementation of the policy and legal framework, particularly related to community participation, investments, and transboundary collaboration, as well as for upscaling best practices emerging out of the IP; (ii) ethnic minorities, local communities, women and members of disadvantaged groups for sustained local forest conservation outcomes supported by enhanced land use security and sustainable biodiversity-friendly gender-responsive livelihood strategies, (iii) private sector for engaging on economically feasible investments providing sustained financing to primary forest conservation including to leverage related green investments such as ecotourism, carbon credit, and deforestation-free supply chain, (iv) INGOs, NGOs, CBOs operating at different scales for capacity development, conflict resolution, advocacy, identification, synthesis and dissemination of best practices, as well as (v) international partners for being able to reap full benefits from the programmatic approach of the I-M CFB IP and beyond.

Purposeful application of the GEF-8 transformation levers will ensure lasting results in view of the future scenario envisaged above. Clarification of community tenure over forest areas will have sustained impacts on reducing conflicts and collaborative landscape and PA governance will ensure that conflicting interests are reconciled and negative implications on forests are avoided. Multiple financing streams and increased livelihood opportunities will increase the value of intact primary forests in the long term.

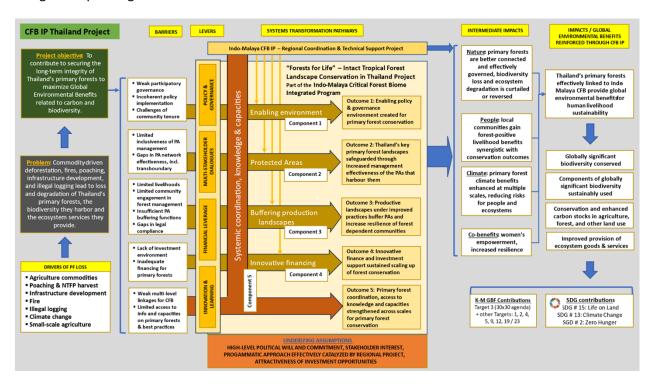
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#### **B. CHILD PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole, including how it addresses priorities related to the specific program, and how it will benefit from the coordination platform. 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

The Project's Theory of Change (ToC) in Figure 1 describes the systemic approach to achieve the project objective "To contribute to securing the long-term integrity of Thailand's primary forests to maximize Global Environmental Benefits related to carbon and biodiversity". The ToC addresses clusters of barriers via distinct, but interlinked impact pathways, along which outputs and outcomes result in intermediate and ultimately in higher-level impacts under a set of assumptions. The ToC also demonstrates the integration of the project into the overall CFB IP context, contributing to regional upscaling.



#### FIGURE 1: THEORY OF CHANGE

The key barriers (see Section A and Figure 1 for complete list) that currently prevent the achievement of the project objective can be grouped into 5 categories:

Barriers to achieving a fully enabling policy, governance, and institutional environment,

Barriers to the effectiveness of Protected Areas (PAs) in safeguarding primary forests,

Barriers to preventing production and buffer landscapes from driving deforestation and degradation of primary forests,

Barriers related to sustainable financing of primary forest conservation and sustainable use, and

Barriers related to effective knowledge management, capacity-building, and collaboration.

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In response to these barriers, 16 key outputs were identified consistently applying all four system transformation levers (TL) of the GEF-8, which also helped to thematically cluster program outputs into 5 inter-linked and inter-dependent components. In particular, the outputs of Component 1 apply TL 1 Governance and Policies and are thus important in setting the enabling conditions to improve the likelihood of success of Components 2, 3 and 4. The outputs of Components 2 and 3 will operate in an integrated manner at the level of the same target landscapes, delivering together the conservation and land management transformation on the ground applying the landscape approach. The outputs of Component 4 primarily hinge on TL 3 Financial Leverage and are critical to provide long-term financing to ensure the sustainability of the outcomes of components 2 and 3. In addition, the outputs of Component 5 will apply TL 2 Multistakeholder Dialogues and TL 4 Innovation and Learning to ensure the required knowledge and capacity is available not only to achieve outcomes of Components 2 and 3, but also to sustain them over the longer-term. At the same time, Component 5 will ensure that the project effectively contributes to and fully benefits from the programmatic approach of the IP through systemic processes focusing on coordination, dedicated partnerships, knowledge management, communication, and monitoring. The Regional Coordination and Technical Support Project (RCP) of the I-M CFB IP will provide coordination and technical support to the Thailand country project primarily through Component 5, but additionally through thematic working groups largely defined the remaining components.

Component 1 focuses on the enabling environment for inclusive conservation and sustainable management of primary forest landscapes. Specific investments will include preparation of a gap analysis on the implementation of the policy, legal and regulatory framework. Support will be provided for mainstreaming primary forest conservation priorities into national strategies and plans, the integration of primary forest conservation priorities into local development plans. In addition, integrated landscape governance will be demonstrated through enhanced community participation in landscape-level committees, reconciling conflicting land claims by concerned government departments, and the preparation of integrated land use plans capturing primary forests in their wider landscape contexts. The component will also support the consistent implementation of policies and regulations, including by integrating gender considerations. The Outputs under Component 1 will lead to Outcome 1: Enabling policy and governance environment created for primary forest conservation and sustainable management of forests. Sufficient political will to instigate the required changes and to consistently implement the policy and regulatory frameworks and multi-stakeholder governance mechanisms, and the associated institutional capacity for these needs to be in place. Ownership by the Executing Agency as well as of several other government organizations involved in Component 1 provides reassurance of the political will, however institutional capacities for coherent policy implementation will need to be built.

Component 2 focuses on Improved management of Protected Areas harbouring primary forests. Outputs will include the enhanced management and inclusive governance of PAs and demonstrated best practices of primary forest conservation. The component will invest into updated guidelines on participatory PA management, review of PA management plans, improved response systems to curb illegal activities, and strengthened law enforcement through community participation under the first output. Under the second, investments include the updating of the national biodiversity survey methodology applied across PAs along with its piloting in the Project's target landscapes, data-driven PA management planning and species conservation, effective forest fire control, strengthened law enforcement, as well as enhanced participatory processes and increased capacities on land regulations relevant for ethnic minority communities residing inside PAs. Improved management and governance of Protected Areas will be achieved through collaborative management approaches with resident ethnic minorities, capacity-building, gender mainstreaming, and improved management planning, enforcement, and the improved use of data for adaptive management. Local community land utilisation inside PAs will be clarified and strengthened. These investments will result in the Outcome: Thailand's key primary forest landscapes safeguarded through increased management effectiveness of the Protected Areas that harbour them. This assumes the willingness of DNP to fully accept the legitimate role of ethnic minorities and local communities, including women and youth in participating in PA governance and management and in resolving land tenure conflicts, and that these groups themselves will be interested to collaborate in PA management and are able to do so effectively. Furthermore, the engagement of grassroots and other NGOs in supporting the piloting of innovative, participatory solutions to PA management and governance and to resolving land tenure conflicts will be essential. This also precludes that PA management does not solely focus on biodiversity conservation, but simultaneously maximizes social and ecosystem service generation benefits valued by concerned stakeholders, and that sufficient capacities and resources are available to PA management in the long term. Thailand's passing of relevant national laws and

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international commitments made especially towards relevant KM-GBF targets suggest that the political will does exist, and this assumption is reasonable.

Component 3 focuses on Improved management of primary forest buffer zones. Investments will range from promoting community-based forest landscape management, enhanced legal compliance through a monitoring system and a volunteer network, increased buffering functions of agricultural landscapes surrounding forests, improved community forest management linked to value chain and enterprise development with direct benefit generation for concerned communities, restoration of degraded watersheds, and the recognition of OECMs in target landscapes. These will result in the outcome: Productive landscapes brought under improved practices buffer PAs and increase resilience of forest dependent communities. It is assumed that there will be sufficient buy-in from both government agencies controlling land outside PAs and concerned local communities within target landscapes to result in outcomes at a meaningful scale. At the same time, the participation of NGOs and of private sector actors in facilitating processes, building capacities and economic enterprises will be important preconditions of success. These assumptions are justified, demonstrated by the participation of the concerned stakeholders in the project.

**Component 4** focuses on reducing the financing gap for protected areas and primary forests outside of PAs, through **innovative finance, investment and scale-up.** The component will engage the private sector and support will be provided for the preparation of a diversified financing strategy for Thailand's primary forests, the piloting of biodiversity credits and the development of carbon projects, as well as the development of gender-responsive forest positive local livelihoods. Investments will improve access to innovative financing schemes including for local communities, ethnic minorities, and women living in protected areas and within future OECMs. The policy implementation work under Component 1, will further reinforce investments under Component 4 and will provide a meaningful contribution to the Libreville agenda. Outputs under the component will lead to the outcome: Innovative finance and investment support sustained scaling up of forest conservation for livelihood benefits. This assumes that enabling frameworks for investment are in place, viable projects will be developed, international biodiversity credit markets will be operational, enough interested investors can be found and local communities buy into the livelihood development support strategy of the Project. The participation of the private sector in designing and financing bankable projects will be essential for success. These assumptions are so far relatively untested and constitute moderate risks for the Program.

Component 5 focuses on project coordination, knowledge management, capacity development, monitoring and evaluation. Investments will be made into effectively utilizing and contributing to the work of the programmatic approach offered by the I-M CFB IP, enhanced transboundary biodiversity conservation and PA management collaboration. Investments in terms of knowledge and information will be made into the development of a national primary forest monitoring system and into effective knowledge management. Communication, advocacy, awareness raising, and capacity building investment will be implemented, triggering transformational change in attitudes and beliefs, and thereby supporting and reinforcing investments across technical components. Finally, investments into the project's monitoring and evaluation system will ensure effective project management. Investments under Component 5 will help ensure that public support for primary forest conservation is enhanced. Ultimately, outputs will lead to the outcome: Improved coordination, access to knowledge, capacities, and communication contribute to primary forest conservation. This assumes political will for transboundary collaboration, as well as broad stakeholder interest and participation of stakeholders, including society at large. These assumptions seem reasonable considering past government investments into transboundary collaboration, and other national baseline investments.

The five outcomes taken together will naturally result in three positive intermediate effects:

**Nature**: primary forests are connected and effectively governed, their loss and ecosystem degradation is curtailed or reversed

People: local communities gain forest-positive livelihood benefits synergistic with conservation outcomes

Climate: CFB climate benefits enhanced at multiple scales, reducing risks for people and ecosystems

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These intermediate effects can only be achieved in case the scale and impacts of project interventions outweigh countering effects. This requires amongst other things that the transformational change in implementing policies, improving the management of PAs and buffer zones, engaging stakeholders in multistakeholder landscape governance, and securing sustainable financing are wide-ranging enough and achieve large scales of impact that go beyond targeted landscapes.

Under the assumption that the delivery of outcomes and resulting intermediate impacts will not be derailed by unforeseen natural disasters, diseases, conflict, or other disruptions, as described in future scenario B under Section A, they will ensure that the Thailand's primary forests effectively linked to the Indo-Malaya CFB provide global environmental benefits for human livelihood sustainability, including (i) globally significant biodiversity conserved, (ii) components of globally significant biodiversity sustainably used with equitable sharing of benefits, (iii) conservation and enhanced carbon stocks in agriculture, forest, and other land use, and (iv) improved provision of ecosystem goods & services.

Ultimately Global Environmental Benefits will contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, particularly targets under SDG 13 Life on Land, SDG 15 Climate change, and distinct partial contributions to SDG 2 Zero Hunger. At the same time, the project will ultimately provide a direct contribution to the achievement of the KM-GBF targets, particularly 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 12, 19 and 23.

The Project's Theory of Change is fully aligned with the regional program, including through a largely mirrored results-based framework structure with direct embedded linkages between the Project and the regional framework provided through the Regional Coordination and Technical Support Project (RCP). Linkages between technical outputs exist throughout all components. The RCP under Component 1 will establish a biome-wide policy and programmatic coordination platform with direct links to the Project, further backed up by transboundary coordination investments with Lao PDR and Cambodia under the Project. Under Component 5, the RCP will deliver a biome-wide diagnostic assessment, partially relying on corresponding national-level assessments, including that delivered by the Project. Building on this, the RCP will support the development of a regional strategy for primary forests for all IP countries.

On the other hand, the cross-cutting themes of stakeholder engagement, communication, capacity development, technical support, knowledge management, safeguards, and monitoring and evaluation and primarily integrated between the Project and the RCP through their Components 5. The RCP will organize Communities of Practice, regional workshops and trainings, development of joint action plans, as well as other South-South exchange events supporting effective capacity development, exchange of knowledge and the development of a shared vision on common management challenges across the region. The ToC through Component 5 will ensure that the Project will be able to effectively benefit from the programmatic approach by contributing to and taking part in these initiatives. The collection, synthesis, exchange, and dissemination of knowledge is explicitly reflected in the ToC of the RCP and the Thailand Project through dedicated matching Outputs with explicit interlinkages between the two. This Output will collect best practices, and synthesize lessons learnt relevant at different scales and collate these experiences at the national level, sharing it locally, nationally and across the biome through the RCP, including through the Indo-Malaya Primary Forest Dashboard. The monitoring systems of the Project and the RCP are linked through matching indicators, through which the Project will contribute measurements of progress to the RCP using uniformly assessed indicators across the IP. Similarly, the safeguards systems of the Project and the RCP are interlinked through Component 5 – the RCP will provide technical backstopping to the Project, whereas the Project will share relevant information on grievances and other safeguards tools to the RCP. Explicit linkages to existing initiatives, platforms, coalitions, and reporting systems at national, regional, and global levels is reflected through dedicated Activity 5.1.2 in both the Thai Project and the RCP. These linkages will be made including with regional initiatives, such as the ASEAN Cooperation on Forestry, the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Asia Protected Area Partnership, and others. The project will be in alignment with commitments made inter alia under the Paris Agreement, the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, and the KM-GBF. This will ensure the dissemination of knowledge and its mainstreaming into relevant agendas involving diverse stakeholders at multiple scales.

The private sector will be engaged primarily through Component 4 and its investments will narrow the financing gap for forest conservation and sustainable use. Investments will demonstrate initially at the landscape scale how economic

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systems can be transformed to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Upscaling of these best practice initiatives through Components 5 and 1 will contribute to market transformation at large.

The Project's success hinges largely on making available and developing institutional capacities relevant to the achievement of the Project's targets. These include technical capacities, which to a substantial extent are in place, as well as capacities related to social aspects including multi-stakeholder processes, conflict resolution, participatory processes, social inclusion, safeguards, and others that need to be built. In terms of technical capacities, the design ensures optimal utilization of these through partnerships with relevant government and non-government organizations, filling capacity gaps, particularly related to cross-cutting social issues.

### Institutional Arrangement and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this child project, including framework and mechanisms for coordination, governance, financial management and procurement. This should include consideration for linking with other relevant initiatives at country-level (if a country child project) or regional/global level (for coordination platform child project). 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)

#### **Project Governance Structure and its elements**

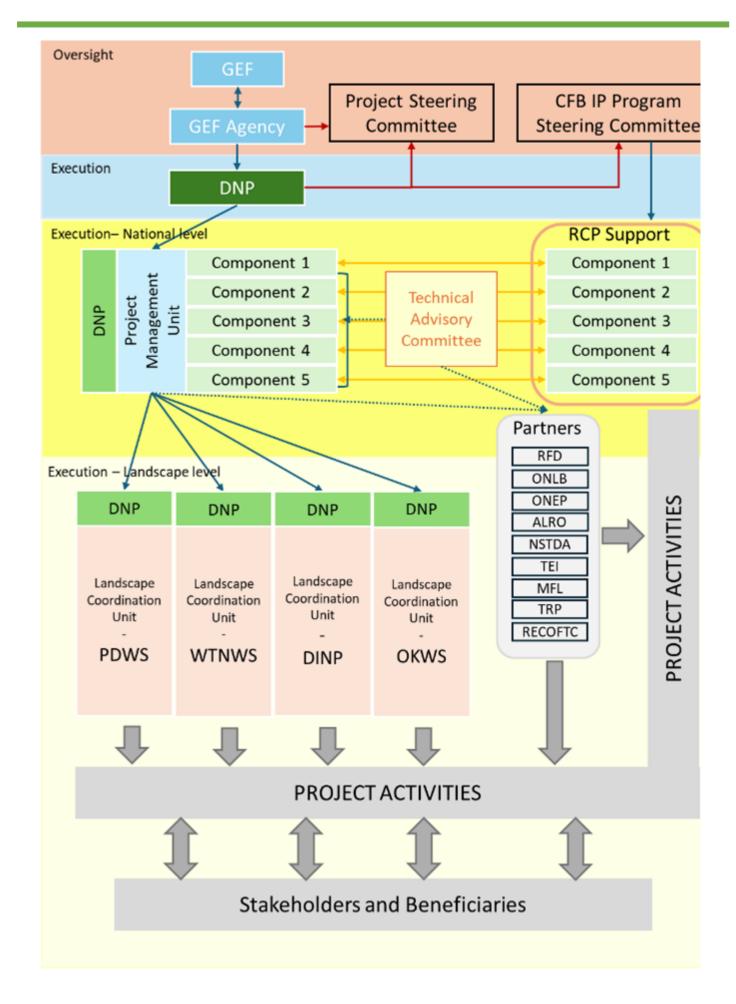
Figure 2 below presents the Project's governance structure, details of which are briefly described below.

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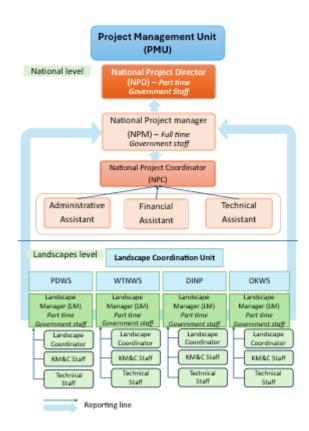


Figure 2: Project organogram

a. Executing Agency (EA): The Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP), Government of Thailand will act as the Executing Agency and will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project results entrusted to it in full compliance with all terms and conditions of the Operational Partnership Agreement signed with FAO.[1]1 As Operational Partner (OP) of the project, DNP is responsible and accountable to FAO for the timely implementation of the agreed project results, operational oversight of implementation activities, timely reporting, and for effective use of GEF resources for the intended purposes and in line with FAO and GEF policy requirements. DNP is also responsible for contracting, coordination with Project Partners, particularly other Government of Thailand organizations, and coordination of the delivery of cofinancing by the Government of Thailand. DNP will second the National Project Director (NPD) and the National Project Manager (NPM) to the Project responsible for coordinating all project activities and stakeholders, supervising, and guiding the National Project Coordinator (NPC, see below) on government policies and priorities, as well as the Landscape Manager (LM) responsible for supervising and guiding the Landscape Coordinators (LC) at landscape level. DNP will also establish the Project Management Unit (PMU, for details see below) for project implementation. Apart from execution, DNP will implement project outputs and activities within its core mandate (refer to Annex D Workplan) and enter contractual arrangements with Project Partners and Service Providers for the implementation of other outputs and activities (refer to Annex D Budget and Workplan). Engagement with the RCP and transboundary work will be supported by DNP's Division of Foreign Affairs, whereas implementation at landscape level will be supported by DNP's Protected Area Regional Offices in Chiangmai, Ratchaburi, and Ubon Ratchathani, as well as the concerned PA Superintendents.

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- b. <u>GEF Agency</u>: As the responsible GEF Agency, FAO will provide oversight to project execution ensuring consistency with GEF and FAO standards, policies, and procedures, and maintaining accountability towards the GEF through standardized reporting. FAO's roles are:
  - 1. Administrate funds from GEF in accordance with the rules and procedures of FAO;
  - Oversee project implementation in accordance with the project document, work plans, budgets as approved by PSC, co-financing contribution, Operational Partners Agreement(s) and other rules and procedures of FAO;
  - Provide technical guidance to ensure that appropriate technical quality is applied to all activities concerned;
  - 4. Conduct at least one supervision mission per year; and
  - 5. Report to the GEF Secretariat and Evaluation Office, through the annual Project Implementation Review (PIR), the Mid Term Review, the Terminal Evaluation and the Project Closure Report on project progress; the PIR will be drafted by the Project Management Team and the technical quality assurance will be provided by the LTO and the GEF Coordination Unit, who will be responsible for submitting the final PIR to the GEF.
  - 6. Financial reporting to the GEF Trustee.

FAO will form the project task force (PTF) with the following key members within the organization to jointly deliver GEF Agency support including on project cycle management services[2]<sup>2</sup> to the project as follows, with the support of the GEF Agency Fee:

- The Budget Holder (BH), who is accountable and responsible for the project and provide oversight
  of the project implementation;
- 2. The Lead Technical Officer (LTO), who will provide oversight/support to the project's technical work in coordination and provide project technical quality assurance on behalf of FAO;
- The Funding Liaison Officer (FLO) and the GEF Technical Officer (GTO), who will monitor and support the project cycle to ensure that the project is being designed and carried out in accordance with FAO and GEF funding requirements and technical standards.
- c. <u>Project Steering Committee</u>: The Project will establish a Project Steering Committee (PSC), mandated to provide operational directions and strategic guidance to the Project, including policy-level decision-making, the review and approval of workplans, budgets and staff and consultant appointments, as well as strategic stakeholder coordination and the delivery of cofinancing. The Director General of DNP will convene PSC meetings and chair them, whereas the National Project Director (NPD) will act as the PSC's Member Secretary, supported by the National Project Manager (NPM) and the National Project Coordinator (NPC). PSC members will include the representatives from relevant offices in DNP, relevant stakeholders as appropriate, and the GEF Agency. The members of the PSC will each assume the role of a Focal Point for the project in their respective agencies, responsible for: (i) technically overseeing activities in their sector;

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- (ii) ensuring a fluid two-way exchange of information and knowledge between their respective agencies and the project; (iii) facilitating coordination and links between the project activities and the work plan of their agencies; and (iv) facilitating the provision of co-financing to the project. The PSC will meet at least bi-annually.
- d. <u>Program Steering Committee</u>: The EA will depute the NPD to be a representative member of the Program Steering Committee established by the RCP.
- e. <u>Technical Advisory Committee</u>: The TAC will be a platform to ensure on-going smooth collaboration on technical matters across the high number of partners. The TAC will be constituted to provide technical oversight, guidance to project implementation and be chaired by a representative of DNP.
- f. <u>Project Management Unit</u>: DNP establishes the Project Management Unit (PMU) within its premises, charged with project execution. The PMU is supervised by the National Project Director (NPD), who is a senior officer of DNP seconded part-time to the Project, and staffed as described in Annex L.
- g. <u>Landscape Coordination Units</u>: Given the physical distance between the DNP Headquarters and the targeted landscapes, DNP's Protected Area Regional Offices in Chiang Mai, Ratchaburi and Ubon Ratchathani will function as Landscape Coordination Units (LCUs), and DNP will second part-time Landscape Managers (LM), tasked with coordinating the implementation of landscape-level project activities and supporting the PMU with information and reporting. All LCUs, excluding the LM, will be financed from the Project (refer to Annex L).

The Project will be linked to the RCP through multiple channels, which include the PSCs, the shared GEF Agency, the technical working groups established by the RCP for technical components 1 to 4, as well as for the cross-cutting elements knowledge management, monitoring, communications, and safeguards.

[1] It should be noted that the identified Operational Partner(s) may change due to FAO internal due diligence and agreement procedures if not yet been concluded at the time of submission of the CEO Endorsement Request

[2] Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy (2020 update) https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN GEF C.59 Inf.03 Guidelines%20on%20the%20Project%20and%20Program%20Cycle%20Policy.pdf

Will the GEF Agency play an execution role on this child 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)

#### Cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects

Cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects will focus on thematic synergies and on leveraging greater impact and replicating best practices. The following cooperations are foreseen:

- GEF-10409 with synergies on ecotourism and other sustainable financing sources for primary forest conservation,
- GEF-8 project by IUCN on wildlife management to improve primary forests as tiger habitat in Western Forest Complex and Dong Phayayen-Khaoyai Forest Complex,

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- AFFIRM project to establish integrated risk management to reduce large scale forest fires affecting primary forests,
- PROGREEN supported by World Bank implemented by DNP to improve knowledge and policy implementation on forest fire reduction and to restore watershed forests in buffer zones of primary forests in Northern Thailand,
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) work plan on forest management,
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) cooperation with Cambodia on transboundary PA and biodiversity landscape management,
- upcoming MoU with Laos to reduce illegal wildlife trade and to improve cooperation on forestry,
- The RECOFTC programs to improve climate resilience of communities, gender equality, forest governance, and to increase direct economic benefits from community-based forests,
- Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) initiative on Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) patrol and Network Centric Anti-Poaching System (NCAPS) management to monitor and improve law enforcement and to respond to forest disturbances in real-time,
  - Thai Environment Institute Foundation (TEI) on environmental certification label, strategy development on the REDD+ Safeguard Information System, benefit sharing mechanism and related grievance redress mechanism,
- Mae Fah Luang project to improve access to carbon finance for forest conservation and management, and to coordinate/benefit from the preparation of carbon projects for community-based forests,
- Fin4Bio joint recommendations to develop biodiversity taxonomy as reference tool, promote disclosure of business risks, introduce incentive and financial mechanisms, promote actions to reduce biodiversity losses, and collaborate to raise awareness supporting KM-GBF in SE Asia,
- Bank of Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) and related green investments to improve the tree
  bank initiative for smallholders aiming at utilizing trees as collateral assets for financial loans,
- Various other banking sector initiatives supporting the Bio-Circular-Green Economy initiative at national level,
- The ONEP and IUCN supported development of the national OECM strategy, standard and procedures to pilot and expedite OECM recognition in practice,
- Thailand Carbon Neutral Network to access investment into climate change, including tools, technological information, and innovation,
- Phubadin project to improve rural livelihoods and agriculture management by Kanchanaburi Agricultural Occupation Promotion and Development Center (Highland Agricultural Extension) in WTNWS,
- Carbon credit and agricultural waste management project by Papung enterprise in OKWS for synergies on sustainable financing of primary forests and improved forest-based livelihoods, and
- Global Tree Seed Bank and Arcadia Seed Conservation and Assessment of Herbaceous Plants in threatened biodiversity hotspots in Thailand for improved biodiversity information on primary forests.

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#### **Table On Core Indicators**

#### **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

610980.3	384621.8	0	0
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

#### **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	WDPA	IUCN	Total Ha	Total Ha (Expected at	Total Ha	Total Ha
Protected Area	ID	Category	(Expected at	CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at	(Achieved at
			PIF)		MTR)	TE)

#### Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at	Ha (Expected at CEO	Total Ha (Achieved at	Total Ha (Achieved at
PIF)	Endorsement)	MTR)	TE)
610980.3	384621.8	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A ID	IUCN Categor y	Ha (Expecte d at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorseme nt)	Total Ha (Achieve d at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieve d at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorseme nt)	METT score (Achieve d at MTR)	METT score (Achieve d at TE)
Doi Inthanon	9935	National Park	33,697.3 0	42,861.00			74.00		
Kaeng Krachan	4012	National Park	204,029. 00	0.00					
Om Koi Wildlife Sanctuar y	9784	Strict Nature Reserve		117,400.90			50.00		
Panom Dongrak	1415	Strict Nature Reserve	117,950. 00	31,013.80			62.00		
Thungya i Nareusua n	1405	Strict Nature Reserve	255,304. 00	193,346.10			63.00		

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#### 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)
5000	5035.1	0	0

#### Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

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

#### 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)
5,000.00	5,035.10		

#### Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

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

#### 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)
70000	104006.9	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)
70,000.00	104,006.90		

#### 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

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

#### **Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported**

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

#### Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title			

#### **Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated**

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO	(Achieved at	(Achieved at TE)
		Endorsement)	MTR)	
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	15649524	7919505	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO₂e	0	0	0	0
(indirect)				

## 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 <sub>2</sub> e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

#### Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO	(Achieved at	(Achieved at
		Endorsement)	MTR)	TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	15,649,524	7,919,505		
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2025	2025		
Duration of accounting	20	20		

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

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

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

#### 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	2,500	2,500		
Male	1,500	1,500		
Total	4,000	4,000	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)

#### **Key Risks**

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	High	The project climate risks are high both with and without project modulation. Details of key risk elements include:   Hazard: rising average, min. and max. temperatures; increase in total precipitation and extreme events (droughts, storms, landslides, floods, fires)   Exposure: high exposure of forests and biodiversity to heavy rainfall events, drought, heat waves, and associated disasters (e.g., landslides, riverine flooding)   Vulnerability: risks due to multi-dimensional poverty, food insecurity, epidemics, employment in the primary sector, and disproportionate climate impacts on ethnic minorities   Adaptive capacity: Thailand's adaptive capacities are strong, through relevant policies, information, and warning systems, etc. However, weaknesses in communities' economic means to adapt, the existence of robust disaster response mechanism and communication exist. Key mitigation built into project design include:   Integration of climate data and exchange into policy and planning   Mainstreaming of climate-resilient practices for forestry, biodiversity conservation, and crop production in forest landscapes
Environmental and Social	High	The project has been screened against environmental and social risks and has been rated 'high risk' in line with FAO's Framework on Environmental and Social Management. The initially identified environmental and social risks were further analysed at PPG stage,

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		through the conduct of an ESIA and ESMP (see Annex I). The project target landscapes represent the ecological diversity of Thailand's forest ecosystems, each with unique challenges and critical roles in conserving the country's natural heritage against the backdrop of biodiversity loss and climate change. The project engages with diverse sociocultural environments across its four key selected landscapes. The sociocultural environment within these areas encompasses a wide array of factors, including population dynamics, land use and tenure, poverty and vulnerability, gender-based inequalities, community structures, health, livelihoods, cultural heritage, and dependence on natural resources.
Political and Governance	Moderate	The political and governance risks faced by the Project relate to the buyin of policy-makers into the project's outputs. Given that the ambition of the project in changing policies is low and emphasis is on improving the implementation of the existing policy and legal environment, which is driven by the EA, political risks are low. Governance risks are low to moderate and relate to project governance at the national level, where multiple mostly government institutions need to be engaged, as well as the landscape level. For the engagement of multiple institutions at the landscape level no precedence exists. Mitigating measures include the enhancement of existing Protected Area Committees with additional members to engage the full array of stakeholders at the landscape level into project governance.
INNOVATION	I	
Institutional and Policy	Low	Risks to the institutional sustainability of the project's achievements are low. All stakeholder institutions are well established and the project will largely work through these instead of establishing new institutions.
Technological	Low	The risks related to the technical design of the project are low. Intensive stakeholder consultations took place throughout the PPG phase, which led to the design of project components specific to the activity level, indicating clear roles, responsibilities and geographic focus related to individual activities. Mitigating measures include provisions for adaptive management, including (1) FPIC process at the start of the implementation phase, (2) project governance and decision-making mechanisms built into the project design at the landscape and the national/project levels, and (3) the fallback mechanism offered by the Regional Coordination and Technical Support Project of the CFB IP, which provides room to step in with demand-based technical support, knowledge products, capacity building, and regional exchange.
Financial and Business Model	Low	The risks to financial sustainability are low. Thailand's conservation institutions receive robust and predictable government funding to be able to sustain and build on the achievements of the project. The business models proposed include carbon forestry, which given ex-ante credits are relatively risk-free for developers.

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Canacity	T a	Distriction in with visual consists for invalidation and accept 1.112
Capacity	Low	Risks for institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability are minimal. The Project is executed by the government agency responsible for PA management in Thailand, and at the same time government agencies with an institutional mandate over landscapes buffering PAs are strategic partners in implementation, along with NGOs operating in the target landscapes. Among them, they cover most technical and social expertise required for implementation. Additionally, the Project does not build new institutions, apart from the financing forum. Mitigating measures to deal with the remaining minimal risk include provisions to contract specialized support to cover gaps in institutional capacities and to anchor new functions in the mandates of existing institutions for long term sustainability.
Fiduciary	Moderate	The Micro Assessment completed for the Executing Agency DNP has identified overall low risk throughout all assessment criteria. However, risks related to sub-contracting capacities of DNP could not be assessed. Given that some parts of the project will be implemented by external government and non-government partners, sub-contracting these will be essential. Mitigating measures: DNP will hire relevant consultants under PSC guidance to execute the activities, including to develop related workplans, MoUs, or contracts with related organizations, so that the latter can undertake sub-contracting activities, subject to assessment result.
Stakeholder	Moderate	Risks related to stakeholder engagement are moderately high and relate particularly to the challenges of engaging ethnic minorities and local communities in project implementation. Relations between government organizations and these groups are often strained and capacities of government organizations on participatory and multi-stakeholder processes are limited. Mitigating measures include (1) dedicated capacity building on participatory approaches and multi-stakeholder processes, (2) integration of conflict resolution into relevant processes with local communities and ethnic minorities (e.g. land allocation and management planning), (3) utilization of services of specialist NGOs to engage multiple types of stakeholders, (4) implement FPIC process. This will involve the need for consensus from community leaders such as the village elders/chiefs prior to entry and clear understanding (preferably recorded and agreed to in writing) on the objectives of the development/engagement process. (5) Ensure that at least 30% of participants in forum, meetings, etc. are from ethnic minorities and ensure their active participation in the discussion and decision-making process. (6) Collect disaggregated data of ethnic minorities group and their location.

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	perverse incentives and proposing their removal / mediating their effects.
d	lerate

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

Explain how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies, including the specific integrated program priorities, and country and regional priorities, Describe how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements, such as through NDCs, NBSAPs, etc.

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

(max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

The Project is fully aligned with the GEF-8 Programming Directions (GEF/R.08/29/Rev.01) and national priorities as summarized below:

#### **GEF-8 Strategy alignment**

The project objective is fully aligned with all four goals of the GEF-8 ToC, particularly "Natural capital, nature-based solutions and ecosystem services underpin transformation of target systems" and "Incentives and improved policy promote innovations and behaviour change for sustainability and resilience in target systems" (GEF/R.08/28, pp. 15).

The project objective will be achieved through five key outcomes that are broadly aligned with the four levers for systems transformation described in the GEF-8 strategy (see also Section B).[1]<sup>3</sup>

Additionally, the project addresses cross-cutting themes identified in the GEF-8 ToC, including nature-based solutions, gender responsive approaches, resilience, private sector engagement, behaviour change, and environmental security. Ultimately, the project contributes to strengthening the rights, participation, and benefit reaping of ethnic minorities and local communities.

#### **Integrated Program alignment**

The project provides an important contribution to achieving the CFB IP objective. The Project is linked to the RCP through corresponding design elements, including theory of change, results framework, governance structure, as well as cross cutting elements of knowledge management, monitoring, capacity development, safeguards, and communication. The Project's outcomes focus on, and integrate, all key interventions outlined in the GEF-8 Programming Directions. [2]<sup>4</sup>

#### GEF Focal area and MEA alignment

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The Project focuses on the GEF Focal Areas biodiversity, land degradation, and climate change. The Project invests into Nature and Systems Transformation, as informed by Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) Guidance, [3]<sup>5</sup> Global Commitments, [4]<sup>6</sup> the SDGs, [5]<sup>7</sup> and Levers for Raising Ambition. [6]<sup>8</sup>

#### **Biodiversity**

The Project will result in major biodiversity benefits, including reductions in the rates of loss and degradation of globally primary moist tropical forest ecosystems; enhancement of the habitat and connectivity value of the ecosystems and their surrounding production landscapes; as well as enhanced biodiversity. The Project outcomes contributions to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) Goals and Targets as follows:

- Component 1 contributes to Targets 14, 18, 22
- Component 2 contributes to Goal A and Targets 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 23
- Component 3 contributes to Goal B and Targets 2, 3, 8, 10, 23
- Component 4 contributes to Goal D and Target 19
- Component 5 contributes to Goal D and Targets 20, 21, 23

The RCP and the IP will contribute directly to GEF-8 Biodiversity (BD) Objectives:

- BD Objective 1: To improve conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of natural ecosystems
  - Financial Sustainability, Effective Management, and Ecosystem Coverage of Protected Area Systems (Component 2)
  - Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (Component 3)
  - Biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors (Component 3)
- BD Objective 3: to increase mobilization of domestic resources for biodiversity.

#### Land degradation:

The RCP and the IP will primarily contribute to the Land Degradation (LD) focal area under Component 3, specifically GEF-8 LD Objective 1: Avoid and reduce land degradation through sustainable land management (SLM) and 2: Reverse land degradation through landscape restoration.

#### Climate change

The RCP and the IP will specifically contribute to CC Objective 1.4: Promote Nature-based Solutions.

#### **National Priorities**

International commitments:

Convention on Biodiversity (CBD):

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■ KM-GBF targets[7]9

#### **UNFCCC:**

- NDC: mitigation target: 20% unconditional emission reduction by 2030, adaptation: climate-adapted biodiversity management. [8]10
- NAP: enhanced PA conservation, designation of the Environmentally-Protected Areas outside PAs. [911]

#### UNCCD:

■ Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN): increased forest cover including through community forestry

#### Global/regional/transboundary fora:

- United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF): adopted UN Strategic Plan on Forests 2017-2030[10]12
- Thailand Cambodia Transboundary Protected Area MoU[11]13
- ASEAN workplan on forest management[12]14
- Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission[13]15
- ASEAN cooperation in forestry[14]16
- IUCN Asia Protected Area Partnership[15]17
- FLEGT[16]18
- EU-Thailand Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA)
- Glasgow leaders' declaration on forest and land use
- Thailand's Master Plan for Integrated Biodiversity Management (equivalent to the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan)
- ongoing CITES implementation and registration

#### International instruments safeguarding the survival, dignity and well-being of ethnic minorities

- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP)
- Indigenous and Tribal People Convention 1989 (ILO Convention No. 169)
- FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples
- GCF Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards, specifically Indigenous Peoples Policy

#### National policies, strategies, legal and regulatory framework

- National Strategies 2018-2037
- National Forest Policy in 2019
- National Strategy for Eco-Friendly Development and Growth (2018-2037)
- National Reform on Natural Resources and the Environment
- Thirteenth National Economic and Social Development Plan (2023-2027)

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- National Environmental Management Plan (2017-2021)
- Thailand's Climate Change Master Plan (2015-2050), both adaptation and mitigation targets
- Low Greenhouse Gas Development Strategy
- Piloting the entry of forests into Thailand's domestic carbon market
- REDD+ Strategy: national reference levels, Safeguard Information System, monitoring
- LT-LEDS: carbon neutrality by 2050 & net zero emissions by 2065, including explicitly through natural forest conservation.
- National Economic and Social Development Plan
- National Parks Act 2019
- Wild Animal Conservation and Protection Act 2019
- Forest Reserved Act 1964
- Community Forestry Act 2019
- Government regulations on promoting SFM on public land with registered community deeds for different purposes, incl. (1) within early settlement in protected forest area, (2) increase buffer zone in Sor Por Kor areas (Agriculture Land Reform Area) by promoting agroforestry practices, and (3) managing allocated Kor Tor Chor area (degraded watershed forest).
- Near Real-Time Monitoring (NRTM) of forest disturbance and collaboration
- Bio Circular Green Economy model is government priority (2021-2027)
- Thailand's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) (2017-2037)

#### Alignment TO FAO Strategic framework, SDGs and COUNTRY Programming Framework

FAO's Strategic Framework 2022-2031 revolves around the "Four Betters" defining FAO's strategic thrust in alignment with the SDGs. The Project contributes directly to 3. "Better Environment", particularly to the protection, restoration, and promotion of sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems. The Project represents a direct contribution to the Program Priority Area "Biodiversity and ecosystem services for food and agriculture". Indirectly, the Project also contributes to 1 "Better production", particularly the Program Priority Area "Small-scale producers' equitable access to resources", and 4 "Better life", particularly the Program Priority Area "Inclusive rural transformation". The Project applies all four of FAO's cross-cutting/cross-sectional "accelerators", which include (i) technology, (ii) innovation, (iii) data, and (iv) complements (governance, human capital, and institutions) to accelerate impact while minimizing trade-offs.

The Project is further aligned with FAO' Country Programming for Thailand 2022 to 2026.[17]<sup>19</sup> It directly addresses Outcomes 1 and 2 on green transformation and human capital development, respectively. Specific contributions are evident towards Output 1.3 through strengthened natural resource management and sustainable management of forest with the help of delivering relevant data, policies and practices. Furthermore, the Project provides direct contributions to Output 2.1 through institutional capacity building related to community forestry, as well as Output 2.3 by building bio-based and community based social innovation initiatives, which align with Thailand's strategy of Bio-Circular Green Economy.

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FAO is well positioned to support Thailand in the delivery of this project given the organization's comparative advantage in building a better environment through sustainable agrifood systems and a viable bioeconomy. FAO expertise in policy development, integrated capacity building, and technical cooperation, including on monitoring forest change via open-source solutions for forest and land monitoring, as well as relevant aspects of REDD+ are invaluable assets for successful project delivery.

- [1] governance and policies, financial leverage, innovation and learning, and multi-stakeholder dialogues
- [2] PA expansion, strengthened management of PAs, OECMs, integrated land use planning, conservation-friendly livelihoods, financial and other incentives for forest conservation, multi-scale and multi-stakeholder governance and law enforcement, improved land tenure rights, promotion of regional cooperation, improved resource mobilization, transboundary connectivity, regional and global linkages
- [3] CBD: Post 2020 GBF, COP14/30 decisions on primary forests, UNFCCC: Paris Agreement, Katowice Forest for Climate Declaration, REDD+ framework, net zero decarbonization by 2050, UNCCD: LDN, including response hierarchy of avoiding, protecting, and reversing land degradation
- [4] UNFF UN Strategic Plan for Forests, including six Global Forest Goals, High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People
- [5] particularly SDG # 15: Life on Land, SDG # 13: Climate Change, SGD # 2: Zero Hunger
- [6] e.g. Bonn Challenge, New York Declaration on Forests
- [7] Specifically Targets 1 (integrated landscape management), 3 (30x30 target), 9 (co-management by forest-dependent communities), 10 (sustainable land management), 19 (sustainable financing), 20 (regional cooperation), and 22 (inclusive participation).
- [8] https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/Thailand%20Updated%20NDC.pdf
- [9] http://t-plat.deqp.go.th/en/nap-0-en/nap-en-main/
- [10] https://www.un.org/esa/forests/forum/about-unff/index.html
- [11] Also refer to Section IV -
- [12] https://docs.google.com/document/d/1q5F2nxXUGFNUO1UcguJGDPDb8OIhAw6u/edit
- [13] https://www.fao.org/asiapacific/apfc/en/
- [14] https://forestry.asean.org/
- [15] https://www.asiaprotectedareaspartnership.org/
- [16] https://statics.teams.cdn.office.net/evergreen-assets/safelinks/1/atp-safelinks.html; https://statics.teams.cdn.office.net/evergreen-assets/safelinks/1/atp-safelinks.html; https://tefso.org/en/tlas-system/; https://tefso.org/en/supply-chain-control-2/ https://tefso.org/en/flegt-vpa-negotiation-process/
- [17] https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/CC2140EN

#### **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 child Project Description (Section B).

Yes

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1) Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equations and the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equations are supported by the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equations are supported by the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equations are supported by the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equations are supported by the project expect to include any gender-responsive-measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equations are supported by the project expect of the project expect	uality and
women's empowerment?	

Yes

If the child 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 child 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 Child 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; Yes

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 Child project?

Yes

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

Yes

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#### **Environmental and Social Safeguards**

We confirm that we have provided information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed child 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		

#### **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. This includes budget for linking with and participation in knowledge exchange activities organized through the coordination platform.

Yes

#### Socio-economic Benefits

We confirm that the child 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).

The project will deliver socio-economic benefits and decent rural employment by (1) empowering community enterprises, (2) sustainable agricultural and livestock practices, (3) pioneering low-impact tourism routes, and (4) addressing local climate vulnerability. Contributions to FAO's Four Pillars of Decent Work are presented in Table 3.

Community level livelihood investments will be based on climate vulnerability assessments and be focused on increasing adaptive capacities for long-term sustainability. The project will support community enterprises in business upskilling and market expansion, which will contribute to local employment. Enhanced agricultural practices and low-impact ecotourism will secure forest-friendly livelihoods and employment, while contributing to cultural preservation of members of ethnic groups.

Table: Project contributions to socio-economic benefits and rural employment

FAO Pillars of Decent Work	Project contribution (including corresponding Output)
Pillar 1: Employment creation & enterprise development	<ul> <li>Local community and ethnic minority members (f/m) supported in accessing markets &amp; modern value chains (4.3)</li> <li>Rural communities and enterprises supported in accessing markets, training, green and responsible investment, and other productive assets (4.3)</li> </ul>

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	■ Employment-centred livelihoods diversification mechanisms supported (4.3)
Pillar 2: Social protection	n/a
Pillar 3: Standards and rights at work	• Socially responsible agricultural production supported, specifically to reduce gender and age-based discrimination (3.2; 4.3)
Pillar 4: Governance and social dialogue	• Strengthening democratic organizations and networks of producers and workers (2.1; 3.1; 3.2)
	<ul> <li>Representation of the rural poor in social dialogue and policy dialogue through their organizations supported (1.2; 2.1; 3.1)</li> </ul>
	Participation of rural poor in local decision-making and governance mechanisms supported (1.2; 2.1; 3.1; 3.2)
	Rural women and youth groups empowered to be involved in these processes from the initial steps (2.1; 3.1; 5.3; 5.4)
	• Synergies built between organizations, programmes, countries and producer-to-producer learning opportunities created (5.1; 5.3; 5.4)

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### **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 (\$)
FAO	GET	Thailand	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	3,295,388.00	296,585.00	3,591,973.00
FAO	GET	Thailand	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	1,246,904.00	112,221.00	1,359,125.00
FAO	GET	Thailand	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	Grant	445,323.00	40,079.00	485,402.00
FAO	GET	Thailand	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	Grant	1,098,462.00	98,862.00	1,197,324.00
FAO	GET	Thailand	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	Grant	415,635.00	37,406.50	453,041.50
FAO	GET	Thailand	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	Grant	148,441.00	13,359.50	161,800.50
Total GE	F Resour	ces (\$)	1	I		6,650,153.00	598,513.00	7,248,666.00

# Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested? true

PPG Amount (\$) 200000

PPG Agency Fee (\$) 17999

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
FAO	GET	Thailand	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: IPs	99,107.00	8,920.00	108,027.00

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Total PP	G Amount (	\$)			200,000.00	17,999.00	217,999.00
FAO	GET	Thailand	Land Degradation	LD IP Matching Incentives	4,464.00	401.50	4,865.50
FAO	GET	Thailand	Climate Change	CC IP Matching Incentives	12,500.00	1,124.50	13,624.50
FAO	GET	Thailand	Biodiversity	BD IP Matching Incentives	33,036.00	2,973.00	36,009.00
FAO	GET	Thailand	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: IPs	13,393.00	1,205.00	14,598.00
FAO	GET	Thailand	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation:	37,500.00	3,375.00	40,875.00

# Please provide Justification

# Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
		Regional/ Global			
FAO	GET	Thailand	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	3,700,000.00
FAO	GET	Thailand	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	1,400,000.00
FAO	GET	Thailand	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	500,000.00
Total GEF Resou	rces				5,600,000.00

# **Focal Area Elements**

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CFB IndoMalay IP	GET	6,650,153.00	80685465
Total Project Cost		6,650,153.00	80,685,465.00

# 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(\$)

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Recipient Country Government	Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation (DNP) 2025-2029	Public Investment	Recurrent expenditures	32873534
Recipient Country Government	Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation (DNP) 2025-2029	In-kind	Investment mobilized	17110706
Recipient Country Government	Royal Forest Department (RFD) 2025-2029	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	13578529
Recipient Country Government	Royal Forest Department (RFD) 2025-2029	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3878914
Recipient Country Government	National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) 2025-2029	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	1752700
Recipient Country Government	National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) 2025-2029	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4094307
Civil Society Organization	Thai Rak Pa Foundation (TRP) 2025-2029	Grant	Investment mobilized	1911907
Civil Society Organization	Thai Rak Pa Foundation (TRP) 2025-2029	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1597403
Recipient Country Government	Office of the National Land Board Policy (ONLB) 2025- 2029	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	1271429
Recipient Country Government	Office of the National Land Board Policy (ONLB) 2025- 2029	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	11829
Civil Society Organization	The Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage 2025-2029	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1400000
Recipient Country Government	Natural Resources and Environmental Policy Planning (ONEP) 2025-2029	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	661396
Recipient Country Government	Agricultural Land Reform Office (ALRO) 2025-2029	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	130714
Others	The Regional Community Forestry Training Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC) 2025-2029	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	34286
Civil Society Organization	Thailand Environment Institute Foundation (TEI) 2025- 2029	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	31411
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	Investment mobilized	346400
Total Co-financing				80,685,465.00

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

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FAO co-finance is through a Republic of Korea funded project Assuring the Future of Forests with Integrated Risk Management (AFFIRM), GCP/GLO/1074/ROK

The government and other partners' co-finance as investment mobilized are budgets that are actual on the ground investments in activities, such:

Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation (DNP): Consolidation of government operational and investment budget from Forest Research and Plant Conservation Office and Forest Protection control office, including over 120 sub-DNP conservation management office in the project target area such as on wildlife sanctuary management, national park management including related operational budget on forest fire, watershed, royal intiativies, botanical collection, and implementation on plantation, and restoration activities.

Royal Forest Department (RFD): Operational and investment budget from Community Forest office, RFD as well as local RFD forest management office in the project target area to support community forest management, life quality and livelihood, seedlings station, green area management, local agroforestry and NTFP, forest restoration, community forest network, carbon credit and climate change project, Community Forest Act implementation

National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA); Budget from natural resources and organism bank to support Bio-Circular-Green Economy model

Thai Rak Pa Foundation (TRP): project budget to support implementation in Chiangmai on community-based forest model on management, agroforestry, and forest fire management in Maejam, natural trail and ecotourism development in Doi Inthanon and enterprise development and integrated agriculture management in Doi Inthanon through watershed network

Office of the National Land Policy Board (ONLB): Operational and investmen budget from ONLB on relevant projects on degraded and abandoned land management, research and implementation on communal land allocation, buffer zone management, local enterprise development, communication and training, government boundary ONE MAP, land resources management and network

### ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENT

### **GEF Agency(ies) Certification**

GEF Agency Coordinator	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator		Jeffrey Griffin		jeffrey.griffin@fao.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 OFP	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Jatuporn Buruspat	GEF OFP	MONRE	3/10/2023

#### 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. For the Integrated Programs' global/regional coordination child project, please include the program-wide results framework, inclusive of results specific to the coordination child project. For any country child project, please ensure that relevant program level indicators are included.

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Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for assessment
Project Objective: To con and biodiversity	tribute to securing the lo	ong-term integ	rity of Thailand's pri	mary forests to ma	aximize Global Enviro	nmental Benefits relat	ed to carbon
Component 1: Enabling e	environment for inclusive	e conservation	and sustainable ma	nagement of prin	nary forest landscape	s	
Outcome 1: Enabling policy & governance environment created for primary forest conservation and sustainable management of forests	1: Forest governance index indicator B.2: Process for achieving clarity in forest-related laws and regulations[1] <sup>20</sup>	1	Average score 2.5	Average score 3.5	Dedicated survey during inception phase, prior to midterm, prior to project end	Government agencies adopt recommendations of project to improve implementation of legal, policy and regulatory framework	M&E Specialist
Output 1.1: Implementation of forest policy and regulatory framework strengthened.	1.1: Number of policy and strategy documents reviewed and recommendations to mainstream primary forest and gender considerations provided.	0	4	8	Reports on reviewed policy and strategy documents.	Government signals openness to review documents for mainstreaming primary forest considerations.	M&E Specialist
Output.1.2: Gender- responsive integrated landscape governance in targeted landscapes demonstrated.	1.2: Number of gender-responsive integrated landscape level land use plans prepared.	0	4 in draft	4 finalized and endorsed	Landscape-level land use plan documents	Stakeholders agree on shared priorities at the landscape level and participate in planning process.	M&E Specialist
Component 2: Improved	management of PAs ha	rbouring prima	ry forests				
Outcome 2: Thailand's key primary forest landscapes safeguarded through increased management effectiveness of the Protected Areas that harbour them	2.a: Increase in METT scores of targeted PAs	Avg: 64.75  DINP: 74  OKWS: 58  PDWS: 63  WTNWS: 64	Avg: 68.75  DINP: 77  OKWS: 63  PDWS: 67  WTNWS: 68	Avg: 72.75  DINP: 80  OKWS: 68  PDWS: 71  WTNWS: 72	METT assessment at baseline, prior to MTR, prior to TE	n/a	DNP M&E Specialist
Output 2.1: Management and inclusive governance of PAs improved	2.1.a: Number of PA management plans revised with project support that include gender considerations.	0	4 in progress	4 completed	DNP endorsement letters of revised PA management plans	DNP endorses revised management plans.	M&E Specialist
	2.1.b: Number of PACs with enhanced local community participation.[2] <sup>21</sup>	0	4	4	PAC minutes of meeting  Interview with local community representatives	DNP admits local community members as PAC members of equal standing	M&E Specialist
Output 2.2: Best practices of on-the- ground primary forest conservation mainstreaming gender and inclusivity principles demonstrated	2.2: Number of landscape-wide holistic biodiversity surveys completed.	0	4 in progress	4 completed	Biodiversity survey reports	n/a	M&E Specialist

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Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for assessment
Outcome 3: Productive landscapes brought under improved practices buffer PAs and increase resilience of forest dependent communities	3.a: Area of landscapes brought under improved management to benefit biodiversity by the project (hectares)	0	100,000	339,500.8	Remote sensing analysis prior to midterm and prior to project end	Sustainable practices offered by the project endorsed by land managers and landowners	DM&E Specialist
	3.b: Area of forest and forest land brought under restoration by the project (hectares)	0	2,000	5,000	Remote sensing analysis prior to midterm and prior to project end	Restoration practices offered by the project endorsed by land managers and landowners	M&E Specialist
Output 3.1: Land utilization conflicts resolved, management of land inside PAs allocated to communities strengthened and multiple-benefit green buffers around villages created	3.1: Number of village level green belt management plans prepared.	0	10	20	DNP endorsement letters of village- level forest management plans	DNP endorses revised management plans.	M&E Specialist
Output 3.2: Ecological functions of production land buffering PAs enhanced	3.2: Number of community-based forest management plans integrating gender consideration prepared.	0	10	20	DNP and RFD records on endorsed and registered community-based forest management plans	DNP and RFD endorse and register community-based forest management plans.	M&E Specialist
Output 3.3: OECMs in targeted landscapes recognized	3.3: Indicator 3.1.1: Number of OECMs recognized in target landscapes (#)	0	4 under progress	4 recognized	National OECM reports NBSAP reporting	Thailand's OECM standards and processes established in time	M&E Specialist
Component 4: Innovativ	e finance, investment an	d scale-up					
Outcome 4: Innovative finance and investment support sustained scaling up of forest conservation for livelihood benefits	Indicator 4.a: Amount of additional sustainable financing mobilized attributable to the CFB IP (USD)[3] <sup>22</sup>	0	USD 500,000 (in pipeline, not necessarily signed)	USD 1,500,000 (financing/ investment completed)	Reports on financial commitments  Signed project deals	Investors buy into the long-period, low-return investments offered by PF	M&E Specialist
	Indicator 4.b: Number of project beneficiaries reporting a net income rise of at least 10% attributable to the Project's livelihood interventions (# disaggregated by sex)	To be established during inception phase	At least 500 beneficiaries are making positive progress towards increase of at least 10% in income attributable to project interventions by project end.	At least 500 beneficiaries report increase of at least 10% in income attributable to project interventions.	Dedicated household surveys at (1) inception phase / as soon as target beneficiaries have been identified, (2) prior to midterm, (3) prior to project closure	Beneficiaries adopt the Project's livelihood development activities.	M&E Specialist
Output 4.1: Diversified financing streams for Thailand's primary forests integrating access by women and ethnic minorities identified	4.1: Existence of primary forest investment strategy	0	Draft strategy exists	Final strategy exists	Existence of primary forest investment strategy	Stakeholders agree on the development of a holistic financing strategy	M&E Specialist

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Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for assessment
Output 4.2: Inclusive and gender-responsive carbon financing projects piloted in target landscapes	4.2: Number of validated Project Development Documents (PDD) in target landscapes supported by the	0	4 unvalidated	4 validated	Validation documents issued by TGO or international standards	External validator found to process validation	M&E Specialist
Output 4.3: Gender- responsive and forest- positive livelihood options of communities demonstrated	project  4.3: Number of beneficiaries of project livelihood support activities (# disaggregated by sex and age)	0	1,500 (of whom 900 females)	4,000 (of whom 2,500 females)	Project monitoring database	Beneficiaries consider project activities attractive	M&E Specialist
Component 5: Project co	oordination, knowledge i	management, o	apacity developme	nt, monitoring an	d evaluation		
Outcome 5: Improved coordination, access to knowledge, capacities, and communication contribute to primary forest conservation	5: Composite score measuring primary forest-relevant knowledge, attitudes and practices of key stakeholders, disaggregated by sex[4] <sup>23</sup>	Baseline established during Inception Phase for both f/m	10% improvement against baseline for both f/m	20% improvement against baseline for both f/m	Customized KAP survey administered 3 times: during inception phase, prior to midterm, prior to project end.	n/a	M&E Specialist
Output 5.1: Programmatic approach and networks for learning and coordination effectively utilized	5.1: % of RCP events with participation of Thai partners	0	100%	100%	Event attendance records	RCP offers contents and events of relevance to Thailand.	RCP M&E Specialist M&E Specialist
Output 5.2: Primary forest monitoring improved	5.2: Dashboard with updated information on primary forests functional	0	Dashboard available in draft	Dashboard launched and operational	Primary forest dashboard website	Government server hosting dashboard available and functional	M&E Specialist
Output 5.3: Gender- responsive capacity development delivered	5.3: Number of beneficiaries trained, disaggregated by sex	0	400	800	Event attendance records	Trainings offered are found attractive for participants to attend	M&E Specialist
Output 5.4: Communication strategy, advocacy and awareness on Thailand's primary forests delivered	5.4: Number of social media posts generated by the project.	0	130	260	Social media sites	n/a	M&E Specialist
Output 5.5: Knowledge, tools, and best practices emerging out of the project collected, synthesized, stored, and disseminated with attention to gender and inclusivity aspects	5.5: Number of knowledge products (printed or digital) produced by the project.	0	15	30	Primary forest dashboard	n/a	M&E Specialist
Output 5.6: Effective results-based adaptive management supported by participatory monitoring and evaluation system with attention to sexdisaggregated data and	5.6: Number of queries to project monitoring database	0	50	100	Online database records	n/	M&E Specialist

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Results chain	Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term target	Final target	Means of verification	Assumptions	Responsible for assessment
the reporting of gender related results							

[1] https://efi.int/sites/default/files/fi

- [2] Indicator tracking progress along GEF-8 Transformation Lever 2 "Multi-stakeholder Dialogues"
- [3] Indicator tracking progress along the GEF-8 Transformation Lever 3 "Financial Leverage"
- [4] Indicator tracking progress along GEF-8 Transformation Lever 4 "Innovation and Learning"

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

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

	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)			
Project Preparation Activities Implemented	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed	
Operational expenditure		11,542.00		
Team of national and international consultants to develop full project document, including: 1. Baseline assessments, climate risk assessment 2. Theory of change development/ results framework, 3. Finalization of institutional arrangements and partnerships and budgeting 4. Development of gender action plan, 5. Social and environmental safeguards assessment and action plans, Knowledge management and M&E plan	86,720.00	79,998.00	6,002.00	
Partners' capacity assessment on fiduciary capacities - Contracts with technical service providers	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	
Travel costs for consultants to field sites (and international travel for international project design expert)	42,000.00	31,894.00	10,106.00	
Stakeholder consultation workshops, including inception workshop	45,500.00	6,223.00	27,735.00	
Operational Support to manage the PPG	10,000.00	10,720.00		
Miscellaneous Expandable Procurement	780.00	0.00	780.00	
Total	200,000.00	140,377.00	780.00	

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# **ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES**

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

18.53	98.55	32,647
The state of the s		32,047
Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
17.54	98.55	
		GeoName ID
15.27	98.78	
Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
		Georgine
14.40	104.55	
		Latitude Longitude 15.27 98.78  Latitude Longitude Latitude Longitude

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

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### ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS DOCUMENTS INCLUDING 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

Forests for Life ESMP

Full ES Risk Screening checklist for project entity 744262

### **ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE**

Please upload the budget table here.



Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

### **Budget explanations:**

5011 Salaries professionals

- National Project Coordinator hired full-time for the entire duration of the Project @ USD 30,000 per year
- Landscape Coordinators 4 positions, 1 in each landscape, hired for the entire duration of the Project @ USD 15,600 per year

#### 5012 GS Salaries

- Admin Assistant (PMU) hired full-time for the entire duration of the Project @ USD 14,400 per year
- Financial Assistant (PMU) hired full-time for the entire duration of the Project @ USD 14,400 per year

### 5013 Consultants

National Consultants

- Technical Assistant (PMU) hired full-time for the entire duration of the Project @ USD 15,600 per year
- Knowledge Management & Communication Staff (4 positions in LCUs) hired full-time for the entire duration of the Project @ USD 12,000 per year each
- Technical Staff (4 positions in LCUs) hired full-time for the entire duration of the Project @ USD 12,000 per year each
- Forest Monitoring Specialist hired for 10 months to support Output 3.2 and 5.2 @ USD 2,500 per month

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- Policy Analysis Consultant hired for 10 months to support delivery of Output 1.1 and 5.5 @ USD 2,500 per month
- Conservation Landscape Governance Consultant hired for 10 months to support delivery of Output 1.2, 2.1, 3.1, and 3.2 @ USD 2,500 per month
- Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist hired for 16 months @ USD 2,500 per year
- Knowledge Management & Communication Specialist hired for 15 months to support delivery of Outputs 5.4 and 5.5 @ USD 2,500 per month
- Safeguards, Gender, and Ethnic Minorities Specialist hired for 15 months @ USD 2,500 per month
- Capacity Building Specialist hired for 20 months to support delivery of Output 5.3 @ USD 2,500 per month
- OECM Specialist hired for 10 months to support delivery of Output 3.3 @ USD 2,500 per month
- Biodiversity Survey Specialist hired for 6 months to support delivery of Output 2.1 @ USD 2,500 per month
- Community Development Specialist hired for 20 months to support delivery of Output 3.1 and 3.2 @ USD 2,500 per month
- Biodiversity Survey temporary staff in 4 landscapes hired for USD 10,000 per landscape
- Restoration workers 900 workers hired at unit costs of USD 1,283

#### 5650 Contracts

- Contract to deliver Activity 1.1.3 Analysis of leveraging local development plans @ USD 25,000 lumpsum
- Contract to establish nursery as part of Activity 2.2.3 3 units @ USD 11,060 each
- Contract to deliver Activity 4.1.1 Financing strategy @ USD 30,000 lumpsum
- Contract to deliver Activities 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3 on financing streams and carbon credit projects @ USD 120,000 lumpsum
- Contract to deliver Activity 4.3.1 Climate vulnerability identification @ USD 30,000 lumpsum
- Contract to deliver Activity 4.3.2 and 4.3.4 on forest positive development and utilisation of existing funds @ USD 50,000 per landscape
- Contract to deliver Activity 4.3.3 on piloting low-impact tourism @ USD 50,000 per landscape
- Contract to deliver Activity 5.2.3 and 5.2.4 on NFI platform and primary forest dashboard @ USD 100,000 lumpsum
- Contract to deliver Activity 5.4.1 and 5.4.2 Communication & knowledge products @ USD 115,000 lumpsum
- Contract to deliver Activity 5.4.5 on youth group engagement @ USD 10,000 per landscape
- Contract to deliver Activity 5.6.2 on results framework indicator surveys, 10 surveys @ USD 2,000
- Contract to deliver FPIC @ USD 10,000 per landscape
- Contract to conduct midterm and terminal evaluations @ USD 60,000 per evaluation
- Contract for Spot check for OP @ USD 4,000 per year for 5 years
- Contract for audit @ USD 7,000 per year for 5 years
- Contract for FAO terminal report @ USD 6,550 lumpsum

#### 5021 Travel

#### International travel

■ Travel for Activity 5.1.1 Participation in RCP events – 75 @ USD 3,000 each

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■ Travel for Activity 5.1.2 transboundary events – 7 events @ USD 6,000 each

#### National travel

- Travel Forest Monitoring Specialist @ USD 8,000 lumpsum
- Travel Policy Analyst @ USD 8,000 lumpsum
- Travel Conservation Landscape Governance Specialist @ USD 10,000 lumpsum
- Travel M&E Specialist @ USD 10,000 lumpsum
- Travel Knowledge Management and Communication Specialist @ USD 8,000 lumpsum
- Travel Safeguards, Gender, Ethnic Minorities Specialist @ USD 12,000 lumpsum
- Travel Climate Finance Specialist @ USD 8,000 lumpsum
- Travel Capacity Building Specialist @ USD 15,000 lumpsum
- Travel OECM Specialist @ USD 8,000 lumpsum
- Travel Community Development Specialist @ USD 15,000 lumpsum
- Travel PMU staff duty @ USD 40,000 annually
- Travel Landscape Management Committee 80 times USD 500 each
- Travel related to boundary verification and land use planning, 28 events @ USD 500 each
- Travel related to development of guideline and preparation of management plans, 16 events @ USD 500 each
- Travel related to primary forest monitoring alerts for officers, 40 times USD 500 each
- Travel related to primary forest monitoring alerts for communities (training/workshop), 8 events @ USD 500 each
- Travel related to SMART patrol for local rangers @ USD 36,000 annually
- Travel related to biodiversity surveys; 40 times USD 1,500 each
- Travel related to fire prevention and control for rangers and volunteers @ USD 96,500 per landscape
- Travel related to land utilisation consultations 20 times USD 500 each
- Travel related to land use plan preparation 40 events @ USD 300 each
- Travel related to consultations on green buffers 40 events @ USD 300 each
- Travel related to forest user group consultations, 20 events @ USD 500 each
- Travel related to community-based forest management plan preparation, 20 events @ USD 500 each
- Travel related to NTFP consultations, 20 events @ USD 500 each
- Travel related to consultations on OECMs, 20 events @ USD 570 each
- Travel related to validating the extent of primary forests, 3 events @ USD 1,000 each
- Travel related to ground checks of deforestation @ USD 2,500 per landscape
- Travel related to National Forest Inventory in targeted landscapes @ USD 2,000 per landscape

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- Travel related to inter-landscape exchange visits @ USD 5,000 per landscape
- Travel related to local community trainings @ USD 2,500 per landscape
- Travel related to institutional trainings @ USD 2,000 per landscape
- Travel related to community network meetings @ USD 1,000 per landscape
- Travel related to cultural events @ USD 1,000 per landscape

#### 5023 Training

- Training for Activity 1.2.1 Landscape Management Committees, 80 times USD 700 each
- Trainings for Activities
- 1.2.2 + 1.2.3 Boundary + LUP (4 landscapes) 32 events @ USD 500 each
- 2.1.1 + 2.1.2 Guideline + management plan (4 landscapes) 16 events @ USD 500 each
- 2.1.3 Primary Forest monitoring alert (Officer consultation) in 4 landscapes 40 participants @ USD 700 each
- 2.1.3 Primary Forest monitoring alert (communities training/workshop) in 4 landscapes @ 8 events @ USD 9,750 each
- 2.2.1 Biodiversity survey training (1 event per landscape) @USD 10,000 per landscape
- 2.2.2 Fire prevention and control training (3 events per landscape) 12 events @ USD 2,000 each
- 3.1.1, 3.1.2 Land utilization consultations (4 landscapes) 20 events @ USD 700 each
- 3.1.3 LUP consultations 40 events @ USD 500 each
- 3.1.4 Green buffer consultations 40 events @ USD 500 each
- 3.2.2 Forest user group consultation 20 events @ USD 700 each
- 3.2.3 Community based forest management plan consultation 20 events @ USD 700 each
- 3.2.4 NTFP Consultation 20 events @ USD 700 each
- 3.3.1 + 3.3.2 OECM consultation 20 events @ USD 700 each
- 5.1.2 Transboundary 4 events @ USD 4,000 each
- 5.2.1 PF validation 3 workshops @ USD 2,500 each
- 5.2.2 Deforestation analysis & institutional alert response & lessons learnt workshop 4 training workshops @ USD 3,000 each
- 5.2.3 PF monitoring system meetings 4 meetings @ USD 1,500 each
- 5.3.3 Local community training @ USD 15,000 per landscape
- 5.3.4 Institutional training @ USD 5,000 per landscape
- 5.3.5 Community network meetings @ USD 2,500 per landscape
- 5.4.2 Public awareness campaigns 20 events @ USD 2,000 each
- 5.4.4 Stakeholder meetings @ USD 1,000 per landscape
- 5.5.1 Knowledge workshop @ USD 2,500 annually

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- Inception workshop @ USD 8,000 lumpsum
- 5.6.1 Project management meetings (PSC, TAC), 20 events @ USD 1,100 each

### 5024 Expendible procurement

- Community nurseries in landscapes @ USD 6,160 per landscape
- 5924 Other expendable equipment (2.1.4) equipment for volunteer groups @ USD 500 each for 20 groups
- Fire prevention and fighting equipment set (2.2.2) 12 sets @ USD 287 each
- Materials for restoration (3.2.1) 900 hectares @ USD 86 each
- 5941 SMART patrol supplies (2.1.4) (5 PAs) 5 sets @ USD 1,200 each
- 5940 Seedlings for Green buffer (3.1.4) 4 landscapes @ USD 1,500 each
- Seedlings for restoration (3.2.1) 900 hectares @ USD 203 each

Seedlings for NTFP resources establishment (3.2.4) @ USD 1000 lumpsum

5941 Materials for NTFP resource establishment (3.2.4) @ USD 1000 per landscape

### 6100 Non-expendible procurement

- 6002 NCAPS (2.1.4)
- 6001 Leaf Blower (2.2.2)
- 6001 SMART Patrol equipment set (2.1.4)
- 6002 Fixed Wing UAV and accessories (1.2.2+1.2.3+2.1.4+2.2.2+5.2.3) 1 unit @ USD 225,285 lumpsum
- 6001 Herbarium object scanner with its accessories (5.5.3) 1 unit @ USD 68,570 lumpsum
- 6012 digital camera DSLR with its accessories (5.5.3) 1 unit @ USD 11,430 lumpsum
- 6004 server (5.5.3) 1 unit @ USD 3,700 lumpsum
- 6004 computer set with UPS (5.5.3) 2 units @ USD 1,200 each
- 6004 Laptops (2.2.3) 9 units @ USD 2,000 each
- Autoclave (2.2.3) 2 units @ USD 1,700 each
- Aboricultural Equipment (2.2.3) 1 set @ USD 16,720 lumpsum
- 6006 Exhibition materials (2.2.3) 1 set @ USD 15,900 lumpsum

#### **6300 General Operating Expenses**

• 6300 GoE @ USD 47,854 lumpsum

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# **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.

GEF Secretariat comments	Responses
We suggest describing for each of the participating countries so far, the aspect of transformational change that is expected from participating in this IP	The maximization of transformational change achieved through participation in the IP is described in Section A, Sub-section Project justification.
Knowledge Management: While an overall approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been described in the Program Description and communications activities are mentioned, there is no reference to an overall communications strategy/plan. Thus, the agency is requested to include a brief description of a coherent communications strategy/plan for awareness raising and dissemination of program outputs/results, including outreach & dissemination to/from child projects. Please, clarify and correct.	Mainly addressed in the RCP. The Thai project's knowledge management and communications strategy (described in Section E.1) is captured in the results framework in Outputs 5.4 and 5.5 (see Annexes C and E) and intrinsically linked to and informed by the RCP's corresponding strategies, structures and processes. The results framework (Annex C), component and activity descriptions (Section B, Annex E), budget (Section D), human resources (Section D, L), and work plan (Section D) make explicit provisions for adequate resourcing of these design elements.
Comment made on PFD potentially relevant to Thai project: "The PMC portion funded by co-financing is not proportionate to the GEF-funded PMC. It is not an issue at this stage, but please anticipate that we will review the PMC allocation more closely at child project CEO endorsement submission. To be revised during PPG."	Cofinancing to the PMC now proportionately matches the minimum cofinancing ratio (1:5 of PMC met through GEF vs. cofinancing funds).
We would like to remind that you need to make the demonstration in which way the use of a tool X or a method Y will help in generating or maximizing Global Environment Benefits Tools: interest and demonstration in supporting GEB to be demonstrate during the PPG. For instance, we are not convinced with the use of GEF resources to finance the IUCN Green List (not found in this PFD, but found in other PFD under the CFB IP. To be demonstrated during the PPG of concerned projects, if needed.	The tools applied by the Thai project and the resulting GEBs include e-Tree traceability platform and SEPAL-based deforestation analyses will help addressing illegal timber trade as a driver of deforestation (see Annex E, Activity 2.1.3). The FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure will help to address insecure land tenure by ethnic minorities and local communities as a key driver (see Annex E, Activities 1.2.3, 3.1.3). Land cover monitoring applying SEPAL will be built into the primary forest monitoring system (see Annex E, Activity 5.2.3) and directly help to minimize forest encroachment as a key driver of primary forest loss. The carbon calculations tools FAO ExAct will track and help to prioritize the maximization the Project's climate change mitigation contributions including on Forest Reference Level for GHG inventory monitoring. The FAO SFM toolbox will be applied for transformational change in capacities on forest management (see Annex E, Output 5.3). The DNP Smart Patrol system will also be integrated on monitoring and reporting forest disturbances (Activity 2.1.4, 2.2.1).
Worth considering whether engagement of the private sector via forest legality/traceability (timber and timber product/content) could contribute positively to the objective of the IP-which goes beyond investment in bankable projects and biodiversity friendly value chain development.	The e-Tree (traceability platform and forest management system) is managed by Royal Foerst Department and will be utilized as due diligence system on responsible sourcing to prevent encroachment and illegal logging into legal supply as part of due diligence system for legal compliance to enable legal forest trade (see Annex E, Activities 1.1.3 and 3.2.4). The project will engage the private sector for increased legal compliance of the forest sector.
For PPG, please consider current GEF global investments that will have direct relevance to the countries and assessment/planning needed for this IP in the context of GBF T3, policy coherence and NBSAP revision. Please review to maximize complementarity and avoid duplicative funding or activities in regional program or country projects:	The Project will provide support to NBSAP revision only insofar the adequate reflection of primary forests in the NBSAPs is concerned (refer to Annex E, Activity 1.1.2). In doing this, the Project will liaise with relevant other initiatives include those funded by the GEF to maximize complementarity (refer to Section B.1).
Please, during PPG, take lessons and best practice from past or ongoing projects in the region	The Project Document in Section C, Sub-section Lessons learnt from past project took stock of relevant baseline investments (including those funded by the GEF), along with resulting lessons learnt and best practices identified.
Component 1: Suggest engaging directly with ICCF/CCN regarding policy coherence work and legislative/conservation caucus engagement in Thailand	Engaging Thailand's Senate Conservation Caucus as the ICCF subsidiary has been explicitly mentioned under Output 1.1 (see Annex E).

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GEF Secretariat comments	Responses
Component 2: Per the GEF-8 strategy, engagement with protected areas must include clear emphasis on systems-level to support sustainable financing and effective management to be sustained versus a park-by-park approach. This is consistent as well with the transformational change that is intended through this IP, please revise accordingly and take into account in PPG.	The component description contains several activities focusing on systemic improvements of Thailand's PA estate (e.g. PA financing strategy (Activity 4.1.1), review of biodiversity survey methodology (Activity 2.1.1), integration of transboundary PA management into international MoUs (Activity 5.1.2), science-based species conservation (Activity 2.2.3), guideline on inclusive governance of PAs (Activity 2.1.1), guideline on land allocation to local communities inside PAs, etc.).
Child projects should directly address how they propose to tackle systemic challenges per section 2 c in the Project overview and approach	ProDoc Section A, Sub-sections Drivers of change, Future narratives, and Project justification, as well as Section B Theory of Change outline the systemic challenges and how the project aims to address them.
Based on the language in the PFD, and especially the expected results under the component 3, please provide a target for the core indicator 4.5 on OECM	National progress on defining what OECMs entail in the Thai context has not progressed far enough during the PPG to be able to define targets for CI 4.5 (see Annex B). This will be rectified during implementation, as soon as the national OECM dialogue has led to conclusive results.

GEF STAP comments	Responses
While the importance of secure tenure rights and the importance of forest tenure conflict are noted extensively, alongside importance of IPLC engagement, it would be helpful to explore how the proposed IP will relate to growing civil society movements focused on community tenure.	The Thailand project addresses this point by engaging local NGOs as facilitators of land allocation to members of local communities and ethnic minorities residing inside PAs (see Section B.1), which has been legally enabled in 2019, however not yet implemented in practice. Piloting this with NGO/CSO engagement will not only strengthen community tenure, but also create momentum on this process for PAs across the country.
Deepen critical analysis on strategies for engaging and influencing the private sector, including indirect measures of influence through strengthening of policy coherence, governance and enforcement. Current description contains few concrete examples. This shortcoming could be strengthened during the next phase, along with more details regarding the proposed investment forum.	Though these analyses were performed, the ambition on engaging the private sector has been downscaled as compared to the concept phase.
Prioritize opportunities to extend the geographic breadth of the program, engaging countries that have not yet committed, in order to increase the likelihood of significantly influencing trends in the region. Related to this, the selection of an appropriate regional organization (not yet identified) to house the regional platform and help execute the project will be critical to pursue multiple pathways for broader country engagement – among government, civil society and private sector actors.	Though this point is largely addressed by the RCP, whereas the Thailand project has explicit provisions to engage in transboundary landscape conservation with Cambodia (see Annex E, Activity 5.1.2). This may open up the pathway for Cambodia to express interest in joining a potential next phase of the Indo-Malaya CFB IP. Potential pathways through MoU development with TH-LA on forestry cooperation to prevent illegal wildlife and timber trade including related bilateral cooperation and PA management.

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