



Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

11003

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT No

NGI No

Project Title

Sustainable Land Management to Strengthen Social Cohesion in the Drylands of Burkina Faso

Countries

Burkina Faso

Agency(ies)

UNDP

Other Executing Partner(s)

Secr?tariat Permanent du Conseil National pour le D?veloppement Durable (SP/CNDD), under the Ministry of Environment, Water and Sanitation

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Land Degradation

Sector

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Productivity, Carbon stocks above or below ground, Land Cover and Land cover change, Sustainable Land Management, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Sustainable Forest, Sustainable Pasture Management, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Livelihoods, Sustainable Agriculture, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Stakeholders, Communications, Awareness Raising, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Participation, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Local Communities, Indigenous Peoples, Beneficiaries, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Women groups, Gender-sensitive indicators, Gender results areas, Participation and leadership, Capacity Development, Access and control over natural resources, Access to benefits and services, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Theory of change, Indicators to measure change, Innovation

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Significant Objective 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Significant Objective 1

Biodiversity

No Contribution 0

Land Degradation

Principal Objective 2

Submission Date

6/16/2023

Expected Implementation Start

3/1/2024

Expected Completion Date

3/1/2030

Duration

72In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

332,782.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
LD-2-5	Create enabling environments to support scaling up and mainstreaming of SLM and LDN	GET	3,502,968.00	61,164,097.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			3,502,968.00	61,164,097.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

To enhance the national frameworks for the achievement of the national LDN targets, while promoting social cohesion in selected landscapes in the Centre-Nord region through the practical application of the LDN concept.

Project Component	Financi ng Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Tru st Fu nd	GEF Project Financin g(\$)	Confirmed Co- Financing(\$)
------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------	---	---

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Land use planning and monitoring towards LDN	Technical Assistance	Outcome 1.1: The capacity of key stakeholders at the national and local level for monitoring progress against LDN targets is enhanced.	<p>Output 1.1.1: Operationalized Burkina Faso LDN monitoring and evaluation manual to track progress against LDN targets.</p> <p>Output 1.1.2: Technical/methodological support for the digitization of the monitoring of progress against three LDN indicators</p> <p>Output 1.1.3: Updated national and regional baselines for LDN and disaggregation at commune level.</p> <p>Output 1.2.1: Support is provided to the National Coalition for sustainable Land Management (CNGDT) to coordinate the implementation of the LDN Framework at national level.</p> <p>Output 1.2.2: Sectoral laws, policies, and</p>	GE T	550,500.00	9,909,195.00
		Outcome 1.2: The capacity of key stakeholders at the national level for coordinatio				

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
		n and implementation of the LDN framework is enhanced.	planning processes are revised to create the enabling environment for an inclusive, gender sensitive, and degradation neutral land planning			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
<p>Component 2: Implementation at local and regional level of LDN activities that contribute to social cohesion and support green economy opportunities.</p>	Investment	<p>Outcome 2.1: Enhanced LDN and social cohesion through gender sensitive and locally-adapted SLM.</p>	<p>Output 2.1.1: Land use planning and management committees at the local level (CFV and CCFV) are revitalized and supported.</p> <p>Output 2.1.2: LDN actions are identified by the local land use planning and management committees for selected landscapes.</p> <p>Output 2.1.3: LDN actions in production systems that contribute to social cohesion are implemented in selected landscapes.</p> <p>Output 2.1.4: Awareness raising campaign on land tenure for women and IDPs.</p> <p>Output 2.2.1. Support for development of key value chains with a focus on women and youth, and LDN</p>	GE T	2,325,453.00	40,802,569.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
		Outcome 2.2: Increased engagement in the green economy in support of LDN.	Output 2.2.2. A sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN established and operationalized			
Component 3: Knowledge management for upscaling	Technical Assistance	Outcome 3.1: Increased awareness of LDN across stakeholder groups.	Output 3.1.1: A knowledge management and communications strategy developed and implemented.	GE T	285,059.00	4,663,151.00
		Outcome 3.2: Environmental and Social Safeguards operational across the project's Components.	Output 3.2.1. Environmental and Social Safeguards Management is developed and operationalized.			

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 4: Project M&E	Technical Assistance	Outcome 4.1: Project impacts are monitored and learning is identified and shared for scaling up of results.	Output 4.1.1: A tailored M&E framework is developed.	GET	175,148.00	2,914,469.00
Sub Total (\$)					3,336,160.00	58,289,384.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
			GET	166,808.00	2,874,713.00	
			Sub Total(\$)	166,808.00	2,874,713.00	
			Total Project Cost(\$)	3,502,968.00	61,164,097.00	

Please provide justification

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	Investment mobilized	500,000.00
Donor Agency	IUCN	Grant	Investment mobilized	765,387.00
Other	Ambassade de Belgique au Burkina Faso	Grant	Investment mobilized	9,898,710.00
Recipient Country Government	MEEA	Grant	Investment mobilized	50,000,000.00
Total Co-Financing(\$)				61,164,097.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The investment mobilized from UNDP is the sum of core annual budget allocation to the project from the country office (\$500,000), to be managed through the project. The funds made available by IUCN relate to three projects currently being funded by IUCN and complementary to the proposed project and can, therefore, serve as co-financing/parallel investments amounting to USD 765,387 as follow: ?Creating lands of opportunity: transforming livelihoods through landscape restoration in the Sahel (Burkina Faso, Ghana and Niger)? -US \$ 546,705; ?Restoring Ecosystems to Reduce Drought Risk and Increase Resilience? - US \$ 109,341; and ?Accelerating the global transition to sustainable agriculture? - US \$ 109,341. The funds made available by the Embassy of Belgium in Burkina Faso relates to two of the projects currently being funded in the Central North region, amounting to USD 9,898,710 as follow: ?Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable households to the adverse effects of climate change through multi-use water reservoirs in the North, Central-North and Sahel regions.? - USD1,246,960; and ?Improving integrated natural resource management and sustainably restoring the Sahel's ecosystems in the fight against desertification and the adverse impacts of climate change, thereby strengthening the resilience of the population living in the Sahel under vulnerable conditions.? ? USD8,651,750. Finally, the funds made available by the government of Burkina Faso relate to seven of the projects presently being carried out by MEEA and complement the proposed project, for a total co-financing amount of USD50M, as follows: ?Development and Adaptation to Climate Change Integrated Program in the Niger Basin (PIDACC/BN)?; ?Integrated Water Resources Management Project, phase II (P-GIRE II)?; "Water, Local Water Committees (CLE) for Sustainable Development (ECDD)" project ?Project Providing support to reforestation efforts through the development of propagation methods in Burkina Faso (PARMEV/BF)?; ?Support program to promote non-timber forest products Phase 3 (NTFP3)?; ?Project geared towards the development of pilot eco-villages in Burkina Faso (PRODECOV-BF)?; and ?Sahel Climate Thematic Portfolio ? Burkina Faso (PTCS/BF)?. These projects

all have direct relevance to LDN, with interventions addressing underlying socio-economic drivers of land degradation, contributing to restoration efforts, and tackling the negative effects of climate change on local populations to build resilience, amongst others.

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
UNDP	GET	Burkina Faso	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	3,502,968	332,782	3,835,750.00
Total Grant Resources(\$)					3,502,968.00	332,782.00	3,835,750.00

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount (\$)

150,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

14,250

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
UNDP	GET	Burkina Faso	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	150,000	14,250	164,250.00
Total Project Costs(\$)					150,000.00	14,250.00	164,250.00

Core Indicators

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)
10000.00	10000.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Cropland	3,500.00	3,500.00		

Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
500.00	500.00		

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Woodlands	6,000.00	6,000.00		

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

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
250000.00	250000.00	0.00	0.00

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations			
Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
250,000.00	250,000.00		

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

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title	Submitted

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	0	6480827	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)		6,480,827		
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting		2024		
Duration of accounting		20		

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

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

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

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

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

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

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	9,975	10,905		
Male	9,025	9,035		
Total	19000	19940	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

•During the PPG Phase, precisions about the location and context of the project interventions were added. Descriptions of the baseline, of the barriers that the project will contribute to remove and of the preferred solution proposed by the project were reviewed. There were some restructuring and reformulation of the project outcomes and outputs, in order to better meet the project objective and reflect the focus on LDN and social cohesion (Table 1). New outcomes were added (Component 1, 2 and 3) as well as associated outputs.

Table 1: Changes made on Outcomes and Outputs between the PIF and PPG phase

Components, Outcomes and Outputs as written in the PIF	Components, Outcomes and Outputs revised or added during PPG
<p align="center">Component 1: Land use planning and monitoring towards LDN</p>	<p align="center">Component 1: Monitoring and coordination of LDN Framework implementation</p>
<p>Outcome 1: National level frameworks^[1], practices and capacities for the effective application of LDN at the Landscape-level enhanced.</p> <p>Output 1.1. LDN principles and gender-sensitive approaches are incorporated into land-use planning and management of landscapes at the national and sub-national levels.</p> <p>Output 1.2. The capacity of key stakeholders at the national level for planning and monitoring the pursuit of</p>	<p>Outcome 1: The capacity of key stakeholders at the national and local level for monitoring progress against LDN targets is enhanced.</p> <p>Output 1.1.1: Operationalized Burkina Faso LDN monitoring and evaluation manual to track progress against LDN targets.</p> <p>Output 1.1.2: Technical/methodological support for the digitization of the monitoring of progress against three LDN indicators.</p> <p>Output 1.1.3: Updated national and regional baselines for LDN and disaggregation at commune level.</p>

<p>LDN targets and of linked goals is improved.</p> <p>Output 1.3. The National Coalition for Sustainable Land Management (CNGDT)[2]² is strengthened for the effective application of the LDN frameworks at the national and sub-national levels.</p>	<p>Comment: A second outcome and associated outputs have been added to differentiate the strengthening of capacities in order to monitor progress against LDN targets and in order to coordinate and implement the LDN Framework at national level. <i>This outcome used to be part of PIF Outcome 3.</i></p> <p>Outcome 1.2: The capacity of key stakeholders at the national level for coordination and implementation of the LDN framework is enhanced.</p> <p>Output 1.2.1: Support is provided to the National Coalition for sustainable Land Management (CNGDT) to coordinate the implementation the LDN Framework at national level</p> <p>Output 1.2.2: Sectoral laws, policies, and planning processes are revised to create the enabling environment for an inclusive, gender sensitive, and degradation neutral land planning</p>
<p>Component 2: Implementation of LDN conducive practices</p>	<p>Component 2: Implementation at local and regional level of LDN activities that contribute to social cohesion and support green economy opportunities</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Gender-sensitive and locally adapted solutions and practices that contribute to LDN targets are supported on the ground in selected landscapes.</p> <p>Output 2.1. Land-use planning and management committees at the local level are supported (or established, where needed).</p> <p>Output 2.2. LDN solutions are conceived for different landscapes in the Centre-Nord region through innovative, collaborative and integrated land use planning, aimed at reducing land-based</p>	<p>Outcome 2.1: Enhanced LDN and social cohesion through gender sensitive and locally-adapted SLM.</p> <p>Output 2.1.1: Land use planning and management committees at the local level (CFV and CCFV) are revitalized and supported.</p> <p>Output 2.1.2: LDN actions are identified by the local land use planning and management committees for selected landscapes.</p> <p>Output 2.1.3: LDN actions in production systems that contribute to social cohesion are implemented in selected landscapes.</p>

<p>conflict and promoting responsible, inclusive and gender-sensitive land governance.</p> <p>Output 2.3. LDN implementation: Gender-sensitive and locally adapted LDN solutions are implemented across landscapes through local sub-projects executed by capable organizations and local governments</p>	<p>Comment: A second outcome has been added to focus on the development of the green economy, key value chains and sustainable financing in support of LDN. This was a key gap identified during PPG in the PIF activities.</p> <p>Outcome 2.2: Increased engagement in the green economy in support of LDN.</p> <p>Output 2.2.1. Support for development of key value chains with a focus on women and youth, and LDN.</p> <p>Output 2.2.2. A sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN established and operationalized.</p>
<p>Component 3: Enhanced coordination, monitoring and finance for LDN</p>	<p>Component 3: Knowledge management for upscaling</p>
<p>Outcome 3. Legal, policy, institutional and financial barriers for the continued application of gender sensitive LDN at the landscape level are addressed.</p> <p>Output 3.1. Changes through legal and policy reforms, and improved institutional processes are supported for underpinning a peaceful, social cohesive and sustainable land governance.</p> <p>Output 3.2. Sustainable funding for the continued management of landscapes towards LDN is secured</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1: Increased awareness of LDN across stakeholder groups.</p> <p>Output 3.1.1: A knowledge management and communications strategy developed and implemented.</p> <p>Comment: This was part of Component 4 in the PIF and moved up to Component 3 here, for better flow.</p> <p>Comment: A second outcome has been added to ensure that ESS and gender are effectively integrated in the project.</p> <p>Outcome 3.2: Environmental and Social Safeguards operational across the project's Components.</p> <p>Output 3.2.1. Environmental and Social Safeguards Management is developed and operationalized.</p>
<p>Component 4: Monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management for upscaling</p>	<p>Component 4: M&E</p>

<p>Outcome 4: Project impacts and LDN indicators are monitored, and learning is shared for scale-up of results across the country.</p> <p>Output 4.1. Results from implementation of SLM/SFM solutions and practices on the ground are regularly measured against set LDN parameters and regularly reported upon through MRV.</p> <p>Output 4.2. Knowledge platform is operational for coordination and lessons sharing among stakeholders at the landscape, national and international levels.</p> <p>4.3. A participatory M&E and learning framework is developed and implemented for project as a whole and on the ground.</p>	<p>Outcome 4.1: Project impacts are monitored and learning is identified and shared for scaling up of results.</p> <p>Output 4.1.1. A tailored M&E framework is developed.</p>
---	--

The changes in the Output plan have also resulted in changes to the amount of budget allocated to the project's four Outcomes. These are displayed in the table below:

Outcome	Amount budgeted in PIF (GEF project financing)	Amount budgeted in PPG phase
Outcome 1	400,000	Total: 550,500 (GEFTF)
Outcome 2	2,400,000	Total: 2,334,453 2,325,453 (GEFTF) 9,000 (UNDP)
Outcome 3	250,000	Total: 285,059 (GEFTF)
Outcome 4	186,160	Total: 271,748 175,148 (GEFTF) 96,600 (UNDP)

1a. Project Description.

1) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description);

Burkina Faso is a **landlocked, semi-arid Least Developed Country (LDC) in West Africa** covering an area of 27.4 million ha with an estimated population of 22 million (2021)[3]³. Though progress has been made in terms of poverty reduction, the country continues to experience development challenges. Indicators of gender inequality and of low levels of human development[4]⁴ are tokens of the country's socio-economic vulnerability. **Burkina Faso's landscapes are dominated by drylands** (99.95% has an aridity index of less 0.65). Agricultural productivity is low, as it depends entirely on variable rainfall amounts, and is practiced extensively (often tilled by hand) on poor soils (often heavily weathered) receiving very little nutrient input. Increasing frequency and intensity of drought and flooding due to climate change pose a serious problem to Burkina Faso's smallholders. As such, **land degradation (LD) has been recognized as a serious and persistent problem in Burkina Faso since the 1950s**. A 2018 national baseline study found that approximately 31% of Burkina Faso's territory was subjected to degradation, 24% of the national surface area (6.5 million ha) was found highly degraded[5]⁵. Similarly, the LDN target setting exercise[6]⁶ highlighted that between 2002 and 2013, 19% of the national land area suffered from degradation with respect to the three LDN indicators: (i) land use and land use change; (ii) land productivity and (iii) soil carbon stock. **Land degradation affects agricultural livelihoods and food security in Burkina Faso**. It was estimated that 9% of the rural population (1.1 million people) was living on degrading agricultural land in 2010 – an increase of 53% in a decade[7]⁷. In 2007, economic costs due to LD were estimated at \$1.8 billion per year, equivalent to around 26% of the country's GDP at the time, with almost half of those costs directly linked to the decline in provisioning ecosystem services (such as food availability, wood production, carbon fluxes and water circulation, habitat safeguarding[8]⁸). Moreover, **roughly 20% of Burkina Faso's population experiences food insecurity, while in the Centre-Nord Region food poverty affects 68.2% of the population** who cannot cover their minimum nutritional needs. About 7 out of 10 people spend less than 102,686 FCFA, which is the cost of the basket of food products capable of producing the minimum required calories annually (2300 Kcal/day). In October 2021, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET) for Burkina Faso reported the entire Centre-Nord region as "under stress", due to the large number of people in need of food aid. Drought, conflict, market and political shocks, as well as different types of hazards (e.g., natural, climate-driven, health-related) tend to aggravate the food insecurity situation. **The significant social unrest and political instability of the last 15 years further affected economic development and social cohesion**. Since 2015, jihadist-inspired terrorism has escalated and spread southwards from the northern Sahel region and neighboring Mali. A weak central government, unable to deal with the rapidly deteriorating security situation, has been replaced after a military coup in January 2022, and another one in October 2022. The persistent and spreading violence and security threat has resulted in significant population displacements both internally and towards neighboring Ivory Coast and Ghana. While there were fewer than 50,000 internally displaced

persons (IDPs) in the country in January 2019, their number reached almost 2 million in December 2022[9]⁹.

Project Intervention zone: Centre-Nord Region

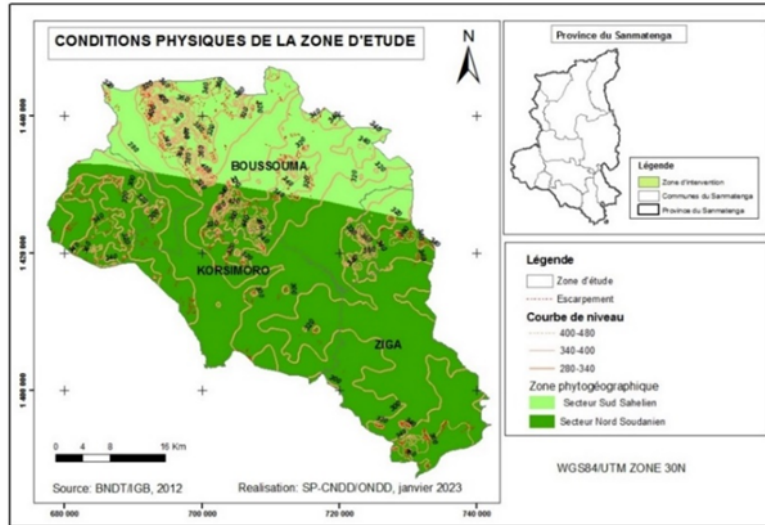
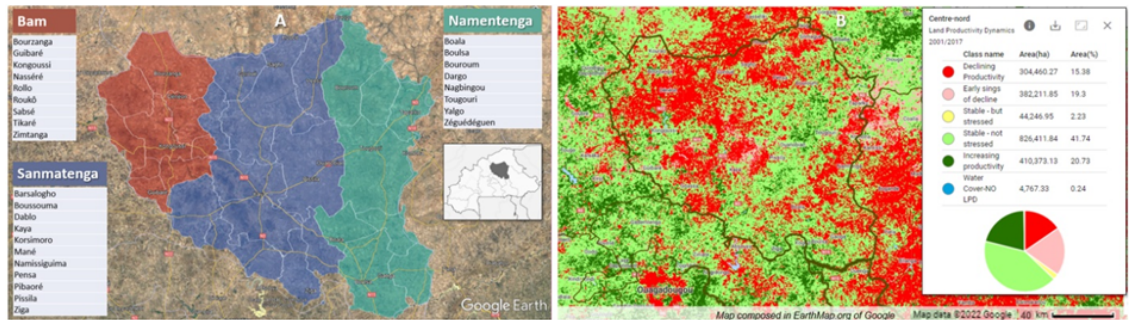


Figure 1: Physical conditions of the intervention area [1]

Site selection. During the PPG process, three pilot sites for the project were identified in the Centre-Nord region: i) Boussouma, ii) Korsimoro, and iii) Ziga, all located in Sanmatenga province. The selection of sites was done in **two steps**:

- Analysis of the level of degradation of the Centre-Nord region lands. Korsimoro has the highest level of degradation, Boussouma an intermediate level of degradation, and Ziga, a lower level of degradation (Figure 2).
- Discussions with local stakeholders on the availability of land, the dynamism of producers. A diversity of stakeholders was consulted in the three communes (see Section 2. *Stakeholders.*): state entities, local authorities, local communities, associations, and NGOs.

Figure 2: Maps of the Centre-North region of Burkina Faso: (a) provinces and departments; and (b) land productivity dynamics [10]¹⁰

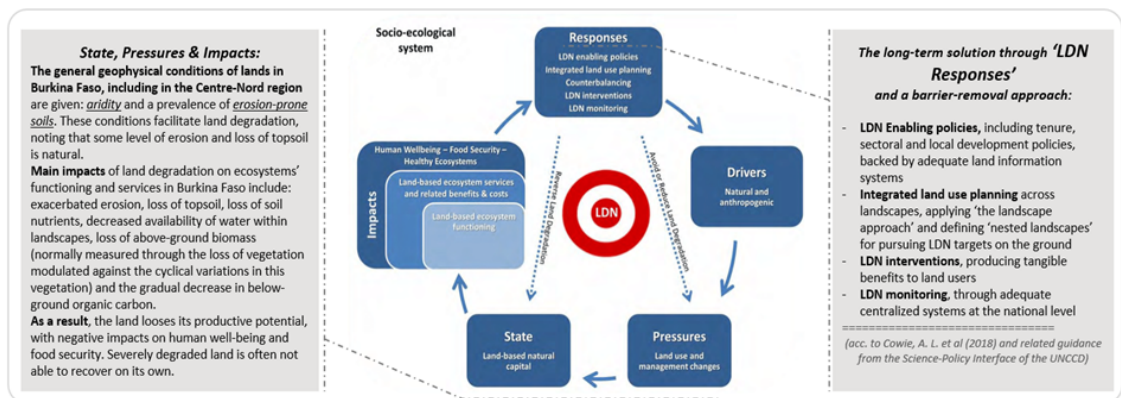


The intervention zone thus selected covers an area of **143,700ha**. The main land use units in the intervention zone are annual crops (51%), shrub savannah (11.8%), grassy savannah (7.8%) and agroforestry park (7.4%). **90% of the population in the Centre-Nord is involved in the agricultural sector**. The main crops grown are cereals such as millet, white and red sorghum. From 2012 to 2017, the total area sown to cereals increased continuously while production decreased [11]¹¹. Other crops are ni?b?, voandzou (Bambara groundnut). Cash crops cultivated include peanuts, soybeans but areas dedicated to cash crop production are decreasing from year to year, giving more space to market gardening production. Grown vegetables are green bean, onion, tomato, eggplant, cabbage, chili and bell pepper. In 2013, out of a total production of 232,248 tons, onions and tomatoes accounted for 55% and 36% of the total vegetable volume respectively.

Root causes and drivers of land degradation

The underlying causes of LD are multiple, complex, and interconnected including through negative feedback loops. For composing the project's Theory of Change (in Figure 5 Project Theory of Change further down) a socio-ecological system's model was adopted for analyzing the root causes, drivers, and barriers of LD (as per Figure 3), which includes drivers, pressures, state and impacts, followed by an 'LDN Response'. Figure 3 highlights how the causal analysis behind the project's Theory of Change builds from this model and related LDN framework.

Figure 3. A socio-ecological system for framing the land degradation problem through Scientific Conceptual Framework for LDN [12]¹²



Drivers

Climate change. Land degradation in Burkina Faso occurs in a context of increasing exposure to **climate change**. According to the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative (ND-GAIN) which summarizes a country's vulnerability to climate change, Burkina Faso ranks as the 27th most vulnerable country to climate change[13]¹³.

Burkina Faso is characterized by a dry tropical climate and experiences a short rainy season and a long dry season. During the dry season, the harmattan wind blows hot dry air during the day and cool air at night; during the wet season, the West African Monsoon brings in wet air from the ocean together with clouds and rain. The north of the country is characterized by semi-arid steppe with annual mean temperatures of up to 29°C and high rates of evapotranspiration. Burkina Faso's agricultural lands receive an annual precipitation between 500 (in the north) and 1,000mm (in the south), roughly falling between June and September, with strong interannual and geographical variations. Mean annual temperature is around 28 °C[14]¹⁴.

Observed climate change and future climate projections

•**Temperatures.** Since 1901, there has been an increase in the average annual temperatures of approximately 0.10°C per decade[15]¹⁵. Projected mean annual temperatures are expected to reach 33.8°C in 2100 under the SSP5-8.5 scenario, a rise of 5.5°C compared to 1995 (28.3°C)[16]¹⁶. Higher temperatures are expected in the north and south-west of the country in the dry season.

•**Hot days.** In line with rising mean annual temperatures, the annual number of hot days is projected to rise, the population affected by at least one heatwave per year rising from 1.7 % in 2000 to 10 % in 2080. This is related to 88 more very hot days per year over this period under the RCP6.0 scenario. As a consequence, heat-related mortality is estimated to increase by a factor of five by 2080.

•**Precipitation.** Trends in the distribution of precipitation indicate a decrease between 1951-1980 (823mm per year) and 1991-2020 (687mm per year)[17]¹⁷. A high level of uncertainty exists regarding future projections of precipitation in the region due to high natural year-to-year variability. Observations from weather stations taken since 1902 depict an expansion of the dry zone, which has been moving southward over the last century[18]¹⁸. For all scenarios, interannual variability has increased along with the intensity and frequency of extreme rainfall events.

Projected impacts on agriculture and pastoralism. Many of Burkina Faso's soils (especially in northern Burkina) are poor in nutrients, sandy and shallow, which makes them intrinsically vulnerable to drying, erosion and flooding. Potential loss of vegetation cover due to climate conditions could further expose the soil to wind and water erosion. Since crops are

predominantly rainfed, they depend on water availability from precipitation and are prone to droughts which will reduce crop yields and the number of good pastures, leading to increasing competition for limited natural resources. Climate change will have a negative impact particularly on yields of maize, millet, and sorghum: projections indicate a negative yield trend for all three crops under all RCPSs[19]¹⁹. In the Centre Nord region, bushfires are one of the most important factors contributing to the degradation of lands and forests, and by extension the entire natural environment. In the context of land degradation, after the loss of vegetation cover, farmland and soils are exposed to an intense erosion potential. Climate change is likely to increase the incidence of fire weather and cause more frequent and intense bushfires.

Table 2: Observed and projected climate changes and their impacts on agriculture

Climate parameter	Current conditions and historical trends	Climate projections by 2050	Impacts on agriculture and pastoralism
Temperature	Increase in the average yearly temperatures of approximately 0.10°C per decade from 1901 to 2013.	Projected mean annual temperatures are expected to reach 33.8°C in 2100 under the SSP5-8.5 scenario, a rise of 5.5°C compared to 1995.	Increase in crop land exposure to drought. Reduced productivity of lands and decline of yields of maize, millet, and sorghum.
Precipitation	Decrease in precipitation.	Uncertainty of mean annual precipitation, increase of interannual variability	Decrease of water availability for agricultural lands, damage to crops.
Extreme weather	Increase in frequency of floods.	Increase in the frequency and intensity of rainfall events and floods	Decrease of available agricultural lands.

Demographic pressure. Burkina Faso's population has been growing at a rate of about 3.1% a year. Demographic pressures at the local level have a direct link to pressures on land and natural resources, given the current land use dynamics. In total, the project intervention zone has a population of 218,968 inhabitants (53% of whom are women) distributed in 119 villages with an average density of 105 inhabitants/km². The total number of households is 29,724 with an average size of 5 persons per household. The active population of the intervention zone is estimated at **106,761 people**. Between 2006 and 2019, the population of the project intervention area increased by an average of 35%. The presence of high numbers of **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** represents another political and socio-economic challenge affecting social cohesion and land use. As of October 2022, the intervention zone had registered **32,603 IDPs** present in the area, adding to the pressure on lands, especially in the communes of Korsimoro and Boussouma. They were distributed as follows:

Table 3: Status of IDPs in the intervention zone[20]²⁰

	Men	Women	Children under 5 years of age	Children over 5 years old	Total Children	Total number of IDPs
Total	3 579	6 349	12 119	10 556	22 675	32 603

Percentage	10,98%	19,47%	37,17%	32,38%	69,55%	100,00%
------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	---------

Extreme poverty. Poverty headcount ratio at national poverty lines was 41.4% in 2019. Poverty and land degradation are connected in a vicious circle, with poor households being unable to invest resources into sustainable land management practices (or even fertilizers and basic material), and land degradation and the resulting income and food insecurity aggravating poverty.

Multiple immediate causes of land degradation (pressures) have been identified through the LDN TSP process^[21], and can be further categorized as follows:

Limited adoption of sustainable land management practices. Subsistence farming predominates across the country and the Centre-Nord region is no exception. Rainfed cultivation typically takes place on small holds of 1.5-2.0 ha, where improved agricultural inputs, including plowing equipment, improved seed varieties, and fertilizers, are rarely used. The dominant agricultural practices in the area (clearing and deforestation for agricultural purposes, poor soil and water management, inappropriate agricultural practices, plowing, weeding, burning, etc.) contribute to the chemical degradation of the soil through the loss of nutrients. In addition, the insufficient supply of organic and chemical fertilizers also plays a role in the degradation of the soil structure. In some areas of Centre-Nord, there are large perimeters of irrigated agriculture producing cash crops such as rice, sugar cane, vegetables and fruit crops, but the sustainability of these systems remains to be investigated. The presence of extensive cotton plantations tends to accelerate soil degradation more than other crops.

Overharvesting of wood energy. Informal economic activities, such as harvesting of firewood, can be a significant source of income for rural households. Indeed, over 80% of Sub-Saharan population depend on woodfuels as their main energy source, and in Burkina Faso this dependency is expected to continue and even increase in the next decades, leading to overharvesting of wood energy to be the second leading cause of deforestation in the country.^[22] Women are often responsible for cutting and transporting wood, yet are often excluded from forest governance arrangements^[23].

Overgrazing. Livestock is present in most farming households in Burkina Faso, often in small-scale and predominantly using small livestock, reared with low inputs and mostly for domestic consumption. Livestock rearing is also practiced in larger-scale communal nomadic systems that use transhumance and rangeland management as a strategy for an extensive exploitation of scarce pasture resources. In the Centre-Nord, those systems use corridors in the central parts of Namentenga and Sanmatenga provinces. However, the increase of the larger livestock population amplifies soil compaction, which results in a decrease of soil porosity and a decrease in water infiltration affecting the recharge of the water table, and an increase in wind erosion, with a consequent stripping of the soil during periods of strong harmattan winds. From 2013 to

2022, the livestock population (cattle, sheep, and goats) in Sanmatenga province increased by 33%, from 1,190,801 to 1,585,750 heads[24]²⁴.

Mining activities. Mining for metals causes a much more profound impact on the land, by deteriorating the soil and over-utilizing and contaminating water resources. Centre-Nord region is characterized by the presence of ores such as gold, bauxite, antimony and iron oil shale and clay. 229 gold mining sites have been identified across the region: 2 industrial sites in Bissa-Bouly and Taparko which are some of the largest and the longest-running industrial gold mining sites in Burkina Faso; 3 semi-mechanical sites; 75 artisanal sites; and 149 'wild' or anarchic sites with 5 buying stations. Out of the 229 gold panning sites in the region, only 29% are authorized. There are 28 artisanal gold mining sites in the intervention zone, including 15 in Boussouma, 8 in Korsimoro and 5 in Ziga.

In artisanal gold mining, pits are often abandoned without proper mitigation measures. They thus offer the soil to gulying and intensive erosion processes, leading to a total destruction of the vegetation cover. This imbalance causes, in addition, an over-alluviation of the valleys and their more or less deep asphyxiation. These processes are almost irreversible and can become catastrophic within a few generations. These anarchic exploitations can provoke convergent effects and cause serious disturbances in the natural drainage of the rivers. Rocks with gold contents too low to be mined and sterile ore are spread around the extraction sites, implying losses for the activities (livestock, agriculture) exploiting these adjacent areas. In addition, the waste from the extraction process is spread by wind and erosion, thus reducing the fertility of the neighbouring agricultural land. The cleaning of the ore requires large quantities of water. The provision of this water implies the diversion of rivers and the creation of reservoir capacities, which strongly modifies the water balance of the regions and reinforces the conflicts of use on the resource. Some watercourses end up dry, which leads to the disappearance of the local fauna and flora and the traditional economic activities of the farmers. The water used to clean the ore is often discharged directly into the natural environment without treatment. The use of decantation ponds is not systematic in Burkina Faso, and when they exist, they are generally undersized. The water thus discharged is heavily laden with suspended solids and increases the turbidity of the waterways. The impacts on soil and water are mutually reinforcing. Soils disturbed by excavation are subject to leaching and degradation. Waste rock and ore discharges will be washed into streams to clog them. Thus, the chemical substances (mercury, cyanide, acids) used and the non-biodegradable solid wastes contribute to the reduction of soil fertility and consequently the decrease of agro-sylvo-pastoral productivity.

Overall, several socio-economic impact pathways of land degradation can be identified in Burkina Faso:

- Increasing food and income insecurity. Decrease in land productivity and production, due to the decrease in land fertility and vegetation cover, the drying up of water points and increased water stress for crops. The loss of cereal yields due to soil erosion is estimated at between 5 and 20 million tons per year[25]²⁵. Apart from a direct loss of income for farmers, the loss of

production potential of arable lands and pastures compromises food security for most of Burkina Faso's subsistence farmers and herders, as well as more general food production and food security at national level.

- Cascading effects on household and household members' development chances. With income declining, households' capacities to pay for children's schooling diminishes. Many of the children end up working on gold-mining sites, and in the Centre-Nord region in 2019/2020 alone, the number of drop-out cases amounted to 2,934, 95% of which were found on gold-mining sites[26]²⁶. This creates negative feedbacks, further exacerbating land degradation associated with mining activities.

- Increasing resource competition and conflicts over land. The reduced availability and productivity of arable land and pastures has the potential to affect social cohesion. It can exacerbate i) existing conflicts between farmers and herders, but also ii) between landowners; iii) between landowners and other farmers on the agreements related to the exploitation of the land granted. The agreements between landowners and other farmers are mostly verbal and were in most cases made between the elders of both sides. As the elders are no longer alive, these verbal agreements are challenged at every opportunity, causing conflict. Livestock farming accounts for more than 80% of households in the Centre-Nord region and represents another main source of cash income for the population. The predominant types of livestock are the transhumant system and the agro-pastoral system. Due to the disappearance of grazing access tracks and the reduction of grazing areas farmers and herders increasingly clash over access to resources (grazing, water). Due to the decrease in arable land, farmers do not hesitate, for example, to transform cattle tracks and even some grazing areas into crop fields, cutting the herders off from resources and triggering conflicts over the destruction of crops by animals.

Preferred solution and associated baseline activities

The scientific conceptual framework for LDN prescribes that the implementation of LDN is managed **at the landscape level through integrated land use planning**, while LDN achievement is assessed at national level.[27]²⁷ Because of the fragile context described herein, addressing the causes of land degradation in Burkina Faso requires an appropriate response. By adopting LDN as a 'response' (with reference to the model in Figure 3), a **barrier-removal approach** vis-à-vis the envisaged solution is proposed.

A variety of actions have been identified to cope with the above set of challenges. These solutions have emerged at community, regional, national, and international levels and range from policies and plans[28]²⁸ themselves embracing specific detailed approaches and solutions to specific techniques developed by communities. An important source in identifying actions and solutions was a series of consultations that took place during the PPG phase between local stakeholders and the team involved in the Project design. The consultations were part of the stakeholder engagement process that has ensured a participatory design approach. These

solutions and specific baseline actions taken in support of their implementation, are reviewed below.

Well aware of the land degradation problem, Burkina Faso joined the UNCCD in 1996, and has participated and implemented a plethora of projects and programmes focused on addressing desertification and land degradation including: participation in the Great Green Wall Initiative for the Sahara and Sahel (GGWSS); Drafting in 1999 of the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification (PAN/LCD) and its review in 2016; Implementation of the GEF-funded National Partnership Programme for SLM (CPP) between 2005 and 2017; Drafting of the Strategic Investment Framework for SLM (SIF/SLM); and the joining of the Land Degradation Neutrality initiative under the UNCCD in 2016.

In 2018, Burkina Faso set national targets for Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN): to restore 5.16 million hectares of degraded land by 2030. All targets are in line with the country's commitment under the Rio (CBD, UNFCCC) and Ramsar conventions. Specific targets include:

- Halting the conversion of forests and other land-use classes by 2030;
- Improving productivity in declining shrubland, grassland and cropland categories by 2.5 million hectares;
- Improving carbon stocks on 798,000 hectares to a minimum of 1% organic matter (5T organic matter per hectare every 2 years);
- Reclaiming 295,000 hectares of undeveloped land out of a total of 590,000 ha

The country's new way of measuring LD and addressing LDN national targets, is linked to the Sustainable Development Goal ?Life on Land? (SDG15) and its target 15.3 on LDN. By embracing LDN approaches, Burkina Faso is also embracing a unique opportunity to address land degradation and to generate, in the process, multiple socioeconomic benefits from LDN. This includes opportunities for tapping into impact finance and accessing challenge funds linked to new mechanisms that are now becoming available for supporting ecosystem rehabilitation and restorative agricultural practices. Achieving LDN at a national scale has the potential to further contribute to the achievement of SDGs 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 12, and 13.

Barriers to the implementation of the preferred solution

In spite of Burkina Faso having contributed consistently to the development of empirical knowledge about SLM/SFM, both at the national and global levels, including by contributing to up to 53 unique SLM and SFM practices recorded in global

databases, such as the WOCAT^[29]²⁹, substantial barriers remain to effectively implementing these, and to more widely addressing land degradation and related issues in the country, as also testified by the outcomes of the stakeholder engagement exercise described above.

Barrier 1: Absence of operational LDN monitoring system and protocols at national level

Operationalizing land information systems and digitization processes for monitoring progress against LDN targets represents a challenge in Burkina Faso, and as a result, there is a limited coordination for planning of actions and investments, and a limited visibility of results related to SLM. Effective and integrated land use planning requires that all plans can be enforced on the ground and monitored accordingly, through a systematic and integrated approach to the monitoring for tracking LDN progress in all the key institutions involved at the national, regional, and local levels.^[30]³⁰

Decentralization policies have been under implementation in Burkina Faso since the late 1990's. Over the years, such policies define a general and 'nested' framework for the State's spatial administration of sub-national territorial units.^[31]³¹ Such policies also delegated to local level authorities in the provinces and communes much of the responsibility for spatial and land use planning, but not necessarily the means to carry it out with the appropriate tools for implementation and monitoring. Monitoring LDN targets at the local level will necessarily include decentralized government entities and, most importantly, land users as key stakeholders and beneficiaries.

In December 2022, a manual for monitoring and evaluating LDN was developed in Burkina Faso. At the time, of writing however, there is no process in place to operationalize the processes outlined in the manual. There exist, however, important opportunities for the operationalization to happen through incorporating LDN indicators into Burkina Faso's newly established MRV system. Awareness on LDN indicators within the different relevant sectoral ministries and agencies (e.g. agriculture, mining) is limited, and definition of roles and responsibilities with respect to indicator data collection are unclear. Consequently, overall coordination and harmonization of (the development of) methodologies for data collection and reporting on key indicators is lagging. There is hence a clear need to raise the awareness and build the capacity of actors from local to national level, and across relevant ministries and services on LDN indicators, how to measure them, and how to report on them, potentially through the national MRV system. There is also a need for formal MoUs between the different government services regarding roles and responsibilities for measuring and reporting on specific LDN indicators.

Another challenge at this level is the limited digitization of indicator monitoring. IT hardware, software, technical knowledge and know-how are at the moment insufficiently developed and appropriated for effective monitoring and reporting. There is a need to train actors involved in monitoring at all levels (local to national) on IT tools, software and methodologies for data collection, and to build their capacity with respect to data processing and database management.

Disaggregated target setting and monitoring at the local level can only be done when baseline values are known and a realistic estimate of target values can be identified through a land potential assessment. Both of these are lacking at the moment in the three target landscapes in the Centre-Nord region^[32]³². The baseline at national and regional level would have to be

updated so that disaggregation at communal level can take place, and a land potential assessment needs to be carried out, stratified per land type.

Barrier 2: Inadequate and insufficient processes at national level for the coordination and implementation the LDN framework

Coordinating the implementation and monitoring of integrated land use planning for LDN represents another challenge in Burkina Faso. In order to achieve LDN targets, a national partnership or platform focusing on structuring land management and resource use across landscapes is required. Following the 2018 LDN stakeholder consultations, the National Coalition for Sustainable Land Management (CNGDT)[33]³³, was created in order to ensure collaboration and alignment across sectors, institutions, considering different scales of landscape level management. As a multi-stakeholder advisory group bringing together the Permanent Secretariat of the Coordination of Sectoral Policies (SP/CPSA), the Permanent Secretariat of NGOs (SPONG), the Permanent Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development (SP/CNDD), the Confederation of Peasants of Faso (CPF) and the National Chamber of Agriculture (CNA), its aim is to support SLM as key for sustainable development at national, regional and local levels. As a newly established entity, the CNGDT has limited capacities in coordinating and implementing LDN frameworks and targets at national and sub-national levels. The CNGDT is cochaired by the SP/CPSA and the SP/CNDD who has a general coordinating mandate across institutions for all matters relating to sustainable development, including those responsible for agriculture, livestock, forests, water resource management, and nature protection. A coordination platform should also be created at regional and local levels, to promote the monitoring and evaluation of the LDN; cross-sectoral planning and coordination; and vertical exchanges of information/knowledge sharing with the CNGDT on LDN. Indeed, land users and key stakeholders often have limited awareness and knowledge on LDN targets and the ways to achieve them. Improved awareness raising, communication and dissemination of information on the project and the lessons learnt during the process could support the achievement of the targets at the local and national levels. Overall, there is also a limited level of monitoring and capitalization of similar SLM or LDN project and programme achievements.

The revision of relevant sectoral laws, policies, and planning processes (e.g the forestry code and the land use planning frameworks (see box)) to identify opportunities to make them more LDN conducive, and to align targets (see Box 1) would greatly enhance the enabling environment for an inclusive, gender sensitive, and degradation neutral land planning, as would developing national principles and processes for land use planning that incorporate LDN. At the moment, there seems to be a disconnect between the national LDN targets and associated measures under sectoral policies.

Box 1 Examples of sectoral documents to be revised through project support

The National Strategy for the Restoration, Conservation and Rehabilitation of Soils (Stratégie Nationale de Restauration, Conservation et l'environnement des Sols (SNRCRS)) using specific indicators is planned. The vision of the SNRCRS was outlined as follows: "By 2024, Burkina Faso's soils regain their full productive capacity and allow for modern, sustainable and resilient agriculture". However, the indicators developed under its strategic axes (i) steering and support to SWC/RSD actions, (ii) capacity building of advisory support actors and producers, (iii) support to research and development actions and promotion of innovative farming techniques in the field of SWC/RSD, and (iv) integration of actions and scaling up of proven and adapted SWC/RSD techniques, do not converge towards LDN and do not allow

for the calculus of neutrality. The time horizons between the SNRCRS and the LDN targets also remain to be aligned. In addition, there has been little progress towards the preparation of the SNRCRS, as well as an action plan for its implementation.

Barrier 3: Insufficient awareness and operational capacity at local level to plan and implement inclusive, gender sensitive and degradation neutral land management

The enabling conditions that need to be in place for LDN planning to be successful, and for SLM and related techniques to be widely adopted among land users comprise 1) sufficient knowledge of SLM at local decision-making levels; 2) sufficient capacity of these bodies to plan for LDN in an inclusive manner; and 3) sufficient knowledge of and access to SLM techniques, technologies, and implementation approaches for local land users (farmers and herders). Indeed, at this time, these conditions are not present.

At this time, local land management structures in charge of land use planning^[34] (i.e. SFR, CFVs, and CCFVs) have limited knowledge and capacities to implement LDN activities. In fact, while these local committees exist at the commune and village levels in the project intervention sites, their mandates have expired and are therefore not fully operational. Members also have limited knowledge and know-how on planning for LDN, and in particular on the required steps to enhance social cohesion and conflict management through the planning process under current dynamic socio-economic conditions. Women and IDPs have only limited influence in decision-making processes at village level, including land use planning processes. Moreover, land rights are detained by the land chief 'Tengsoaba' and the land ownership is often held by an entire ethnic, clan, or family group. This means it is de facto held by the men in this group, excluding the women in the group from formal land ownership.

Hence, there is a need to formalize the integration of LDN into development plans (PRD and PCD) and to accompany the local land management committees in participatory planning processes for selected landscapes involving wider stakeholder groups, including underrepresented groups such as women, IDPs, herders, and/or gold miners. There is an opportunity for LDN planning processes to act as an inclusive platform which can help reduce the likelihood of land-based conflict by raising awareness and building ownership of planning processes. There is a need to raise awareness among customary authorities and male landowners alike around these issues, and in parallel, to explore different options that strengthen user rights for women and IDPs, for example through rural land loan schemes with land use certificates/maps. In addition, unclear tenure and user rights make specific groups of land users hesitant or reluctant to invest scarce resource into improving soil health and land productivity (e.g. fertilizers). This is often the case for IDPs and women. Consequently, women and IDPs face several barriers to their participation in and benefitting from SLM activities, due to their insecure land use rights.

Also impeding the adoption of SLM is, at the household level, limited tools and knowledge for managing land sustainably. The PPG phase found that SLM techniques and technologies are deployed to a limited extent. While some soil and water conservation techniques are commonly found (e.g. ?cordons pierreux?, ?half moons? ?Za??), there are a number of other techniques to be explored (e.g. agro-forestry, runoff collection basin, grass-strips, ridging, filtering bunds). To enable their adoption, there needs to be a strong knowledge of their technical requirements for effectiveness, and as such decentralized technical services need to be capacitated to disseminate such information.

Barrier 4: Limited access to alternative income sources, including financial and technical means for engaging in the green economy

Agricultural extension services and land users in the intervention communities have limited understanding of and experience with agricultural value chains that can support LDN, generate sustainable income, and contribute to a green economy. Access to innovative production tools and technologies (often enabled through projects) are insufficient to develop resilient and sustainable value chains. Financial institutions that could provide loans to smallholders (e.g. the Banque Agricole) are not sufficiently decentralized and have little presence in the target region and communes. There is a need to raise awareness and interest with land users within the local communities to engage in or further develop these value chains. Baseline studies in the 3 communes need to be carried out to identify key value chains and points of entry for project interventions[35]³⁵. Entrepreneurs with high potential need to be identified and supported both in technical, but also financial and management aspects. Support needs to be provided for the acquisition of energy efficient equipment (e.g. storage, transformation, etc.), and entrepreneurs need to be trained in the maintenance and upkeep. A sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN needs to be established and operationalized.

2) The baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

The project will coordinate and leverage partnerships with a number of key stakeholders, including the private sector and other ongoing projects. As part of Component 2, the project will support MSMEs and build networks through a value chain approach, and enable partnerships with various financial institutions. Furthermore, the project will seek to work collaboratively with other ongoing initiatives, as well as build on lessons learnt from recent initiatives, so as to enable scaling up as well as avoid duplication of efforts. The projects will build on/leverage lessons learnt and coordinate with the following initiatives:

Table 4: Projects to coordinate with during implementation and to build on/extract lessons learnt from

Lead Donor and Partners	Project Name, Location & Duration	Objectives and relevance for the GEF project, including entry points for collaboration	Funding Amount (\$-equiv.)
Gouvernement du Burkina Faso Coop?ration Belge au d?veloppement/APEFE	Restauration des Ecosyst?mes dans la r?gion du PCL 4 communes du Kourweogo (Bouss?, Niou, Laye et Toeghin) 2022- 2026	The project aims to improve food and nutritional security and increase the income of men and women in 4 communes of the Central Plateau region (Bouss?, Niou, To?ghin and Laye) by supporting the implementation of strategic axes 1, 2 and 4 of the strategy and action plan of the IGMVSS of Burkina Faso	\$2.77M
IFAD; OPEC Fund for International Development	Agricultural Value Chains Promotion Project (PAPFA) 2017-2024	The project will focus on the regions of Boucle du Mouhoun, Cascades and Hauts-Bassins, where it will build on and scale up the gains made by previous programmes. PAPFA will target 57,000 households, of which 27,500 will receive production support, 27,000 will be assisted in setting up or consolidating rural microenterprises and 2,500 will be supported in value chain development.	US\$ 73.82 million

Lead Donor and Partners	Project Name, Location & Duration	Objectives and relevance for the GEF project, including entry points for collaboration	Funding Amount (\$-equiv.)
IFAD	PAFA-4R (2019-2026)	The development objective of PAFA-4R replicates that of PAPFA, namely: sustainably improve food security and incomes of farmers engaged in production and value addition in the value chains supported by the project.	US\$ 129.91 million
Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development	Strengthening resilience of populations to address food insecurity in the North, Center North and Sahel ? Art 7 L. 125/2014. Duration: 2014-2023	The project focuses on resilience building and food insecurity in several regions, including Centre-Nord region. It does so in part through humanitarian aid, and in part through longer-term development aid, including investments in agriculture and related sectors. Collaboration will be developed through the CES/AGF for the dissemination of SLM/SFM techniques linked to the CES/DRS.	\$4.1M

Lead Donor and Partners	Project Name, Location & Duration	Objectives and relevance for the GEF project, including entry points for collaboration	Funding Amount (\$-equiv.)
<p>Minist?re italien de l'Environnement, de la Terre et de la Mer</p>	<p>Cr?er des terres d'opportunit?s : Transformer les moyens de subsistance par la restauration des paysages au Sahel</p> <p>Burkina, Ghana et Niger</p> <p>6,27 million CHF</p> <p>01 Septembre 2020- 31 Ao?t 2023</p>	<p>Overall Objective: To make a significant and sustainable contribution to landscape restoration in the Sahel while creating income-generating activities for local communities in Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Niger.</p> <p>Specific objectives:</p> <p>SO1: Promote landscape restoration and facilitate the sustainability of these actions through the creation of on-the-ground employment and income-generating opportunities for rural populations in the Sahel, particularly for women and youth ;</p> <p>SO2: Promote and strengthen the enabling environment for mobilizing investments in landscape restoration for the benefit of local communities in selected Sahelian countries;</p> <p>SO3: Improve the livelihoods of rural communities by establishing sustainable production of high-value dryland products to connect local producers to international markets.</p>	<p>\$1.79M</p>

Lead Donor and Partners	Project Name, Location & Duration	Objectives and relevance for the GEF project, including entry points for collaboration	Funding Amount (\$-equiv.)
Danida, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark	Boosting sesame and apiculture value chains in Burkina Faso. Duration: 2021-2023	Technological and logistical innovations (e.g. improved seeds, farming techniques, traceability system, mobile phone based payments) are applied by sesame Producer Organizations and their affiliated producer groups resulting in better product quality and lower transaction costs thus realizing a higher price from Olvea (the French conglomerate that purchases wholesale sesame production from Burkina Faso). Collaboration will focus on the innovative aspects relating to the use of mobile technology for sharing market information on agriculture.	\$1.3M

Lead Donor and Partners	Project Name, Location & Duration	Objectives and relevance for the GEF project, including entry points for collaboration	Funding Amount (\$-equiv.)
European Commission	<p>EU International Partnerships, including three projects funded or executed through International Partnerships (1, 2 and 3) and one project (4) through Service for Foreign Policy Instruments:</p> <p>(1) Assistance Technique au Projet de d?veloppement de la Valeur Ajout?e des Fili?res Agricoles (VAFA), \$0.7M, (2019-2022) ;</p> <p>(2) Poursuivre et renforcer l'?op?rationnalisation de la GIRE [IWRM] int?grant les droits humains et le genre dans les espaces de comp?tence des agences de l'eau des Cascades (AEC) et du Mouhoun (AEM) au Burkina Faso, \$1.5M, (2018-2029) ;</p> <p>(3) Projet de renforcement de la r?silience des personnes ? risque d'ins?curit? alimentaire et nutritionnelle suite ? la pand?mie de la COVID-19, (2020-2022) ; and</p> <p>(4) Renforcement de la r?silience des collectivit?s territoriales du Burkina Faso face aux d?placements massifs des populations et ? la pand?mie du COVID-19, \$2.8M (2020-2022)</p> <p>Combined duration: 2018-2029</p>	<p>Each project has its own objective and relate in different ways to the GEF project. The VAFA project (#1) focuses on technical assistance (TA) for agricultural value chains. The investment, although small, a relevant baseline to the GEF project, to the extent that it will enhance the capacity of agroindustries to process agricultural products, including beef, fish and others. The technical assistance functions as an input into other EU funded programs.</p> <p>The second project GIRE-Cascades (#2), focuses on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM). Although it is not being implemented in the Centre-Nord region, the national component is a relevant baseline to the GEF project to the extent that it is helping develop the capacity of water sector stakeholders at the national level, and enhanced capacity for water resource management is essential for LDN. The third and fourth projects (#3 and #4) are relevant baselines to the GEF project, to the extent that they strengthen the resilience of stakeholders more broadly.</p> <p>For all EU funded projects, collaboration will revolve around the CES/DRS program.</p>	\$5.8M

Lead Donor and Partners	Project Name, Location & Duration	Objectives and relevance for the GEF project, including entry points for collaboration	Funding Amount (\$-equiv.)
Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)	Two projects: (1) Creating Enabling Environment for Solar Based Irrigation Systems, amount \$0.1; and (2) Development of the Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) System In Burkina Faso, amount \$0.4M. Combined duration: 2020-2023	The first project (#1) is relevant as a it brings sustainable innovation to water resource management in Burkina Faso. The second project (#2) attempts to create an MRV system for climate change NDC related projects in Burkina Faso. Collaboration will be sought.	\$0.5M
SIDA ? Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	<p>Royal Embassy of Sweden, through Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) ? Three projects:</p> <p>(1) Beog-Puuto ?Farms of the future? Burkina Faso 2018-2023, till 2024, amount \$22.9M;</p> <p>(2) COVID-19 ProValAB/Agricultural valorization of small dams in Burkina Faso, amount \$7.2M (2020-2022); and</p> <p>(3) ProValAB/Agricultural valorization of small dams in Burkina Faso, amount \$4.0M (2015-2023)</p> <p>(4) Other Programs under development (2022-2028 and beyond)</p> <p>Combined duration: 2018-2025</p>	<p>The first project (#1) ?Farms of the Future? is bringing innovation to the agricultural sector of Burkina Faso. It is managed by the NGO SOS Sahel International France and the local NGO Terre Verte, both of which are involved in the Great Green Wall Initiative for the Sahel. The second and third projects (#2 and #3) relate to the GEF project to the extent that they deal with water for irrigation, noting that the?envid is an add-on investment to ProValAB for compensating for covid-19 impacts. The objectives of all three projects are convergent vis-?-vis that of the GEF project, because it deals with sustainable soil and water management. Women have a key role in agriculture in Burkina Faso and gender equality is prioritized in the projects.</p> <p>As a proposed co-financier, SIDA has communicated to UNDP that several new programs are in the pipeline with the topics that are closely related to the subject matter of this project, amounts and details to be further explored.</p>	\$34.1M

Lead Donor and Partners	Project Name, Location & Duration	Objectives and relevance for the GEF project, including entry points for collaboration	Funding Amount (\$-equiv.)
Switzerland ? Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)	BF78 ? Val. Agro pastoral R?g. Est Duration: 2019-2022	The project is relevant to the GEF project to the extent that it deals with agro-pastoral value chains in a neighboring region to Centre-Nord. A new phase is under consideration. Co-financing is proposed, including by probing the possibilities of extending activities by SDC to Centre-Nord region.	\$9.9M
Agence Fran?aise du D?veloppement (AFD)	AFD Programme d'appui aux communes de l'Ouest du Burkina Faso en mati?re de gestion du foncier rural et des ressources naturelles (PACOF/GRN)	The project has its entry point in issues of land tenure and it provides support to the communes for resolving land conflict and natural resource conflict. A small amount baseline finance and co-financing has been considered for this project.	\$0.24M

Lead Donor and Partners	Project Name, Location & Duration	Objectives and relevance for the GEF project, including entry points for collaboration	Funding Amount (\$-equiv.)
USAID	<p>Feed the Future</p> <p>Burkina Faso Amélioration et Sécurisation des Terres vers la Résilience</p> <p>(ASTER)</p> <p>27 communes réparties dans les régions du Centre-Nord, du Sahel et de l'Est</p> <p>2019 -2023</p>	<p>Overall objective: Strengthen the resilience of vulnerable populations through secure access to land</p> <p>Specific objectives</p> <p>OS1. Strengthen the land tenure security system through technical support to communes to set up, staff and effectively operate rural land service offices (SFR), village land commissions and village land conciliation commissions (CFV and CCFV) in RISE II intervention communes</p> <p>OS2. Extend the implementation of MAST to new RISE II intervention communes</p> <p>OS3. Strengthen the capacities of local organizations to improve arbitration and mitigation of land conflicts related to natural resources.</p> <p>OS4. Improve the sustainable management of land resources through technical assistance provided to other RISE II partners and communities.</p>	2.9 millions USD

Lead Donor and Partners	Project Name, Location & Duration	Objectives and relevance for the GEF project, including entry points for collaboration	Funding Amount (\$-equiv.)
Minist?re Allemand des Affaires ?trang?res ONG Help	Projet: Solidarit? Agissante pour un vivre ensemble entre Personnes d?plac?es internes et Populations h?tes dans les r?gions du Nord et du Centre-Nord (WAF 01) Centre-nord : Sanmatenga (Barsalogo, Pissila, Boussouma) Namemtenga (Tougouri) Nord : Yatenga Thiou, Koumbri, Oula) et Zondoma (L?ba et Bassi) 1er octobre 2022 au 30 sept 2023	Overall objective: To contribute to the survival and recovery of host and IDP households in the provinces of Sanmantenga and Namentenga in the North Central Region, Yatenga and Zondoma in the North Region. Specific objectives SO1: The target group has access to safe drinking water and latrines according to sphere standards and is informed about adequate hygiene and health prevention measures SO2: The target group is informed about improved feeding practices and malnourished children under 5 years of age as well as FEFA are taken care of and have access to therapeutic food; SO3: The target group has access to agricultural production areas and agricultural inputs and is able to cover part of its needs; OS4: IDPs have access to safe shelter	2 705 546, 17 Euros

3) The proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project;

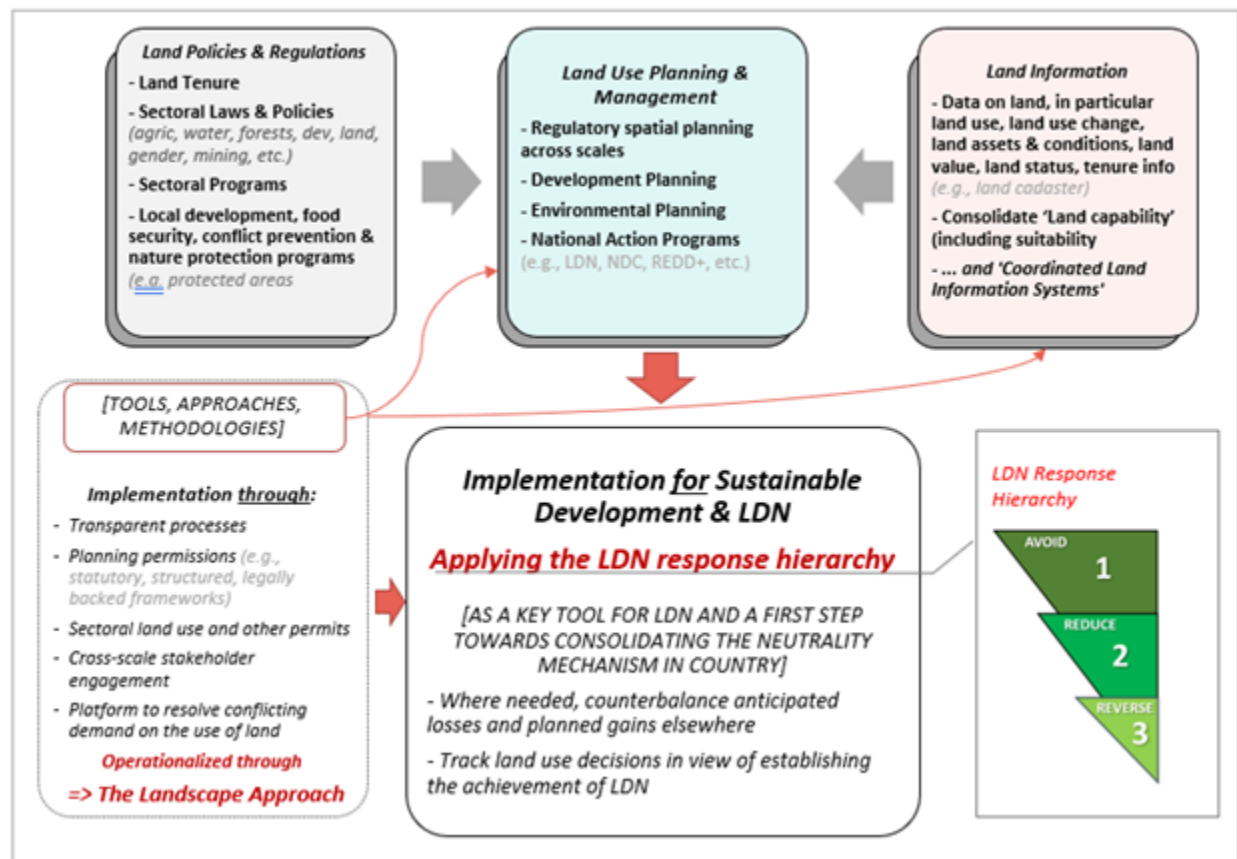
The project?s Theory of Change (ToC) hinges on the belief that improved capacities to plan, coordinate, implement and monitor equitable LDN activities across nested levels of governance can contribute significantly to social cohesion and the successful development of sustainable ecosystem-based economic activities at local level.

The project?s main objective is therefore **?to enhance the national frameworks for the achievement of the national LDN target, while promoting social cohesion in selected**

landscapes in the Centre-Nord region through the practical application of the LDN concept.?

To help lower the barriers to SLM and LDN activities and achieve the main objective, the project will implement a mix of interventions that will target i) degraded soils and land systems in the Centre-Nord region of Burkina Faso, and the communities that are directly dependent on them; and ii) national LDN frameworks and the institutional, organizational and technical capacities necessary to implement them. In doing so, the project will hence work on different dimensions of the 'LDN response' (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Frameworks needed for an effective 'LDN Response'? ? Figure adapted from the LDN Scientific Conceptual Framework[36]³⁶



The project objective (Sphere of Control) will be achieved through six (6) interlinked outcomes defined below:

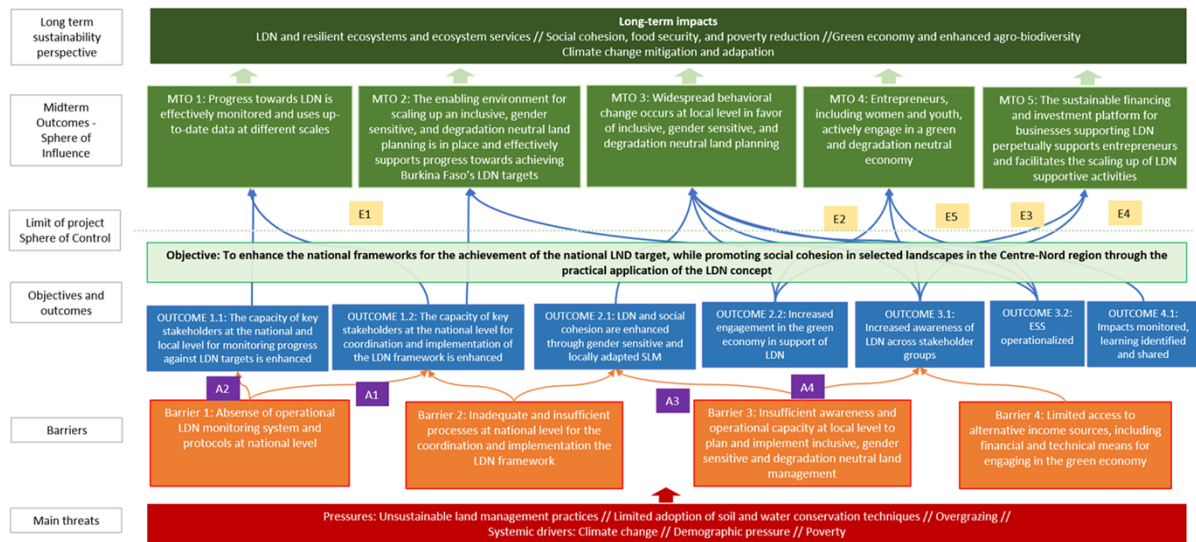
- OUTCOME 1.1:** The capacity of key stakeholders at the national and local level for monitoring progress against LDN targets is enhanced
- OUTCOME 1.2:** The capacity of key stakeholders at the national level for coordination and implementation of the LDN framework is enhanced
- OUTCOME 2.1:** LDN and social cohesion are enhanced through gender sensitive and locally adapted SLM
- OUTCOME 2.2:** Increased engagement in the green economy in support of LDN

- OUTCOME 3.1:** Increased awareness of LDN across stakeholder groups
- OUTCOME 3.2:** Environmental and Social Safeguards operational across the project's Components
- OUTCOME 4.1:** Project impacts are monitored, and learning is identified and shared for scaling up of results

Subsequently, through both the project and other initiatives, Medium-Term Outcomes could be achieved (Sphere of Influence of the project). These Medium-Term Outcomes are defined as:

- MTO1:** Progress towards LDN is effectively monitored and uses up-to-date data at different scales
- MTO2:** The enabling environment for scaling up an inclusive, gender sensitive, and degradation neutral land planning is in place and effectively supports progress towards achieving Burkina Faso's LDN targets
- MTO3:** Widespread behavioral change occurs at local level in favor of inclusive, gender sensitive, and degradation neutral land planning
- MTO4:** Entrepreneurs, including women and youth, actively engage in a green and degradation neutral economy
- MTO 5:** The sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN perpetually supports entrepreneurs and facilitates the scaling up of LDN supportive activities

Figure 5: Project Theory of Change



ToC Assumptions

A1. The political will and momentum for integrating LDN as a crosscutting goal across sectoral policies and programmes at national level in Burkina Faso remains, as well as political support/enabling environment for the functioning of the newly created CNGDT

A2. The various ministries, agencies and decentralized state services are willing to identify and allocate dedicated staff and staff time to the monitoring and reporting of progress towards LDN

A3. Local land use planning and management committees take an interest in and advocate for enhancing social cohesion and equitable local development through the gender and IDP sensitive, and degradation neutral land use planning and access to land.

A4. Women and youth take an interest in developing and engaging in sustainable, climate- and LDN-smart agricultural value chains

ToC Outcome Enablers

E1. Adherence to obligations under international conventions, including UNCCD, UNFCCC, SDGs, and CBD.

E2. Adequate infrastructure, including transportation, water, and energy access are present to support

E3. Microfinance institutions are present locally and sufficiently capitalized

E4. Financial actors have an interest in supporting small scale funding and investment platforms at village level

E5. Local, regional, and global demand for products from sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural value chains exists/grows

Component 1: Monitoring and Coordination of LDN Framework Implementation

For successful implementation of the LDN framework and effective strategies to progress towards LDN targets, efficient monitoring and reporting conditions and capacities, as well as clear coordination processes and procedures need to be in place at nested levels of governance. Activities under Component 1 will focus specifically on these conditions, capacities, processes, and procedures.

Outcome 1.1: The capacity of key stakeholders at the national and local level for monitoring progress against LDN targets is enhanced

This outcome focuses on strengthening the monitoring of LDN targets across different levels of governance and across different sectoral ministries. This Outcome is achieved through activities tackling three key operational aspects of monitoring: 1) procedures and practical agreements between ministries, agencies and research institutes regarding data collection and reporting; 2) a national digital database and reporting system; and 3) fine scaled monitoring at local level. The following outputs and activities are proposed:

Output 1.1.1: Operationalized Burkina Faso LDN monitoring and evaluation manual to track progress against LDN targets.

Burkina Faso drafted an LDN monitoring and evaluation manual in 2022. In parallel, a decree on a national MRV system is coming up, and harmonizing operationalization of LDN monitoring and reporting with the MRV system would be highly beneficial. The project will assess the requirements for integration of the two systems. Through a participatory stakeholder engagement process the project will assess opportunities to: 1) leverage established MRV focal points set up in each structure/institution, 2) incorporate LDN monitoring and reporting roles for each actor, that complement or are in line with different responsibilities for reporting and data collection under the MRV Decree, 3) integrate and operationalize an existing guide to take into account gender in the MRV system, 4) use existing data collection forms tailored to each data provider's structure/institution, 5) expand MoUs between SP/CNDD and targeted research institutions for the continuous development/refinement of methodologies for reporting on key indicators, and 6) build on capacity building activities relating to MRV implementation across sectors. Capacity development needs for actors at national, regional, and local levels to operationalize LDN monitoring within these six (6) dimensions will be assessed and a tailored capacity development program for LDN monitoring at national, regional, and local levels for the 3 communes of intervention developed and implemented.

Indicative list of activities

- Assess capacity development needs for actors at national, regional, and local levels to operationalize LDN monitoring within the six (6) dimensions stated above

- Develop and implement a capacity development program for LDN monitoring at national, regional, and local levels for the 3 communes of intervention

Output 1.1.2: Technical/methodological support for the digitization of the monitoring of progress against three LDN indicators

Digital tools and systems are powerful tools in facilitating data entry, database management, and reporting. Under this output, the project will 1) assess the needs in terms of digitization for the collection and management of LDN raw data, 2) assess the tools available to support digitization and develop a clear, transparent, and efficient methodological approach for digital data collection and management, 3) provide IT infrastructure/hardware and develop training materials (e.g., online courses), 4) identify and train government staff at different levels (national, regional, communal) in using specific IT tools for LDN data collection (e.g. KoboCollect) and data management, and 5) train stakeholders in data processing and analysis for monitoring LDN objectives (data entry in GIS applications; exploitation of satellite data; etc.).

Indicative list of activities

- Assessment of the needs in terms of digitization for LDN monitoring and reporting, and identification of fit-for-purpose tools
- Provision of required IT infrastructure/hardware
- Training program on digitization process across stakeholder groups for monitoring and reporting, including development of tailored training materials
- Provide trainings in data processing and analysis for monitoring LDN objectives (e.g. data entry in GIS applications; exploitation of satellite data; etc.).

Output 1.1.3: Updated national and regional baselines for LDN and disaggregation at commune level

Activities under this output determine the reference values for LDN at local level in the three intervention sites. The baseline for LDN indicators at national and regional levels will be updated from the numbers ending in 2013, and consecutively disaggregated to commune level for the three intervention sites. A land potential assessment and stratification by land type for the Centre-Nord region, disaggregated by commune, will allow LDN target setting at this level.

Indicative list of activities

- Update the baseline for LDN indicators at national and regional levels, and disaggregated to commune level for 3 communes of intervention
- Produce a land potential assessment and stratification by land type for the Centre-Nord region, disaggregated by commune

Outcome 1.2: The capacity of key stakeholders at the national level for coordination and implementation of the LDN framework is enhanced

This outcome focuses on LDN coordination structures and processes both at national level, at local level, and across different levels of governance. Bundled sets of activities will yield two distinct outputs:

Output 1.2.1: Support is provided to the National Coalition for sustainable Land Management (CNGDT) to coordinate the implementation the LDN Framework at national level

Activities will entail assessing the different roles and responsibilities of the participating institutions in the CNGDT and supporting the operationalization of the structure as the implementation of LDN in Burkina Faso evolves. Further support will be provided to the CNGDT in coordinating the collaboration, data and information exchange between these institutions in

terms of planning and monitoring of LDN action. Complementary regional and commune level LDN coordination platforms will be set up, to promote monitoring and evaluation of LDN activities, improve cross-sectoral planning and coordination, and facilitate vertical exchanges of information and knowledge with the CNGDT on LDN.

Indicative list of activities

- Provide ongoing support to the National Coalition for sustainable Land Management (CNGDT) to coordinate planning and monitoring of LDN action
- Set up coordinating LDN platforms in the Centre-Nord region and at the level of the 3 communes of project intervention

Output 1.2.2: Sectoral laws, policies, and planning processes are revised to create the enabling environment for an inclusive, gender sensitive, and degradation neutral land planning

A scanning of sectoral laws, policies, and planning processes will be conducted to identify goals, targets, timelines or procedures that are potentially conflicting with LDN activities or monitoring. Proposals will be formulated to make the laws, policies, and procedures more LDN conducive, using the Scientific Conceptual Framework for LDN as a guide, and proposals for national principles and processes for land use planning that incorporate LDN will be developed. In particular, the project will pay close attention to the forestry code and land use planning frameworks.

Indicative list of activities

- Review of sectoral policies and planning processes and identification of opportunities to make them more LDN conducive

- Draft proposed revisions to selected policies and plans
- Disseminate the results of review and socialize recommendations

Component 2: Implementation at local and regional level of LDN activities that contribute to social cohesion and support green economy opportunities

Work under this outcome focuses on the practical implementation of sustainable land management practices through participatory processes.

Outcome 2.1: Enhanced LDN and social cohesion through gender sensitive and locally-adapted

SLM

Work under this outcome starts from the assumption that participatory and informed approaches to land use planning can strengthen the social contract between different land users in a certain geographical area. Stronger social contracts, especially in terms of land use and access rights, will increase the incentives of individual land users to invest the necessary resources in sustainable land management practices, and will hence contribute to overall more sustainable land management and enable progress towards LDN. Improved land productivity holds the potential to also reduce competition over resources (as productive land resources are now less scarce). This result will consist of strengthening and/or setting up local land management structures and those dedicated to the implementation of LDN, strengthening the technical and material capacities of LDN actors in order to make them operational, and finally supporting the implementation of SLM activities for LDN that strengthen social cohesion in the project intervention zone. It will also work to facilitate secure access to land for women and IDPs by conducting advocacy with customary authorities and landowners.

These will be grouped under four specific outputs:

Output 2.1.1: Land use planning and management committees at the local level (CFV and CCFV) are revitalized and supported

A stocktaking and assessment of existing local land management committees will be conducted to identify committees that have the greatest potential to unite stakeholders and successfully guide participatory processes to land use planning. As some potentially successful committees' mandates have expired, the project will investigate what is needed and provide support for their revitalization and re-formalization. There are around 200 of these committees in the 3 communes, therefore a streamlined approach will be conducted to select the most relevant ones. Composition and status of the committees will be reviewed to optimize opportunities to enhance social inclusion (e.g. representation of women, IDPs, key economic sectors reliant on land use). Capacity building actions will be conducted in order to revitalize the committees. Trainings and awareness raising related to LDN, social cohesion and conflict management will be provided. Thus, awareness of the link between SLM and community livelihoods as well as the link between LDN and its potential to strengthen social cohesion and reduce conflicts over land will be raised within these committees.

Indicative list of activities

- Assessment of existing local land management committees and selection of committees that have the greatest potential to unite stakeholders
- Assessment of the capacity building needs of the committees

- Revitalize selected local land management committees whose mandate has expired
- Trainings and awareness raising related to LDN, social cohesion, and conflict management
- Raise awareness on the link between SLM and community livelihoods

Output 2.1.2: LDN actions are identified by the local land use planning and management committees for selected landscapes

The project will accompany participatory land planning processes and the identification of LDN actions for selected landscapes. The project will also accompany technical services and communities in the integration of LDN into local development plans (PRD and PCD). First, an assessment of the level of integration of LDN into development plans will be conducted, before providing trainings and producing guides on the integration of LDN in development plans. Then, the local land management committees and wider stakeholder groups will be supported for their appropriation and application of the developed guides.

Under this output, much of the work will be aimed at reducing land-based conflict and promoting responsible, inclusive and gender-sensitive land governance, accompanying local stakeholders in developing collaborative land use planning processes. Stakeholders to be engaged include, but are not limited to: farmers; agro-pastoralists among them transhumant groups; agro-foresters; etc. Because of women's essential role in the agricultural sector in Burkina Faso, they will be a priority group in the conceptualization of LDN solutions. All solutions will need to be sensitive to women's needs. The engagement of local communities is key in the selection of areas, of techniques and practices, and in the overall decision-making process implied in applying LDN on the ground, as it may imply

changes to land uses and to techniques and practices. Traditional and endogenous knowledge in the management of landscapes will be valued and as much as possible applied.

Concretely, focus will be on planning for activities that:

- reduce or reverse land degradation on cropland, intercommunal woodlands and pastures near critical waterbodies that show moderate to severe degradation
- avoid or reduce land degradation on open access pastures, common property woodlands and shrubs that show light to moderate degradation
- avoid land degradation on multi-use rangelands across communities that show light or no degradation

Across these categories, the work will also aim at planning for LDN activities that strengthen social cohesion through novel approaches emerging in Burkina and elsewhere, such as peace farms (see Output 2.1.3).

Sustainable funding opportunities for the continuous management of landscapes towards LDN, social cohesion and green economy (e.g. local or regional co-financiers that can bring concrete activities or approaches to scale) will be identified. A study on potential sources of sustainable funding for LDN (public and private sectors, development partners) will be conducted as well as an advocacy and funding mobilization strategy for LDN.

Awareness raising meetings will be organized to promote environmental citizenship and support local

governments to strengthen the integration of SLM and LDN in the implementation of projects and activities.

Indicative list of activities

- Assess the level of integration of LDN into development plans;

- Develop guides for integrating LDN into development plans and conduct trainings;

- Participatory updating of PRDs and PCDs in support of LDN;

- Prioritization of LDN actions and associated budgets integrated in PRDs and PCDs, along with identification of potential implementation partners and sources of sustainable funding opportunities;

- Promote environmental citizenship and support local governments to take into account SLM/LDN needs in development plans.

Output 2.1.3: LDN actions in production systems that contribute to social cohesion are implemented in selected landscapes

The project proposes to adopt the 'peace farms' or 'champs de paix' model and replicate good practices, as one of the vehicles for scaling up SLM adoption while contributing to enhancing social cohesion. UNDP, through the PAMED project, has experience implementing such activities. Before the 'peace farms' initiative, traditional community mechanisms for the prevention and management of community conflicts were used, but with low levels of gender inclusion. The so-called peace farms are communal spaces with irrigation, on which individual plots are allocated to small producers organised in cooperatives, consisting mostly of women, from different villages and ethnic groups, who develop several agro-ecological and

sustainable land management practices in a participatory manner. Among the initiatives developed on these farms are nurseries, vegetable gardens, nutrient gardens and fodder production areas. The vegetable gardens are highly productive and environmentally friendly. Fodder gardens provide fodder in all seasons and allow animals to be kept in stalls. The nurseries produce plant species for reforesting riverbanks, creating defensive hedges, etc. In fact, the initiatives carried out on these farms allow production in all seasons and improved access to drinking water for the population and the animals through the construction of standpipes and drinking troughs. A dynamic of solidarity and knowledge sharing has been established within each cooperative, which also mentors several IDPs and several other vulnerable people. These farms allow for the improvement of agroforestry productivity, with a positive impact on the income of these producers, food security and environmental protection. Thanks to these peace farms, farmers, herders, foresters, IDPs, women, youth, and vulnerable people have better access to land on which they work together in harmony, effectively contributing to social cohesion and peace and strengthened economic autonomy. The result is a great illustrative example of local conflict prevention and peacebuilding work to be supported.

In addition to the replication of the peace farm model, local extension services will be strengthened in SLM techniques (e.g. sustainable and climate resilient crop cultivation, landscape and range management, fire control, soil enrichment, ecosystem restoration and

rehabilitation). Land users will then be trained through a local NGO or other relevant partner in land management techniques for LDN in the different land use categories mentioned under output 2.1.2. The aim is to expand land users' own awareness of SLM/SFM and LDN, and to use techniques such as train the trainers, 'LDN champions' or demonstration farms to trigger interest and disseminate knowledge and knowhow among other land users, thereby also promoting social cohesion. In addition, land users will be provided with the means for implementing the different techniques (e.g. agricultural tools, machinery, small-scale irrigation gear).

Indicative list of activities

- Local extension services are strengthened in SLM techniques
- Training of trainers on SLM and LDN
- Provision of trainings on SLM and LDN to different land users
- Provision of inputs/materials for the implementation of SLM techniques/technologies
- Implementation of at least two peace farms in each of the intervention communes

Output 2.1.4 Awareness raising campaign on land tenure for women and IDPs

In addition to involving female farmers and women in SLM and LDN activity planning and implementation under 2.1.3, activities under this output focus on raising awareness among customary authorities and landowners about land tenure and access rights of women and IDPs. The project will explore under what model women and IDPs can be granted secure access and avoid eviction and land conflicts. Different options such as rural land loan schemes with land use certificates/maps will be explored, and existing models may be replicated as relevant.

Indicative list of activities

- Raise awareness among customary authorities and landowners about land security and access rights of women and IDPs to land
- Accompany women and IDPs in the granting and securing of their land in order to avoid eviction and land conflicts, and explore different options such as rural land loan schemes with land use certificates/maps should be used in a pilot

Outcome 2.2: Increased engagement in the green economy in support of LDN

The project will also conduct a number of activities that stimulate engagement in the green economy, for value chains that are degradation neutral and that advance the economic equity between different land users in the project area. Activities are bundled under the following two outputs:

Output 2.2.1. Support for development of key value chains with a focus on women and youth, and LDN

With limited sources of income, local communities are limited in their ability to engage in LDN action on the ground. In fact, alternative sources of income such as fuelwood harvesting often lead to further environmental degradation. As such, the project will explore ways to support further diversification of livelihoods through the development of local value chains which are less detrimental to the environment. It will assess value chains potentials, and support market and feasibility studies where these do not yet exist. It will further strengthen the technical and self-management capacities of the different value chain actors, based on needs assessed.

Indicative list of activities

- Baseline study identifying key value chains and points of entry for project interventions in the 3 communes (potential value chains include: seed production; market gardening; promotion of local poultry; and non-timber forest products)
- Produce a development plan for the selected value chains
- Carry out small-scale market/feasibility studies and environmental impact statements
- Support the acquisition of energy efficient equipment (storage, transformation, etc.), and provide a maintenance and upkeep system and train women or men on these two topics: assess equipment needs, acquire the equipment, and provide men and women with equipment.
- In-depth diagnosis of the roles, missions, mandates, needs, of key value chain actors
- Set up a training plan, elaborate terms of reference, organize the training actions, foresee a post-training assistance framework and a capitalization follow-up

Output 2.2.2. A sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN established and operationalized

-
- Under this output, activities will first map existing financial institutions and services in the communes, by conducting a study of the state of microfinance institutions, including credit conditions and by developing a plan for mobilizing micro-credit available for producers. Activities will include raising awareness 1) at the participating communities about MSME financial services available and 2) at potential target financial institutions about MSME financial needs for sustainable agricultural and forest value chain development in the target areas. Exchange meetings will be organized to identify and finance women's MSMEs and negotiate partnerships based on facilitating and simplifying women's access to financing.
- Once the needs are identified and awareness raised, the project will also support the development of business plans for the identified IGAs, as well as funding applications. The management marketing and market research capacities of (female) beneficiaries will be strengthened. At village level, activities will involve setting up Village Savings and Credit Associations (AVEC) at the village and communal level, with a focus on women and youth and provide trainings to operationalize them.

-

Indicative list of activities

Mapping of financial institutions and services in the communes, and awareness raising for local communities

Evaluate existing financing systems in order to identify the most appropriate mechanism to provide funding for businesses supporting LDN ;

Awareness raising of financial institutions regarding MSMEs' financial needs through exchange meetings on the possibilities of financing MSMEs (including those led by women) ;

Negotiate partnerships based on facilitating and simplifying women's access to financing ;

Develop and provide business advisory services to MSMEs (including: support for the development of business plans; submit applications and monitor resource mobilization; strengthen the management capacities of beneficiaries; strengthen women's capacities in marketing and market research) ;

Set up Village Savings and Credit Associations (AVEC) at the village and communal level, with a focus on women and youth.

Component 3: Knowledge management for upscaling

Outcome 3.1: Increased awareness of LDN across stakeholder groups

Output 3.1.1: A knowledge management and communications strategy developed and implemented

As a first step, the project will develop a knowledge management and communications strategy, and will include clear and actionable guidelines on how the project will raise awareness, share information, and capitalize the knowledge generated through its activities. Considerations for local socio-cultural dimensions will be made, including requirements for communication in local languages, accommodations for underserved or marginalized groups (e.g. women and IDPs), etc. Information and learnings are shared via a project website and exchange visits between the communities. Dialogue and learning events, engaging a wider public of regional stakeholders will be organized respectively in Centre-Nord, and at national level. Short videos with practical examples and results will be published on the website. Finally, the project will develop accessible ?how to? guides to support institutional memory capacity.

Indicative list of activities

- Develop a knowledge management and communications strategy for the project
- **Establish a project website and regularly publish knowledge products**
- Organize exchange visits
- Organize dialogue events in Centre-Nord
- Organize a national learning event
- Develop various knowledge products, including ?how to? guides that transfer easily to support institutional memory capacity

Outcome 3.2: Environmental and Social Safeguards operational across the project's Components

Output 3.2.1. Environmental and Social Safeguards Management is developed and operationalized

This Output will serve to address Environmental and Social Safeguards for the project and streamline processes across all project Components. Several plans, assessments, mechanisms, and procedures will be developed or updated, including Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), gender action plan, Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP), Stakeholder Engagement Plan, and Grievance Redress Mechanism.

An ESIA will be completed for the three communes prior to the start of activities, and specific management plans will be developed to address issues related to land management in each of the communes. The SESA and ESIA will integrate specific procedures into three ESMPs (one per commune). At a minimum, the procedures will include requirements for partners to:

- adhere to UNDP social and environmental standards (SES),
- subject all on-the-ground activities to screening, using the SESP
- clear all proposed activities with the Project Safeguards expert

- ensure that gender and youth considerations are fully integrated into all activities, and that activities proactively promote women's empowerment and human rights.

Capacity for implementing environmental and social safeguards and/or integrating them into national policies and plans is expected to be limited. When necessary, the Project will organize trainings and/or workshops to build the capacity of key project implementation actors and equip them with necessary knowledge and tools needed to achieve the objectives of the Project effectively and efficiently. This is key to ensuring continued success over the course of the project implementation, and beyond. Such capacity building activities will start before the implementation of the first activity and will include a combination of the following topics:

- UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES)
- Stakeholder Engagement and FPIC,?
- UNDP Accountability Mechanism (Grievance Redress Mechanism, SRM, SECU),
- Understanding UNDP Project Cycle,
- Monitoring and Evaluation of UNDP Projects,
- Gender,
- Human Rights

Overall, the project will have a strong focus on enhancing capacity of relevant national, regional and local actors, as well as targeted communities in the three communes, to ensure that they have the required knowledge and skills to actively participate in project interventions, incorporate lessons learned, and uptake good practices.

Indicative list of activities

- An ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment) will be developed within the first 6 months of the project. Including an Economic Displacement Risk Assessment and a Conflict Analysis and Assessment, based on an Environmental and Social Baseline Analysis ? as part of the ESIA - that will enhance the knowledge of the local context.
- The project is strongly focused on upstream activities, strengthening policies and institutional framework, therefore those aspects will be assessed following the SESA process, that will be developed by the first 6 months of the project. The SESA will focus on the outputs 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.1.
- An ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan) per commune (3) will be developed by the first year of project implementation, including the Livelihood Action Plan, if needed. The ESMPs will include the findings of the ESIA, that will include a context analysis that will take into

consideration and will analyze the data on ethnic minorities (such as Peuls and Tuaregs) and on artisanal mining, that is a practice in the local context.

- An Indigenous Peoples Plan will be developed by the first year of the project, ensuring the involvement and engagement, including the FPIC process, of any indigenous peoples groups, tribes or ethnic minorities who can be consulted.
- A Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be developed by the first 3 months of the project. This mechanism will ensure stakeholders (including indigenous peoples and/or minorities) can have access to a feedback mechanism ensuring their meaningful participation to project activities.
- The SESA findings will be included in an Action Matrix.

All the assessments and plans for compliance with SES are listed in the ESMF, in annex to the ProDoc, and related to each outcome and output.

Component 4: M&E

Outcome 4.1: Project impacts are monitored **and learning is identified and shared for scaling up of results**

Output 4.1.1. A tailored M&E framework is developed

Compliance with requirements under UNDP's and GEF's procedures, will ensure the effective implementation of activities in the project's regular M&E cycle (PIRs, MTR, TE, risk management, etc.).

Indicative list of activities

- Annual reporting
- Midterm Review
- Terminal evaluation

4) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program strategies;

Alignment with the GEF-7 Land Degradation Focal Area Strategy

The project directly addresses the objective of GEF Trust Fund Land Degradation of the GEF's LD Focal Area Strategy, Objective 2.5, which reads as follows: "Create enabling environments to support scaling

up and mainstreaming of SLM and LDN?. As shown in the STAP LDN guidelines, and put simply, the goal of LDN is to maintain or increase the amount of healthy and productive land[37]³⁷. The project aims to create an enabling environment for this to happen, to the extent that it focuses on: intragovernmental coordination for MEA implementation and spatial monitoring, natural resource governance at local level, systemic interventions to reduce degradation and desertification, in addition to restoration (including rehabilitation) of ecosystem productivity (land, water, grazing). The mentioned topic guide LD-2-5, as per the GEF7 Focal Area Strategy. Benefits to be generated by the pursuit of this strategy go in the sense of: (i) maintain or improve the sustainable delivery of ecosystem services; (ii) maintain or improve productivity, in order to enhance food security; (iii) increase resilience of the land and populations dependent on the land; (iv) seek synergies with other social, economic and environmental objectives; and (v) reinforce responsible and inclusive governance of land. These benefits are the stated objectives of LDN, as per the LDN Checklist.

5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing

Under the baseline scenario without the proposed project, there will continue to be limited capacity to plan for and coordinate LDN action across the country, as donor investments largely focus on immediately important interventions at the local level such as the promotion of sustainable land management practices and the restoration of degraded land, with generally discrete monitoring systems for projects/interventions. Reliable data necessary to make evidence-based decisions for LDN at different scales will remain largely inaccessible and disjointed. Indeed, the country will continue to struggle to operationalize an LDN monitoring system and protocols at national level, and there will not be adequate processes put in place at national level for the coordination and implementation the LDN framework across scales. Moreover, the Centre-Nord region which is vulnerable to the exacerbation of natural-resources related conflicts and faces the brunt of internal displacements, may see these exacerbated as the majority of baseline interventions are not designed to mitigate these as part of their main objectives. As such, the project has been designed to enhance the national frameworks for the achievement of the national LDN targets, while promoting social cohesion in selected landscapes in the Centre-Nord Region through the practical application of the LDN concept. The proposed project will build upon and complement the baseline initiatives presented above to address the remaining barriers hindering the achievement of the national LDN targets. Through its first component, the project will ensure that effective monitoring and reporting conditions and capacities as well as coordination processes are in place for successful implementation of the LDN framework. Under its second component, practical sustainable land management practices will be implemented through participatory processes. It will integrate lessons learnt from other baseline projects taking similar approaches (see above baseline project

descriptions), and adopt good practices from recently closed projects. Funds from the GEFTF LD window will thus bring about national benefits into a course of action that generates global benefits, where GEF funding will cover the incremental cost.

6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

Through the proposed project, Burkina Faso is expected to contribute to i) the restoration of 10,000 ha, including 3,500 ha of degraded agricultural land, 500ha of forest and forest land and 6,000 ha of natural grass and shrublands; ii) the improvement of land management in production systems of 250,000 ha.; iii) to 19,940 direct beneficiaries, of which 10,905 of women and 9,035 men; iv) an estimated 6,480,827 metric tons of direct CO₂e GHG emission are avoided from 2024 (20 years of accounting), as a result of improving achievement of LDN targets and sustainable land management practices and knowledge sharing.

7) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up. ?

Innovativeness. The innovativeness of this project lies in the combination of both the support to monitoring and coordination of LDN framework implementation; and the implementation of LDN activities that contribute to social cohesion and support green economy opportunities. The project will initially enhance the capacity of stakeholders at national and local levels to coordinate, implement and monitor progress against LDN targets; and then practically implement sustainable land management practices through participatory processes. It will encourage a wide inclusion of stakeholders to work towards the common objective of integrating more sustainable land management practices. Under the Output 2.1.2. participatory land planning processes will be established to identify the most relevant LDN actions, and will bring together farmers, agro-pastoralists, agro-foresters, women, local organizations (NGOs, CSOs, CBOs) implementing the LDN actions on the ground etc, as well as local or regional co-financers that can bring sustainable funding opportunities.

Moreover, under the output 2.1.3., the project proposes to adopt ?peace farms? a recent and innovative land management practice contributing to social cohesion. These communal spaces organized in

cooperatives, consisting mostly of women, ethnic groups, and IDPs, have been implemented under the PAMED program (amongst others) and generated a positive impact on food security, environmental protection and agroforestry productivity, while preventing conflicts and contributing to peacebuilding.

Another aspect of the innovativeness of the project is that, in parallel to contributing to social cohesion, the project will also stimulate green economy by supporting the identification of key value chains and engaging financial institutions about MSMEs financial needs, with a specific focus on women's MSMEs needs.

Sustainability. In the mid and long term, the project interventions will tackle the governance of LDN implementation processes, and the institutional coordination for the monitoring of Burkina Faso's LDN targets. The project will therefore contribute to the establishment of an enabling environment for scaling up an inclusive, gender sensitive, and degradation neutral land use planning by strengthening the capacities of key stakeholders at local, regional and national scales (Component 1).

The project will further develop capacity-building activities to provide stakeholders with knowledge and skills necessary for long-term implementation of LDN targets, by supporting the development of key value chains with a focus on women and youth, and a sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses targeting LDN (Outputs 2.2.1. and 2.2.2.). It will ensure that capacities for businesses can be scaled out and sustained over time.

Through the adoption of a participatory process identifying the most relevant LDN actions, the project will in practice allow local communities to gather to discuss on the most sustainable and relevant land management practices to adopt, helping to address local land management challenges in the long term (Component 2). The development of key value chains in support of LDN, with a focus on women and youth, could also be replicated to encourage the development of local businesses. Awareness raising campaigns on land tenure will be targeting women and IDPs to build ownership by the beneficiaries and create an incentive to sustain behavioural change towards the adoption of sustainable land management practices.

Potential for Scaling up. The project interventions will contribute to the establishment of an enabling environment for the progress towards Burkina Faso's LDN targets, focusing on policy coherence and institutional capacity for monitoring and coordinating LDN action, thereby setting the scene for the replication of activities piloted through the project. The project will adopt a participatory approach to identify and implement the most relevant actions for sustainable land management in the pilot sites. This approach could be replicated to other sites across the country, as well as the 'peace farm' approach (Outcome 2.1.) for other sites facing similar challenges for sustainable land management.

The development of local value chains (Outcome 2.2.) will also contribute to the replicability of the project, **exploring ways to support further the diversification of livelihoods and socio-economic development of pilot sites through sustainable financing, while** supporting LDN. Best practices could be drawn from this experience and implemented in other sites across the country. Awareness raising campaigns on land tenure especially focusing on women and youth (Outcome 2.1.) **as well as knowledge sharing among a wide range of stakeholders (Outcome 3.1)** are to be expanded across the country to contribute to the broader and more inclusive adoption of sustainable land management practices.

-
- [1] The term 'LDN frameworks' refers to the Scientific Conceptual Framework for LDN (LDN-SCF), which implies as minimum three features within this project (considered as the key principles): (1) the application of LDN fundamentals; (2) delivery of multiple benefits (including gender equality and women's empowerment); (3) responsible and inclusive governance (including social cohesion). Under the fundamentals, we mention inter alia the application of a landscape approach and of the 'LDN response hierarchy' within a landscape in the pursuit of neutrality goals (avoid, reduce, reverse), gender sensitive project design and the pursuit of SDG 15.3, among other features.
- [2] After the French acronym Coalition nationale de gestion durable des terres (CNGDT). See about it on the news: <https://lefaso.net/spip.php?article110637>, retrieved on 30/03/22.
- [3] [Population, total - Burkina Faso | Data \(worldbank.org\)](#)
- [4] The Gender Inequality Index (GII) e.g. modifies a country's Human Development Index by adding measures of gender disparity into the calculus of the HDI. In 2020, Burkina Faso had a GII of 0.594 and was globally ranked the 147th position among 189 countries. Source: <https://hdr.undp.org/en/content/gender-inequality-index-gii>, accessed on 01/03/2022.
- [5] MAAH - Ministère de l'Agriculture et des Aménagements Hydrauliques (2018). Situation de référence des terres dégradées et de la Conservation des Eaux et des Sols/Défense Restauration des Sols (CES/DRS) au Burkina. Rapport définitif. Décembre 2018. Financé dans le cadre du Programme de développement de l'agriculture (PDA/GIZ). Document laboré dans le cadre de la Stratégie Nationale de Restauration, Conservation et récupération des Sols (SNRCRS) au Burkina Faso. Available in: https://www.agriculture.bf/jcms/pv10_102921/fr/situation-de-reference-des-terres-degradees-et-de-laces-au-burkina-faso?details=true
- [6] Burkina Faso. 2018. PROGRAMME DE DEFINITION DES CIBLES DE LA NEUTRALITE EN MATIERE DE DEGRADATION DES TERRES (PDC/NDT). Rapport final.
- [7] UNCCD (2018): Burkina Faso's 2018 Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Country Profile. See: <https://www.unccd.int/commitment/ldn-country-profile-2>.
- [8] UNCCD (2018): Burkina Faso's 2018 Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Country Profile. See: <https://www.unccd.int/commitment/ldn-country-profile-2>.
- [9] OCHA situation report, 31/12/2022.
- [10] Source: 6678 Burkina Faso LD PIF_11May2022.
- [11] MAAH/DGESS/EPA, 2023.
- [12] Figure adapted from: Cowie, A. L. et al (2018). Land in balance: The scientific conceptual framework for Land Degradation Neutrality, Environmental Science & Policy, Volume 79, 2018, Pages 25-35, ISSN 1462-9011, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2017.10.011>. (Reproduction under Creative Commons license.)
- [13] <https://gain-new.crc.nd.edu/country/burkina-faso>
- [14] S. Lange, 'Earth2Observe, WFDEI and ERA-Interim Data Merged and Bias-Corrected for ISIMIP (EWEMBI)'. GFZ Data Service, Potsdam, Germany, 2016
- [15] ICRC, Burkina Faso, Country overview, 2021.
- [16] World Bank Group, Climate change Knowledge Portal.
- [17] World Bank Group, Climate change knowledge portal.
- [18] ICRC, Burkina Faso, Country overview, 2021.
- [19] Source: Climate Risk Profile: Burkina Faso, PIK, KfW and GIZ, 2021.
- [20] Service Action Humanitaire de Korsimoro, Boussouma et Ziga, décembre 2022.
- [21] The LDN TSP final report notes the following immediate causes of land degradation in Burkina Faso: Clearing and deforestation for agricultural and wood energy use; Poor soil and water management; The inadequacy of agricultural practices; The combined effects of topography and rainfall; Soil compaction (loss of porosity, erosion factor); The low vegetation cover of the soil; Inadequacy of agricultural crops (dune fixation); Natural causes (extreme wind and rainfall); Nutrient losses through export, harvesting, burning and leaching; Insufficient supply of organic and chemical fertilizers; Inadequate agricultural practices (fertility management); The disappearance of fallow land (demographic pressure, particularly in the Sudano-Sahelian zone); Soil cultivation (plowing, weeding,

etc.); Overgrazing (trampling of the soil around water points and grazed areas); Poor use of agricultural inputs and chemicals (gold panning).

[22] Arevalo, J., 2016. Improving woodfuel governance in Burkina Faso: The experts' assessment. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 57, pp.1398-1408.

[23] Friman, J., 2022. Forest Governance: Gendered Institutions, Practices, and Resource Struggles in Burkina Faso.

[24] DGESS/MRAH, 2023.

[25] Sawadogo Boureima, July 2021: Policy Brief No.751, The Impact of Land Degradation on Agricultural Production and Food Security in Burkina Faso

[26] Direction régionale de l'économie et de la planification du Centre-Nord, March 2022: monographic study report on the situation of children and young girls in the Centre-Nord region

[27] Cowie, A. L. et al (2018)

[28] A detailed presentation of the legal and policy frameworks supporting the LDN agenda is presented in Annex 12

[29] See: https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/list/?type=wocat&q=burkina&filter__qg_location__country=country__BFA, accessed on 13/03/22. WOCAT is the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies. Established in 1992, the WOCAT Network maintains efforts to compile, document, evaluate, share, disseminate, and apply sustainable land management (SLM) knowledge

[30] Refer to Table 7 and to the item 'Entities responsible for spatial planning and the managing land tenure (foncier) [Note 6]' for more information on legal and policy frameworks concerning land tenure and spatial planning in Burkina Faso.

[31] Nested here means that the lower levels of the administration are nested within the one immediately above. Figure 1a is an example, which shows how the Centre-Nord region has three provinces nested within it, and that these have 28 departments (or communes) nested within them? and so on? all the way to the village level.

[32] Baseline studies on the level of land degradation in the Sahel, North, Centre-Nord, Centre-Est, Central Plateau, Centre-West and Cascades regions were conducted in the framework of the BENKADI Project, but data presented dates back to 2013.

[33] After the French acronym Coalition nationale de gestion durable des terres (CNGDT).

[34] The Law n°034/2009/AN on rural tenure (2009) has provisions for the set up of local land management structures to improve land tenure security and reduce land conflicts. These are: a) The Service Foncier Rural (SFR, or Rural Land Service). The SFR is responsible for managing the commune's land holdings for common use, as well as for individuals within the commune. In collaboration with the Village Land Commission (CFV), it maintains and updates rural land registers; b) The Commissions Foncières Villageoises (CFV or Village Land Commissions) are responsible for land issues since 2017. The CFV is responsible for facilitating the effective implementation of the missions of the SFR by contributing, on the one hand, to securing and managing the commune's land domain and, on the other hand, by participating in the securing of land for all rural actors in the commune. In particular, the CFV provides information and awareness-raising to the population on land issues; and c) Commissions de Conciliation Foncière Villageoises (CCFVs, or Village Land Conciliation Commissions) are responsible for resolving land conflicts and carry out land conciliation activities since 2017.

[35] Potential value chains identified at PPG stage include: seed production; market gardening; promotion of local poultry; and non-timber forest products.

[36] Figure adapted from: Enemakr et al, 2005. In Metternicht, G. (2018). Land Use and Spatial Planning: Enabling Sustainable Management of Land Resources. Land Use and Spatial Planning. (Reproduction under Creative Commons license.)

[37] Cowie, A. 2020. Guidelines for Land Degradation Neutrality: A report prepared for the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility, Washington D.C.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

Geocoordinates of the 3 communes of project intervention:

? Boussouma: 13°13'N 1°32'W

? Korsimoro: 12°49'30"N 01°04'02"W

? Ziga: 12.6175°N 0.823056°W

Figure 6: Location of the centre-nord region within Burkina Faso

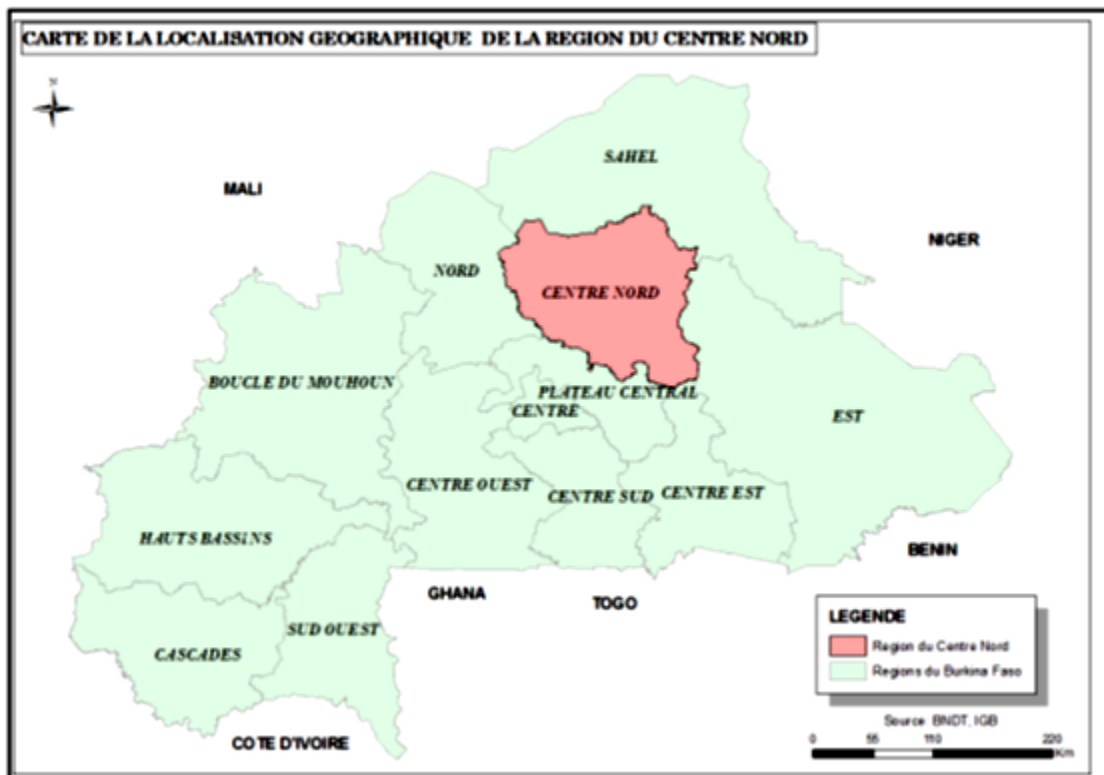
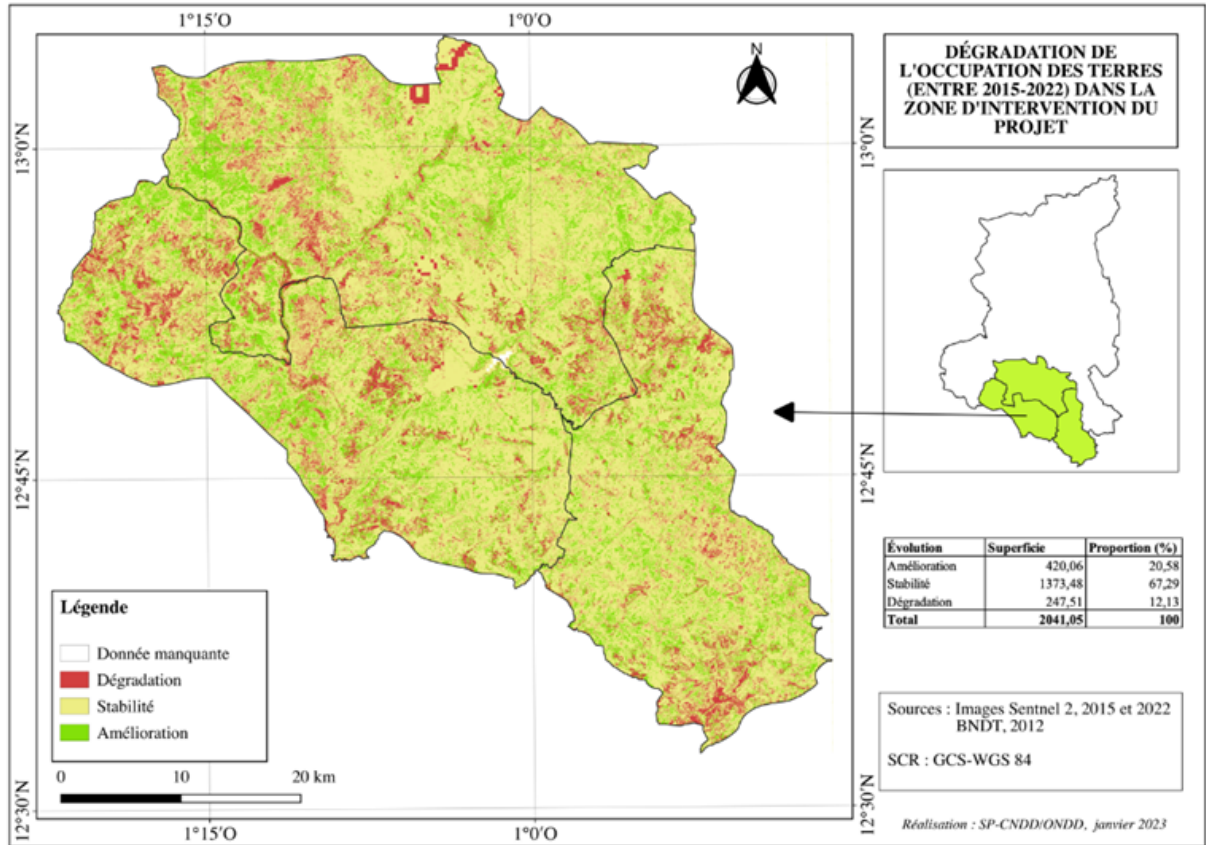


Figure 7: Level of land degradation in the 3 communes of project intervention (SP/CNDD, 2023)



1c. Child Project?

If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Private Sector Entities

If none of the above, please explain why:

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

A project Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan is included below. The successful implementation of the project will largely depend on the effective communication and coordination with the multiple project stakeholders and the implementation of mechanisms to ensure these stakeholders' participation.

The Stakeholder Engagement Process started during PPG phase, ensuring FPIC that is reported in annex to the Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Additional activities focused on stakeholders' identification and engagement are planned during project implementation, **especially to ensure that ethnic minorities are identified and involved.**

The project will work with key national and regional State actors. These actors are represented at the local level through their regional, provincial and communal departments.

At the local level, the most relevant stakeholders are the following (as detailed in the CSEP (Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan)):

- ? SPCNDD
- ? IUCN
- ? UNDP
- ? National structures
- ? Local governments/regional structures
- ? Farmers
- ? Ethnic minorities
- ? Youth
- ? Women/individual
- ? Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- ? Women's organization/cooperatives
- ? Internally displaced populations and nomads
- ? Financial institutions
- ? Projects and programs
- ? International partners
- ? Universities, research organizations and the private sector

The project's Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan in Annex 8 of the ProDoc and presented here below includes information summarizing the PPG participatory process. A list of people consulted during project development is included in the document.

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated,

and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier; Yes

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

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

Yes

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

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

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

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

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

This project will engage the private sector through several activities, in particular under the Component 2, for both Outcomes 2.1 and 2.2. Under Outcome 2.1., as part of the identification of sustainable funding opportunities for the continuous management of landscapes towards LDN, social cohesion and green

economy (Output 2.1.2.), a study on potential sources of sustainable funding for LDN will be conducted and involve the private sector. Under Outcome 2, the project will stimulate the engagement in the green economy through the development of key value chains (Output 2.2.1.), as well as establishing a sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN in the communes (Output 2.2.2). Operationalizing this platform will imply mapping and awareness raising of financial institutions about MSME financial needs, negotiation of partnerships based on facilitating women's access to financing; and strengthening the capacities of MSMEs by providing business advisory services.

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):

#	Description	Risk Category	Impact & Probability	Risk Treatment / Management Measures	Risk Owner
1	The partnership with third parties can lead to the risk associated with the weak capacities for deployment of procedures and compliance with UNDP standards.	Organizational	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	The SESA and ESIA's will conduct further assessment on risks associated with partnering with Third Parties and integrate specific procedures into the ESMPs, including specific requirements for such partners	PMU
2	Project activities can be impacted and delayed by natural disasters.	Social and environmental	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	The LDN activities could be subject to hazards such as severe winds, storms and floods, etc. For this reason, the Project will integrate disaster risk reduction measures into the detailed design and implementation of all LDN interventions.	PMU
3	The identification of income generating activities to be implemented could be subject to political pressures.	Political	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	The income generating activities plan will include safeguards designed to minimize political influence related to selection of livelihood types, locations and beneficiaries	PMU
4	The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation	Organizational	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	Stakeholder analysis and engagement plan includes emphasis on understanding relevant institutional mandates and roles. Where needed, coordination mechanisms will be established to defuse potential institutional conflicts before they become problematic	PMU

5	The low capacity of the IP in procurement may lead to delays in the implementation of project activities.	Organizational	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	Recruitment of an administrative and financial assistant with significant experience with procurement. Retraining of the members of the public procurement commission of the IP on the public procurement code to support the project procurement specialist	PMU
6	The project activities can be delayed or negatively impacted by the weak knowledge of GEF and UNDP project management procedures.	Operational	I = 3 L = 1 Low	Although the risk is low, it will be necessary to build the capacity of the project team that will be recruited to produce and disseminate reports to the various stakeholders, including the grassroots population.	PMU
7	The project activities can be delayed or negatively impacted by the weak knowledge of GEF and UNDP financial procedures in project management.	Operational	I = 3 L = 2 Moderate	Strengthen the partner's capacities in accounting procedures, particularly in the separation of tasks, and carry out controls (Spot checks) to ensure the proper application of the knowledge acquired during this training.	PMU
8	The low level of security in the project area can lead to delays or suspension of project activities.	Operational	I = 4 L = 4 Substantial	The project team will ensure that the security plan is clear, well known to the project team and the project stakeholders and that it is implemented correctly. The project work plan takes into account the security situation in the project area. The location of the project has been chosen taking into account the accessibility in relation to the security situation.	PMU
COVID-19 related					

9	Continued or renewed efforts in COVID-19 containment are likely over the course of project development and possibly into implementation.	Health and safety	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	The project development work plan and team will be built with this in mind, for example, maximizing experts in country. However, if the number of COVID19 cases increases beyond the currently low numbers and is not effectively contained, project start-up and implementation could be delayed. Methods for bio secure implementation will be needed, such as increased use of remote communication, use of PPE, etc.	PMU
10	Limited capacity for remote work and interactions can lead to delays in project activities.	Health and safety, operational	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	The rural areas of Burkina are not well equipped for remote work, in terms of wi-fi availability. The project will attempt to hold consultations in halls or open spaces, while observing government and UNDP safety protocols. Availability of international personnel on-site will depend on working in a post-pandemic scenario. However, if the pandemic persists, experience in Burkina and elsewhere to date indicates that remote training and consultation methods can be developed and that planning work can be accommodated in this manner at halls and offices where Wi-Fi is available.	PMU

11	Depending on the development of the pandemic in-country, it may be difficult to do community-level consultations	Operational	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	Local level consultation will comply with government guidelines and UNDP-CO guidelines. For example, it is likely that teams for field visits and consultations will be small, and they will likely meet and consult with small group sizes (under 50 people or per local guidelines). Additionally, COVID protocol will be developed and followed, such as supply of sanitizer and masks, following government requirements and good practice. In any case where either party is not comfortable to engage in discussions, it will not proceed. As much as possible, remote connections will be sought, for example via local government offices visiting communities.	PMU
Social and Environmental					

12	Rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim relevant rights, especially amongst less educated rural populations, some of which are indigenous peoples/local communities.	Social and Environmental	I = 4 L = 3 Substantial	<p>This risk will be mitigated through the following assessment:</p> <p>An ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment) will be developed by the first 6 months of the project. The assessment will take into consideration all the information collected through stakeholder consultations during the field visits done during the PPG phase.</p> <p>During the PPG, a Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan and a Gender Action Plan have been developed and will ensure local communities and vulnerable people, such as women, are involved in project implementation and can have access to a feedback mechanism ensuring their meaningful participation to project activities.</p> <p>An ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework) (including an IPPF (Indigenous People Planning Framework) has been developed during PPG and an ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan) will be developed by the first year of project implementation, based on the ESIA findings.</p> <p>An Indigenous Peoples Plan will be developed by the first year of the project, ensuring the involvement and engagement, including the FPIC process, of any indigenous peoples groups, tribes or ethnic minorities who can be involved in the data collection and analysis.</p> <p>A Grievance Redress Mechanism will be developed by the first 3 months of the project. This mechanism will ensure</p>	PMU
----	---	--------------------------	--------------------------------------	--	-----

			<p>stakeholder (especially the most vulnerable) can have access to a feedback mechanism ensuring their meaningful participation to project activities.</p> <p>The FPIC will be ensured during project implementation with the aim of achieving initial consent from the specific rights-holders, in line with Standard 6 requirements. FPIC will be applied to all project-affected groups and communities with respect to project activities and plans, and the principles and key concepts of Standard 6 will be fully reflected in the ESMF/ESMP, and the approach to Stakeholder Engagement.</p>	
--	--	--	--	--

13	Duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in respecting and protecting the human rights of affected populations.	Social and Environmental	I = 4 L = 3 Substantial	<p>A SESA will be developed, focusing on outputs 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.1</p> <p>An Action Matrix will be developed as management measures, based on the SESA findings.</p> <p>The risk will be also mitigated and managed through:</p> <p>? The Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan and the Gender Action Plan, that have been developed during PPG.</p> <p>? The ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework) (including an IPPF (Indigenous People Planning Framework), that has been developed during PPG</p> <p>? The ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan), that will be developed by the first year of project implementation</p> <p>? The IPP, that will be developed by the first year of the project</p> <p>? A Grievance Redress Mechanism, that will be developed by the first 3 months of the project.</p>	PMU
14	Project support directly or indirectly linked to rural livelihoods lead to child labour (boys and girls).	Social and Environmental	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	The SESA (for outputs 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.1) and ESIA will include a review of labour standards in the project area and propose safeguards including monitoring arrangements which will be integrated into the ESMP and in the Action Matrix.	PMU

15	Project implementation can indirectly lead to discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity	Social and Environmental	I = 4 L = 3 Substantial	During the PPG process, a dedicated gender expert has been part of the design team. A Gender Analysis has been developed to clarify relevant gender concerns and identify how the mainstreaming of gender into the project interventions can be achieved. The risk will be assessed through the ESIA and a SESA will be developed for outputs 1.2.2 and 2.1.1. The following are the management measures to mitigate this risk: ? The Indigenous Peoples Plan will include the Gender approach, considering the differences among groups/communities. ? The consultation of women and girls will be ensured during project implementation, especially in planning, monitoring and reporting processes. ? Informed by the Gender Analysis, the Gender Action Plan has been developed to actively promote the role of women and girls in the project. ? The Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan includes women's engagement in project related activities. ? As Stakeholders and as project beneficiaries, women will have access to the project Grievance Redress Mechanism.	PMU
----	--	--------------------------	--------------------------------------	---	-----

16	<p>Given the prevailing cultural context, groups marginalized for socio-economic, tribal (especially indigenous peoples) or gender (especially women) reasons are not duly consulted and involved in the project, do not benefit equally, and that the project and its stakeholders reproduce established discriminations, potentially leading to inadvertent harm.</p>	Social and Environmental	<p>I = 4 L = 3 Substantial</p>	<p>A SESA will be developed for outputs 1.2.1, 1.2.2 and 2.1.1. The risk will be assessed through the planned ESIA that will identify the elements of the cultural, economic and social context that will ensure the implementation of the Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan, that is the main tools that will be used to manage the identified risk. The SESA will assess Outputs 1.1 and 3.1. At PPG stage, an ESMF and the Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan have been developed for the entire project to ensure meaningful stakeholder consultation and engagement across all elements of the project. The findings of the ESIA will focus also on the impacts of the project on the most marginalized groups. The Indigenous Peoples Plan and the Gender Action Plan will support the stakeholder engagement process. The ESMP will include the aspects regarding stakeholder consultation and engagement process. Stakeholders will have access to a project Grievance Redress Mechanism Project-affected peoples will be informed about the existence of these processes and mechanisms. The Action Matrix will include mitigation measures based on the findings of the SESA.</p>	PMU
----	---	--------------------------	---	--	-----

17	<p>The project can lead to economic displacement in some parts of the population including women and indigenous peoples, considering that the project is expected to catalyze more sustainable land use and natural resource exploitation, which could curtail access to traditional natural resources and harm local livelihoods.</p>	<p>Social and Environmental</p>	<p>I = 4 L = 4 Substantial</p>	<p>As indicated in the ESMF, an ESIA and a SESA (for output 1.2.2) will be prepared. The ESIA will include an Economic Displacement Risk Assessments. The risk will be managed through the ESMP, the Action Matrix and Stakeholder consultations, in line with the Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan and the Indigenous Peoples Plan, ensuring that livelihoods are not adversely impacted by the project. The impact assessment will identify any economic displacement, and strategies will be included to avoid, minimize or manage any such impacts. Where necessary, a Livelihood Action Plan will be produced to ensure that any such impacts are appropriately managed.</p>	<p>PMU</p>
----	--	---------------------------------	---	--	------------

18	<p>The project affects the development priorities and cultural heritage or natural features with cultural significance of some indigenous peoples, considering that the project is expected to catalyze more sustainable land use, natural resource exploitation and ecosystem management, which could curtail access to traditional natural resources and harm local livelihoods.</p>	<p>Social and Environmental</p>	<p>I = 4 L = 4 Substantial</p>	<p>The ESIA will assess whether natural features with cultural significance will be impacted by the project in the project area. Where they are found to be project-affected, FPIC consultations will be carried out with the objective of achieving initial consent from specific rights-holders, in line with Standard 6 requirements. FPIC process started during PPG, addressing all the vulnerable groups presents in the project area. A FPIC report has been prepared during PPG. ESIA will include a focus on natural features with cultural significance identification and analysis, with a strong participatory approach, to collect information from local communities about the meaning of the natural features, A community mapping will be included in the ESIA to ensure the communities' perception of the landscape and of the natural resources is taken into consideration and will inform the ESMP. A SESA will be developed for output 1.2.2. Further FPIC consultations will be on-going and followed during project implementation, following the measures summarized in the ESMF, in the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (as IPPF) and in the Indigenous Peoples Plan that will be prepared as part of the subsequent ESMP as required by ESIA assessment reports. The Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan - in which inputs from the Indigenous Peoples Plan will be considered includes consultations with stakeholders involved in</p>	<p>PMU</p>
----	--	---------------------------------	---	--	------------

				<p>cultural heritage management.</p> <p>The management of this risk will be included into the ESMP, based on ESIA findings.</p>	
19	<p>The project can, directly or indirectly lead to increased exploitation of natural resources and ecosystems/biodiversity, considering that project activities are located in or near critical habitats and / or ecologically sensitive areas.</p>	Social and Environmental	<p>I = 4</p> <p>L = 3</p> <p>Substantial</p>	<p>At PPG stage, an ESMF has been developed for the entire project, which is required to incorporate an ESIA, that will focus also on risks to valuable biodiversity and ecosystems.</p> <p>A SESA will be developed for output 1.2.2.</p> <p>The management of this risk will be included into the ESMP, based on ESIA findings.</p> <p>The project will ensure that the safeguards requirements are reflected in the emerging management framework over the course of the project.</p> <p>In replication efforts, which are linked to knowledge management under the project, care will be given to highlight the lessons learnt on risks.</p>	PMU
20	<p>The project activities can lead to negative impacts on the natural environment or human health in the project areas</p>	Social and Environmental	<p>I = 4</p> <p>L = 4</p> <p>Substantial</p>	<p>The ESIA will focus also on risks to valuable biodiversity and ecosystems and on human health (considering the possible use of pesticides and the generation of hazardous and non-hazardous waste).</p> <p>The management of this risk will be included into the ESMP, based on ESIA findings.</p> <p>The ESMP will include biodiversity and human health concerns to ensure project activities will not have a negative impact on the environment and on human health in the project intervention areas.</p>	PMU

21	Project's activities increase the vulnerabilities of populations to the effects of climate change.	Social and Environmental	I = 3 L = 3 Moderate	This risk has been managed through the design of the project and will be further examined in the course of the ESIA, based on the ESMF, and included in the ESMP as determined necessary.	PMU
22	The project activities implemented by local population can lead to impact on gender balance and on traditional social roles in the local communities.	Social and Environmental	I = 4 L = 4 Substantial	<p>The ESIA will include the assessment of the sociocultural context, identifying social roles in local communities the impacts the project can have on the existing dynamics, identifying the mitigation measures.</p> <p>A SESA will be developed for outputs 1.2.2 and 2.1.1. The mitigations measures, developed also in the Gender Action Plan, will be included in the ESMP. This risk will be managed also through the Indigenous Peoples Plan and through the implementation of the Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan.</p> <p>The Grievance Redress mechanism that will take into consideration the local grievance mechanism already in place will be implemented during the project's implementation and will support the mitigation of the identified risk.</p>	PMU

23	Access to economic resources and natural resources facilitated through interventions create or exacerbate conflicts between groups or increase the risk of violence between project-affected communities and individuals.	Social and Environmental	I = 4 L = 3 Substantial	In order to assess this risk, the ESIA will include Conflict analysis and assessment and will have a focus on the current anthropological scenario, identifying the nature of the relations between different groups at all levels (national, regional and local) and the impact the project's outputs can have on these relations. A SESA will be developed for outputs 2.1.1. This risk will be managed through an Indigenous Peoples Plan and through the implementation of the Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan, integrating the findings of the conflict assessment/ESIA. A Grievance Redress mechanism, that will take into consideration the local grievance mechanism already in place, will be implemented during the project's implementation. Where necessary, inter-groups stakeholder consultations will be held to resolve territorial disputes relating to resource use. An ESMP will be prepared and will include mitigation measures based on ESIA findings, including the ones identified through the conflict assessment.	PMU
----	---	--------------------------	--------------------------------------	---	-----

The risks associated with COVID-19 will be mitigated and managed through the identified measures. Several COVID-related opportunities have been identified.

Table 6: COVID-related opportunities

Opportunity Category	Potential	Project Plans
----------------------	-----------	---------------

Can the project do more to protect and restore lands and their ecological functionality?	High	The project has been designed to ensure the restoration and sustainable use of lands and will aim at restoring 10,000 ha of land.
Can the project include a focus on production landscapes and land use practices within them to decrease the risk of human/nature conflicts?	High	The project focuses on ensuring sustainable land management to reduce or prevent the conflicts over land and resource competition, through improved coordination of LDN framework implementation, support to LDN activities that contribute to social cohesion (inclusive planning processes, peace farms) and support green economy.
Can the project promote sustainable solutions to reduce unsustainable resource extraction and environmental degradation?	High	The project will ensure sustainable procurement, avoidance of GHG emissions through land conservation and restoration. Landscape planning will contribute to recovery of the natural vegetation and enhanced landscape connectivity and carbon storage in vegetation and soil.
Short-term opportunity to support Covid economic recovery	High	The project presents short-term opportunities to support Covid economic recovery by supporting the implementation of SLM activities (output 2.1.), supporting the development of key value chains with a focus on LDN, women and youth (output 2.2.1.) as well as a sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN (output 2.2.2.) that will contribute to the generation and the recovery of the local economy. All these activities are intended towards supporting LDN, social cohesion as well as green economy.
Can the project innovate in climate change mitigation and engaging with the private sector?	High	A large part of the project involves working with local communities and private sector to implement LDN activities. A financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN will be established and operationalized, and will notably engage financial institutions, business advisory services and credit associations (Output 2.2.2.).

6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

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

Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this project is the Secr?tariat Permanent du Conseil National pour le D?veloppement Durable (SP/CNDD) under the Ministry of Environment, Water and Sanitation.

The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility

and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.

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

1. Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems.
2. Overseeing the management of project risks as included in this project document and new risks that may emerge during project implementation.
3. Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.
4. Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.
5. Approving and signing the multiyear workplan.
6. Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and,
7. Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

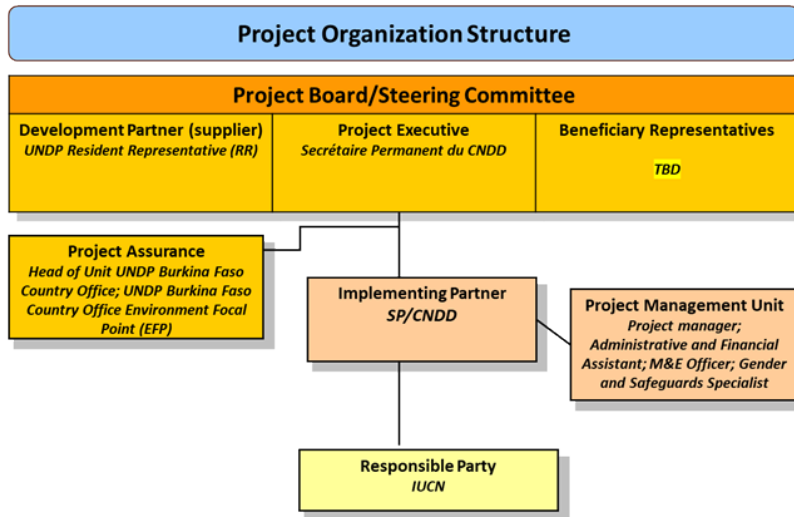
Responsible Parties: The project will have one Responsible Party (per GEF terminology: Technical Executing Partner), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), designated by UNDP in agreement with SP/CNDD. IUCN will implement components 2 and 3 and part of Project Management Costs, with a total budget of USD 2,740,647 of GEF funds and USD 55,400 of UNDP cofunding. Funds will be transferred by UNDP to the IP which will transfer them to the RP. Please refer to Section VII Financial planning and management regarding details on the underlying documentation, the budget assigned to the RP and the RP's roles and responsibilities.

Project stakeholders and target groups: Stakeholders were identified and consulted during the project preparation in order to assess needs, expectations, and to ensure their consent. Stakeholders will be involved in the project as set out in the Stakeholder engagement and south-south cooperation Sub-Section (Section IV. Results and Partnerships) above and in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan in Annex 8.

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

Section 2: Project governance structure

Full NIM with Government



Second line of defense

- Regional Bureau oversees RR and EFP function of UNDP compliance in project assurance
- BPPS RTA oversees functions of technical oversight and GEF compliance in project assurance. BBPS NCE PTA oversees RTA function.
- UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator and Regional Bureau Deputy Director can revoke DOA/cancel/suspend project or provide enhanced oversight

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

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

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

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

Section 4: Roles and Responsibilities of the Project Organization Structure

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

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

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

Requirements to serve on the Project Board:

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

Responsibilities of the Project Board:

- - Consensus decision making:
 - The project board provides overall overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and providing overall oversight of the project implementation.
 - Review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and the combined delivery report;
 - The project board is responsible for making management decisions by consensus.
 - In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition.
 - In case consensus cannot be reached within the Board, the UNDP representative on the board will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, will take the final decision to ensure project implementation is not unduly delayed.
- - Oversee project execution:

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

- Risk Management:

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

- Coordination:

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

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

1. **Project Executive:** This is an individual who represents ownership of the project and chairs (or co-chairs) the Project Board. The Executive usually is the senior national counterpart for nationally implemented projects. If the project executive co-chairs the project board with representatives of another category, it typically does so with a development partner representative. The Project Executive is: Secrétaire Permanent du CNDD.
2. **Beneficiary Representative(s):** Individuals or groups representing the interests of those groups of stakeholders who will ultimately benefit from the project. Their primary function within the board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. Often representatives from civil society, industry associations, or other government entities benefiting from the project can fulfil this role. There can be multiple beneficiary representatives in a Project Board. The Beneficiary representative (s) is/are: local government representative, to be identified at project inception.
3. **Development Partner(s):** Individuals or groups representing the interests of the parties concerned that provide funding, strategic guidance and/or technical expertise to the project. The Development Partner(s) is/are: Dr. Elsie Laurence-Chounoune, UNDP Resident Representative.

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

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

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

Roles and responsibilities of the PMU members (i.e. Project manager; Administrative and Financial Assistant; M&E Officer; Gender and Safeguards Specialist) are detailed in Annex 6.

A designated representative of the PMU is expected to attend all board meetings and support board processes as a non-voting representative. The primary PMU representative attending board meetings is: *the Project Manager*.

7. Consistency with National Priorities

Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions from below:

NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

The project is well aligned with national priorities, as illustrated in the Table below:

Policies and plans related to LDN	Project consistency
-----------------------------------	---------------------

National Voluntary LDN Targets	<p>In order to stop land degradation in Burkina Faso, the country commits to achieving land degradation neutrality by 2030 through the restoration of 5 million hectares of degraded land and the prevention of degradation in non-degraded land.</p> <p>More specifically, the country commits to do everything possible to:</p> <p>Put an end to deforestation by 2030; Improve the productivity of savannas and cultivated lands that show productivity decline, that is, 2.5 million hectares; Improve carbon stocks in 800,000 ha to reach a minimum of 1% of organic matter Recuperate 300,000 ha of bare land from a total of 600,000 ha</p>
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) (2021-2025)	<p>Ahead of COP26, Burkina Faso published a more ambitious and measurable NDC, setting a quantifiable emissions reduction target of 29.42% by 2030 for the first time. Adaptation actions could also lead to an emission reduction of 30.76%. The estimated financial needs for the implementation of the NDC amount to US\$ 4,124,231,753.</p>
National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NAP) (2015)	<p>The vision of the Burkina Faso NAP reads as follows: "Burkina Faso intends to manage its economic and social development more efficiently by implementing planning mechanisms and measures taking account of resilience and adaptation to climate change between now and 2050".</p>
Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development (SCADD, Strat?gie de croissance acc?l?r?e et de d?veloppement durable) (2011 to 2015)	<p>The overarching goal of SCADD is to achieve strong economic growth that is underpinned by improved revenues, improved quality of life of the country's population, and environmental sustainability. Agriculture, which in the strategy encompasses crops, livestock, forestry, and fisheries, is the only sector in which the SCADD proposes specific measures and targets to address adaptation. It calls for the development of a sector-specific adaptation strategy and sets a target to increase the percentage of irrigated versus rain-fed agriculture to 50% by 2015.</p>
The National Policy for Securing Land in Rural Areas (PNSFMR)	<p>The PNSFMR aims to ensure that all rural actors have equitable access to land, guarantee their investments and effectively manage land disputes, in order to contribute to poverty reduction, the consolidation of social peace and the achievement of sustainable development.</p>
The Strategic Investment Framework for Sustainable Land Management (CSI-GDT)	<p>The CSI-GDT was adopted on July 23, 2014 with a vision for 2025 of "sustainable rural production systems that, taking into account local knowledge and know-how, (i) preserve soil fertility, (ii) increase plant and animal productivity per unit of land used and/or per unit of water consumed, (iii) improve the well-being of people living off the land, (iv) restore and preserve the integrity and functions of ecosystems.</p> <p>The overall objective of CSI-GDT is to mobilize and increase the efficiency of financial, technological and knowledge resources that are needed to sustainably reverse rural land degradation trends in Burkina Faso.</p>

The National Strategy for Soil Restoration, Conservation and Recovery (SNRCRS)	This strategy comes in application of the Law N°008-2014/AN of April 08, 2014 bearing orientation law on the sustainable development of Burkina Faso; The vision of the SNRCRS is "By 2024, Burkina Faso's soils will regain their full productive capacity and allow for modern, sustainable and resilient agriculture". The overall objective of the NCCRS is to reduce/reverse the trend of soil degradation in order to sustainably increase agricultural production.
The Action Plan of the National Strategy for Soil Restoration, Conservation and Recovery in Burkina Faso - 2020 - 2022	The overall objective of the strategy is to reduce/reverse the trend of soil degradation in order to sustainably increase agricultural production. The action plan is built around the four (04) axes of the SNRCRS, their strategic objectives, the expected effects as well as the priority actions to be implemented.

8. Knowledge Management

Elaborate the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, including a budget, key deliverables and a timeline, and explain how it will contribute to the project's overall impact.

A specific component is dedicated to knowledge management. Under Component 3, a knowledge management and communications strategy will be developed and implemented (Output 3.1.1.) in order to increase awareness of LDN across stakeholder groups, share information, and capitalize the knowledge generated through its activities. Considerations for local socio-cultural dimensions will be made, including requirements for communication in local languages, accommodations for underserved or marginalized groups (e.g. women and IDPs), etc. Information and learnings will be shared via a project website and exchange visits between the communities. Dialogue and learning events, engaging a wider public of regional stakeholders will be organized respectively in Centre-Nord, and at national level. Short videos with practical examples and results will be published on the website. Finally, the project will develop accessible ?how to? guides to support institutional memory capacity.

Under Output 3.1.1 on Knowledge Management, the project will promote south-south cooperation to present opportunities for replication in other countries of the region. To bring the voice of Burkina Faso to global and regional fora, the project will explore opportunities for meaningful participation in specific events where UNDP could support engagement with the global development discourse on Land Degradation Neutrality and Social Cohesion. The project will furthermore provide opportunities for regional cooperation with countries that are implementing initiatives on LDN in geopolitical, social and environmental contexts relevant to the proposed project in Burkina Faso, including for instance in Mali through GEF Project ID 10687.

Table 6 Overview of knowledge management Activities timeline and indicative budget

Output 3.1.1: A knowledge management and communications strategy developed and implemented Activities	Expected timeline	Indicative budget
--	-------------------	-------------------

Develop a knowledge management and communications strategy for the project	As a first step in the first 6 months of implementation (PY1), the project will develop a knowledge management and communications strategy.	\$10,180
Establish a project website and regularly publish knowledge products	At the start of the project (PY1), a project website will be set up, and will subsequently be regularly updated with knowledge products generated by the project (PY1-6).	\$50,000
Organize exchange visits	Information and learnings are shared via a project website and exchange visits between the communities.	\$20,000
Organize dialogue events in Centre-Nord	These events are anticipated to take place in PY3 and PY6, to fully capitalize on project generated knowledge, as well as give an opportunity for learning and integration of lessons learnt which were not captured in the PPG phase into the second half of the project.	\$10,000
Organize national learning events	These events are anticipated to take place in PY3 and PY6, to fully capitalize on project generated knowledge, as well as give an opportunity for learning and integration of lessons learnt which were not captured in the PPG phase into the second half of the project.	\$10,000
Develop various knowledge products, including ?how to? guides that transfer easily to support institutional memory capacity	Knowledge products will be developed throughout implementation, with a higher level of effort on this activity in PY5-6 to develop accessible ?how to? guides to support institutional memory capacity.	\$10,183

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the [UNDP POPP \(including guidance on GEF project revisions\)](#) and [UNDP Evaluation Policy](#). **The UNDP Country Office is responsible for ensuring full compliance with all UNDP project M&E requirements including project monitoring, UNDP quality assurance requirements, quarterly risk management, and evaluation requirements.**

Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the [GEF Monitoring Policy](#) and the [GEF Evaluation Policy](#) and other [relevant GEF policies](#)[1]. The M&E plan and budget included below will guide the GEF-specific M&E activities to be undertaken by this project.

In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed ? including during the Project Inception Workshop - and will be detailed in the Inception Report.

Minimum project monitoring and reporting requirements as required by the GEF:

Inception Workshop and Report: A project inception workshop will be held within 2 months from the First disbursement date, with the aim to:

1. Familiarize key stakeholders with the detailed project strategy and discuss any changes that may have taken place in the overall context since the project idea was initially conceptualized that may influence its strategy and implementation.
2. Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting lines, stakeholder engagement strategies and conflict resolution mechanisms.

3. Review the results framework and monitoring plan.
4. Discuss reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E budget; identify national/regional institutes to be involved in project-level M&E; discuss the role of the GEF OFP and other stakeholders in project-level M&E.
5. Update and review responsibilities for monitoring project strategies, including the risk log; SESP report, Social and Environmental Management Framework (where relevant) and other safeguard requirements; project grievance mechanisms; gender strategy; knowledge management strategy, and other relevant management strategies.
6. Review financial reporting procedures and budget monitoring and other mandatory requirements and agree on the arrangements for the annual audit.
7. Plan and schedule Project Board meetings and finalize the first-year annual work plan. Finalize the TOR of the Project Board.
8. Formally launch the Project.

GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR):

The annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) will be completed for each year of project implementation. UNDP will undertake quality assurance of the PIR before submission to the GEF. The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Board. UNDP will conduct a quality review of the PIR, and this quality review and feedback will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent annual PIR.

GEF Core Indicators:

The GEF Core indicators included as Annex will be used to monitor global environmental benefits and will be updated for reporting to the GEF prior to MTR and TE. Note that the project team is responsible for updating the indicator status. The updated monitoring data should be shared with MTR/TE consultants prior to required evaluation missions, so these can be used for subsequent groundtruthing. The methodologies to be used in data collection have been defined by the GEF and are available on the GEF [website](#).

Independent Mid-term Review (MTR): The terms of reference, the review process and the final MTR report will follow the standard UNDP templates and UNDP guidance for GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center \(ERC\)](#).

The evaluation will be ?independent, impartial and rigorous?. The evaluators that UNDP will hire to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project under review.

The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the BPPS/NCE-VF Directorate.

The final MTR report and MTR TOR will be publicly available in English and will be posted on the UNDP ERC by *01 March 2027*. A management response to MTR recommendations will be posted in the ERC within six weeks of the MTR report?s completion.

Terminal Evaluation (TE):

An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance for GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center](#). TE should be completed 3 months before the estimated operational closure date, set from the signature of the ProDoc and according to the duration of the project. Provisions should be taken to complete the TE in due time to avoid delay in project closure. Therefore, TE must start no later than 6 months to the expected date of completion of the TE (or 9 months prior to the estimated operational closure date).

The evaluation will be ?independent, impartial and rigorous?. The evaluators that UNDP will hire to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project being evaluated.

The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the BPPS/NCE-VF Directorate.

The final TE report and TE TOR will be publicly available in English and posted on the UNDP ERC by *01 December 2029*. A management response to the TE recommendations will be posted to the ERC within six weeks of the TE report?s completion.

Final Report:

The project?s terminal GEF PIR along with the terminal evaluation (TE) report and corresponding management response will serve as the final project report package. The final project report package shall be discussed with the Project Board during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the project?s deliverables and disclosure of information: To accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the GEF will also accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy[2] and the GEF policy on public involvement[3].

Monitoring Plan: The project results, corresponding indicators and mid-term and end-of-project targets in the project results framework will be monitored by the Project Management Unit annually, and will be reported in the GEF PIR every year, and will be evaluated periodically during project implementation. If baseline data for some of the results indicators is not yet available, it will be collected during the first year of project implementation. Project risks, as outlined in the risk register, will be monitored quarterly.

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods ^[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
Project objective from the results framework	Indicator 1 (GEF Core Indicator 11) Number of direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people benefitting from sustainable land management)	19,940, of which 10,905 women	Estimated total direct project beneficiaries	GEF: This indicator captures the total no. direct beneficiaries incl. % women. Direct beneficiaries are people receiving targeted support from the project.	Annua lly	M&E Officer	Project progress and activity reports	Assumption: Direct project beneficiary data will be collated and regularly maintained by the PMU Risk: The partnership with third parties can lead to the risk associated with the weak capacities for deployment of procedures and compliance with UNDP standards.

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
	<p><i>Indicator 2</i></p> <p><u>Indicator 2:</u></p> <p>Core Indicator 3: Area of land restored (Hectares)</p> <p>3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands restored</p> <p>3.2 Area of forest and forest land restored</p> <p>3.3 Area of natural grass and shrublands restored</p>	<p>10,000</p> <p>3.1 (3,500)</p> <p>3.2 (500)</p> <p>3.3 (6,000)</p>		<p>GIS mapping of landscapes under project intervention; review of land use practices from field reports</p>	<p>Annua lly</p>	<p>M&E Officer working with field officers and CNGD T</p>	<p>Project reports</p> <p>Maps of project areas and LDN monitoring data</p>	<p>Assumption: Local communities support the project intervention</p> <p>Risks:</p> <p>? Project activities can be impacted and delayed by natural disasters.</p> <p>? The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation</p> <p>? The low capacity of the IP in procurement may lead to delays in the implementation of project activities.</p> <p>? The project activities can be delayed or negatively impacted by</p>

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
								<p>the weak knowledge of GEF and UNDP project management procedures.</p> <p>? The project activities can be delayed or negatively impacted by the weak knowledge of GEF and UNDP financial procedures in project management .</p> <p>? The low level of security in the project area can lead to delays or suspension of project activities.</p>

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
	<p>Indicator 3 GEF Core Indicator 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Hectares)</p> <p>4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems</p>	250,000	Areas of landscape subject to revised PCD and PRD integrating LDN concept	GIS mapping of landscapes under project intervention; assessment of PCD and PRD status; review of land use practices from field reports	Annua lly	M&E Officer working with field officers and CNGD T	Project reports; PCD and PRD	<p>Assumption: Local communities support the project intervention</p> <p>Risks: ? Project activities can be impacted and delayed by natural disasters. ? The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation ? The low capacity of the IP in procurement may lead to delays in the implementation of project activities. ? The project activities can be delayed or negatively impacted by</p>

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
								<p>the weak knowledge of GEF and UNDP project management procedures.</p> <p>? The project activities can be delayed or negatively impacted by the weak knowledge of GEF and UNDP financial procedures in project management .</p> <p>? The low level of security in the project area can lead to delays or suspension of project activities.</p>

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
	<p>Indicator 4 GEF Core Indicator 6: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO₂-equ)</p> <p>6.1 Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the sector of Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use</p>	<p>6,480,827 (End of 20-year accounting period)</p>	<p>The EX-ACT tool was used to estimate targets[2], based on the target area of land to be restored and proposed improved management approaches.</p>	<p>The project shall follow the GEF GHG accounting and reporting guidelines.</p>	<p>Annua lly</p>	<p>PMU</p>	<p>PIR</p> <p>Remote Sensing data collection for LDN monitoring and reporting</p> <p>Field observations</p>	<p>Risks: Delays in project implementation lead to remote sensing data not being available to support GHG accounting</p>

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
Project Outcome 1.1	Indicator 5 Degree to which capacity to monitor progress towards LDN of national and local stakeholders is enhanced	Increase of at least 2 points on a scale of 1 to 4.	Maximum of 4; Low capacity = 1; Basic Capacity = 2; Moderate Capacity = 3; Strong Capacity = 4	Institutional capacity scoring method Survey of project beneficiaries	Inception, Midterm and end of project	M&E Officer	Project reports; Surveys	Assumption: National and local stakeholders are interested in and participate actively in project activities Risks: ? The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
	Indicator 6 Degree to which capacity of the members of the LDN coordinati ng platforms (CNGDT, regional and communa l level) to coordinat e and implemen t the LDN framewor k is enhanced.	Increas e of at least 2 points on a scale of 1 to 4.	Maximu m of 4; Low capacity = 1; Basic Capacity = 2; Moderate Capacity = 3; Strong Capacity = 4	Capacity scoring method Survey of project beneficiaries	Incepti on, Midterm and end of project	M&E Officer	Project reports; Surveys	Assumption: Insitutional stakeholders are interested in and participate actively in project activities Risk: ? Chang e in government and national priorities lead to challenges in sustaining the activities of the CNGDT. ? The project implementati on plan can be negatively impacted by unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementati on

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
Project Outcome 2.1	<i>Indicator 7</i> Number of direct beneficiaries that report feeling more secure about their access to and use of land resource because of inclusive and gender sensitive planning processes	5,000, of which 2,500 women	Secure access to land benefits are measured as a perception of project beneficiaries	Sentiment scoring methodology (tbd during inception)	Inception, Midterm and end of project	M&E Officer	Project reports; Surveys	Risks: ? Local conflicts are exacerbated at the local level due to factors out of the control of the project ? Project activities can be impacted and delayed by natural disasters. ? The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods ^[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
Project Outcome 2.2	<i>Indicator 8</i> Number of direct beneficiaries (disaggregated by gender) with at least 25% income gains as a result of targeted value chain activities and/or financing and investing platforms	300 men 600 women	Income sources and amounts, as it relates to project interventions related to targeted value chains	Survey of income sources and amounts	Annua lly	M&E Officer	Project reports; Survey data	Risk: Local conflicts are exacerbated at the local level due to factors out of the control of the project and prevent full participation in project activities Risk: The identification of income generating activities to be implemented could be subject to political pressures.

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
Project Outcome 3.1	Indicator 9 Degree to which project beneficiaries report confidence in understanding of the LDN concept (data to be disaggregated at institutional level and community level, as well as gender disaggregated, in a representative sample of direct project beneficiaries)	An increase of at least 2 on a 5-point Likert scale	Likert scale (1 = very unconfident, 2 = fairly unconfident, 3 = neutral, 4 = fairly confident, and 5 = very confident)	Survey of a representative sample of project beneficiaries	Inception, Midterm and end of project	M&E Officer	Project reports; Survey data	Assumption: Project beneficiaries have sufficient level of literacy to benefit from project awareness raising activities Risk: The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
Project Outcome 3.2	Indicator 10 Number of plans, assessments, mechanisms, and procedures developed or updated,	At least 8	Project produces : including Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), gender action plan, Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP), Stakeholder Engagement Plan,	Count of key documents	Annua lly	M&E Officer Gender and Safeguards Specialist	Project documents Plans, assessments, mechanisms, and procedures documentation	Assumptions : Active involvement of stakeholders in development of safeguards plans and grievance mechanism to ensure they are as relevant and understood as possible Risks: High complexity of safeguards plans especially in a conflict setting may reduce the level of their understanding and use by stakeholders.

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods ^[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
			and Grievanc e Redress Mechanism.					
Project Outcome 4.1	Indicator 11 Number of instances where new or ongoing projects reused or adapted previously captured lessons learnt to design or start a project, program, and/or initiative	1	Evidence of other investment(s) leverage project results to scale up	Count of project/investments referring to lessons learnt/project results	Annua lly	M&E Officer	Project document/investment documentation of other initiative	Assumption: The project will yield results that warrant replication and scaling up
<i>Gender Action Plan</i>								

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
GAP	Indicator 12 Number of men and women who participat ed in project activities (e.g. meetings, workshop s, consultati ons).	9,035 men and 10,905 wome n	This includes the entirety of direct project beneficia ries	Meetings, workshops, and consultation s reports/parti cipant lists; demographi c data of intervention sites	Annua lly	Gender and Safeguar ds Speciali st	Project progress and activity reports	<p>Assumption: Direct project beneficiary data will be collated and regularly maintained by the PMU</p> <p>Risks:</p> <p>? Project activities can be impacted and delayed by natural disasters.</p> <p>? The identification of income generating activities to be implemented could be subject to political pressures.</p> <p>? The low level of security in the project area can lead to delays or suspension of project activities</p> <p>? The project implementati on plan can be negatively impacted by</p>

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods ^[1]	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
								unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
GAP	Indicator 13 Number of men and women who received benefits (e.g. employ ment, income generatin g activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipmen t, leadershi p roles)	2,800 men and 3,100 women	This includes beneficia ries of Compon ent 2 activities primarily .	Participants lists for Component 2 activities	Annua lly	Gender and Safegua rds Speciali st	Project progress and activity reports	Assumption: Direct project beneficiary data will be collated and regularly maintained by the PMU. Risks: ? Project activities can be impacted and delayed by natural disasters. ? The identification of income generating activities to be implemented could be subject to political pressures. ? The low level of security in the project area can lead to delays or suspension of project activities.

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
GAP	Indicator 14 Number of strategies, plans (e.g. management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations	8	This target was derived from the different frameworks, policies, laws, and plans that are intended to be developed and revised through the project. This includes: One (1) LDN monitoring system; Three (3) policies, plans, and/or regulations; Three (3) PCD; and one (1) PRD	LDN monitoring system documentation and indicators; Policies, plans, and regulations revised through the project; PCDs and PRD for the communes/r egion of project intervention	Annua lly	Gender and Safeguards Specialist	Review of LDN monitoring system documentation and indicators for evidence of gender sensitivity based on scorecard	Assumption: There is widespread understanding and buy-in at institutional level to the gender mainstreaming agenda Risk: The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation
<i>Stakeholder Engagement Plan</i>								

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
SEP	Indicator 15 Number of people (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase	19,940 , of which 10,905 women	Estimated total direct project beneficiaries	GEF: This indicator captures the total no. direct beneficiaries incl. % women. Direct beneficiaries are people receiving targeted support from the project.	Annua lly	Gender and Safeguards Specialist	Project progress and activity reports	Assumption: Direct project beneficiary data will be collated and regularly maintained by the PMU Risks: ? Project activities can be impacted and delayed by natural disasters. ? The identification of income generating activities to be implemented could be subject to political pressures. ? The low level of security in the project area can lead to delays or suspension of project activities. ? The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods ^[1]	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
								unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
SEP	Indicator 16 Number of stakeholder groups (government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, indigenous peoples and others) that have been involved in the project implementation phase	153 stakeholder groups	17 categories ? at least 9 groups for each category (3 groups for each category in each community)	Meeting, workshops, and consultations reports/participant lists	Annua lly	Gender and Safeguards Specialist	Project progress and activity reports	Assumption: Direct project beneficiary data will be collated and regularly maintained by the PMU. Risks: ? Project activities can be impacted and delayed by natural disasters. ? The identification of income generating activities to be implemented could be subject to political pressures. ? The low level of security in the project area can lead to delays or suspension of project activities. ? The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Collection Methods ^[1]	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification	Risks/Assumptions
								unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation.

Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Data source/Coll ection Methods[1]	Frequ ency	Respon sible for data collecti on	Means of verification	Risks/Assu mptions
SEP	Indicator 17 Number of engagements events (meetings, workshops, consultations, etc.) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase.	80	Estimated total engagements events (meetings, workshops, consultations, etc.) with stakeholders	Meeting, workshops, and consultations reports/participant lists	Annua lly	Gender and Safeguards Specialist	Project progress and activity reports	Assumption: Direct project beneficiary data will be collated and regularly maintained by the PMU Risks: ? The project implementation plan can be negatively impacted by unclear institutional roles (overlaps, gaps) during project implementation. Depending on the development of the pandemic in-country, it may be difficult to do community-level consultations

Monitoring and Evaluation Budget for project execution:		
GEF M&E requirements to be undertaken by Project Management Unit (PMU)	Indicative costs (US\$)	Time frame
Inception Workshop and Report	1,748	Inception Workshop within 2 months of the First Disbursement
M&E required to report on progress made in reaching GEF core indicators and project results included in the project results framework	<i>Per year: 1,000</i>	Annually and at mid-point and closure.
Preparation of the annual GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	<i>Per year: 1,000</i>	Annually typically between June-August
Monitoring of project safeguards management frameworks and plans and gender action plans	<i>Per year: 6,900 (Covered by GEF funds) Per year: 16,100 (Covered by UNDP)</i>	On-going.
Supervision missions	<i>None</i>	Annually
Learning missions	<i>None</i>	As needed
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR): costs associated with conducting the independent review/evaluation to be commissioned by UNDP not the Implementing Partner or PMU.	50,000	01 March 2027
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE): costs associated with conducting the independent evaluation to be commissioned by UNDP not the Implementing Partner or the PMU.	70,000	01 December 2029
TOTAL indicative COST <i>5 % when GEF project grant up to USD 5 million.</i>	271,748 (out of which \$96,600 is covered by UNDP)	

[1] Data collection methods should outline specific tools used to collect data and additional information as necessary to support monitoring. The PIR cannot be used as a source of verification.

[2] See EX-ACT calculations in Annex 14

[1] See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

[2] See

http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/transparency/information_disclosurepolicy/

[3] See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

[4] Data collection methods should outline specific tools used to collect data and additional information as necessary to support monitoring. The PIR cannot be used as a source of verification.

[5] See EX-ACT calculations in Annex 14

[6] This budget includes only GEF resources. An additional \$96,600 to cover the staff costs of the M&E Officer is made available through UNDP TRAC resources.

10. Benefits

Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCE/SCCF)?

The project will increase knowledge on LDN and SLM at national and local levels, which will contribute to enabling stakeholders to make evidence-based decisions, while supporting social cohesion in the Centre-Nord region. Pilot sites will benefit from sustainable land management that will directly contribute to food security, economic activity and improvement of livelihoods. Through the support provided to the implementation of LDN actions contributing to social cohesion, the development of local key value chains, sustainable financing and capacity building of MSMEs, the project will generate sustainable socio-economic benefits for the stakeholders involved in the project, including for women and youth. Specifically, the livelihoods of local communities in the communes will be enhanced, through the land restoration and SLM actions, which will secure valuable ecosystem services, generate socio-economic benefits through the support provided to green economy and the establishment of a financing platform for LDN targeted businesses. The benefits will include, among others: i) increased financial security through diversified livelihoods; ii) increased food security; iii) increased social cohesion; and iv) women and youth empowerment.

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

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

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

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

Overall, the risk rating for this project is Substantial (A total of 13 risks have been identified: 10 risks are rated as *Substantial*, 3 risks are rated as *Moderate*).

To meet the SES requirements the following have been prepared: (1) Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), including an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF); (2) Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan; (3) Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan.

To mitigate the identified risks:

An **ESIA** (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment) will be developed within the first 6 months of the project, including an **Economic Displacement Risk Assessment** and a **Conflict Analysis and Assessment**, based on an Environmental and Social Baseline Analysis ? as part of the ESIA - that will enhance the knowledge of the local context.

An **ESMP** (Environmental and Social Management Plan) for each commune will be developed by the first year of project implementation, including the **Livelihood Action Plan**, if needed. The ESMPs will include the findings of the ESIA, that will include a context analysis that will take into consideration and will analyse the data on ethnic minorities (such as Peuls and Tuaregs) and on artisanal mining, that is a practice in the local context.

The project is strongly focused on upstream activities, strengthening policies and institutional framework, therefore those aspects will be assessed following the **SESA** process, that will be developed by the first 6 months of the project. The SESA will focus on the outputs 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.1.

An **Indigenous Peoples Plan** will be developed by the first year of the project, ensuring the involvement and engagement, including the FPIC process, of any indigenous peoples groups, tribes or ethnic minorities who can be consulted.

A **Grievance Redress Mechanism** (GRM) will be developed by the first 3 months of the project. This mechanism will ensure stakeholder (including indigenous peoples and/or minorities) can have access to a feedback mechanism ensuring their meaningful participation to project activities.

The SESA findings will be included in an **Action Matrix**.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
6678 BF Annex 9 ESMF_02Aug2023	CEO Endorsement ESS	
6678 BF Annex 5 SESP_18Apr2023	CEO Endorsement ESS	
6678 BF Annex 9 ESMF_18Apr2023	CEO Endorsement ESS	
6678 Burkina Faso LD pre- SESP_05Apr2022	Project PIF ESS	

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

<p>This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): <i>SDG 1,2,5,7,8,12 ,& 13</i></p>				
<p>This project will contribute to the following country outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD): Contributing Outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD): UNDAF Outcome 1.1: <i>By 2020, the effectiveness of institutions is improved and the populations of Burkina Faso, particularly those most exposed to the risks of conflict and insecurity, live in peace and security under the rule of law;</i> UNDAF Outcome 3.1: <i>By the end of 2023, populations, particularly young people and women in the intervention zones, increase their income, adopt sustainable production and consumption patterns, and improve their food security;</i> UNDAF Outcome 4.2: <i>By the end of 2023, populations, particularly vulnerable groups, in target areas are more resilient to climatic, economic, social and political shocks.</i> CPD Outcome 1: <i>By 2023, the effectiveness of institutions is improved and the population of Burkina Faso, in particular those most exposed to the risks of conflict and insecurity, live in peace and security under the rule of law.</i> CPD output 1.4: <i>Central and local actors in charge of conflict management have the capacity to organize inclusive forums and dialogues, including women and young people.</i> SCP Outcome 2: <i>By the end of 2023, populations, particularly young people and women in the intervention areas (urban/rural), increase their incomes, adopt sustainable production and consumption patterns and improve their food security.</i> SCP Output 2.4: <i>Agro-sylvo-pastoralists in the Sahel, Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Centre-Sud and Centre-Ouest regions have access to knowledge, climatic and agro-ecological data, tools and technologies for increased and sustainable production and consumption.</i> SCP Outcome 3: <i>By 2022, populations, particularly vulnerable groups, in target areas are more resilient to climatic and environmental shocks.</i> SCP output 3.2: <i>Populations in target areas, particularly women, young people and the most vulnerable, have the skills and resources to cope with shocks and recover from crises, and increase their autonomy/resilience.</i></p>				
Objective and Outcome Indicators (no more than a total of 20 indicators)		Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target
Project Objective:	To enhance the national frameworks for the achievement of the national LND target, while promoting social cohesion in selected landscapes in the Centre-Nord region through the practical application of the LDN concept			
	Mandatory Indicator 1: <i>(GEF Core Indicator 11) Number of direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people benefitting from sustainable land management)</i>	0	9,970, of which 5,452 women	19,940, of which 10,905 women
	Mandatory GEF Core Indicators: Indicator 2: Core Indicator 3: Area of land restored (Hectares) 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands restored 3.2 Area of forest and forest land restored 3.3 Area of natural grass and shrublands restored	0	10,000 3.1 (1,500) 3.2 (150) 3.3 (2,000)	10,000 3.1 (3,500) 3.2 (500) 3.3 (6,000)

	<p><i>Indicator 3:</i> GEF Core Indicator 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (Hectares) 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems</p>	0	150,000	250,000
	<p><i>Indicator 4:</i> GEF Core Indicator 6: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (metric tons of CO₂-equ) 6.1 Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the sector of Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems</p>	0	927,123	6,480,827 (End of 20-year accounting period)
Project component 1	Monitoring and Coordination of LDN Framework Implementation			
Outcome 1.1.: The capacity of key stakeholders at the national and local level for monitoring progress against LDN targets is enhanced	<p><i>Indicator 5: Degree to which capacity to monitor progress towards LDN of national and local stakeholders is enhanced as measured with UNDP capacity scorecard adapted to local context as needed (out of a maximum of 4: Low capacity = 1; Basic Capacity = 2; Moderate Capacity = 3; Strong Capacity = 4) ? gender disaggregated</i></p>	<p><i>At this time capacity is considered low (Baseline score of 1).</i></p>	<p><i>Increase of 1 in the capacity score of each key institution</i></p>	<p><i>Increase of at least 2 points on a scale of 1 to 4.</i></p>
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1.1.	<p>Output 1.1.1: Operationalized Burkina Faso LDN monitoring and evaluation manual to track progress against LDN targets Output 1.1.2: Technical/methodological support for the digitization of the monitoring of progress against three LDN indicators Output 1.1.3: Updated national and regional baselines for LDN and disaggregation at commune level</p>			

Outcome 1.2: The capacity of key stakeholders at the national level for coordination and implementation of the LDN framework is enhanced	<i>Indicator 6: Degree to which capacity of the members of the LDN coordinating platforms (CNGDT, regional and communal level) to coordinate and implement the LDN framework is enhanced. ? gender disaggregated</i>	<i>At this time capacity is considered low for the CNGDT and non-existent for the regional and local platforms (Baseline score of 1)</i>	<i>Increase of 1 in the capacity score of each platform (out of a maximum of 4: Low capacity = 1; Basic Capacity = 2; Moderate Capacity = 3; Strong Capacity = 4)</i>	<i>Increase of at least 2 points on a scale of 1 to 4.</i>
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1.2.	Output 1.2.1: Support is provided to the National Coalition for sustainable Land Management (CNGDT) to coordinate the implementation the LDN Framework at national level Output 1.2.2: Sectoral laws, policies, and planning processes are revised to create the enabling environment for an inclusive, gender sensitive, and degradation neutral land planning			
Project component 2	Implementation at local and regional level of LDN activities that contribute to social cohesion and support green economy opportunities			
Outcome 2.1: Enhanced LDN and social cohesion through gender sensitive and locally-adapted SLM	<i>Indicator 7: Number of direct beneficiaries that report feeling more secure about their access to and use of land resource because of inclusive and gender sensitive planning processes (measured with a sentiment scoring methodology to be developed during project inception) ? gender disaggregated</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1000</i>	<i>5000</i>
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2.1.	Output 2.1.1: Land use planning and management committees at the local level (CFV and CCFV) are revitalized and supported Output 2.1.2: LDN actions are identified by the local land use planning and management committees for selected landscapes Output 2.1.3: LDN actions in production systems that contribute to social cohesion are implemented in selected landscapes Output 2.1.4: Awareness raising campaign on land tenure for women and IDPs			
Outcome 2.2: Increased engagement in the green economy in support of LDN	<i>Indicator 8: Number of direct beneficiaries (disaggregated by gender) with at least 25% income gains as a result of targeted value chain activities and/or financing and investing platforms</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>75 men 125 women</i>	<i>300 men 600 women</i>
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2.2.	Output 2.2.1. Support for development of key value chains with a focus on women and youth, and LDN Output 2.2.2. A sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN established and operationalized			

Project component 3	Knowledge management for upscaling			
Outcome 3.1: Increased awareness of LDN across stakeholder groups	<i>Indicator 9: Degree to which project beneficiaries report confidence in understanding of the LDN concept (data to be disaggregated at institutional level and community level, as well as gender disaggregated, in a representative sample of direct project beneficiaries)</i>	<i>In the baseline, knowledge of LDN are very limited at community level, and somewhat limited at institutional level</i>	<i>An increase of at least 1 on a 5-point Likert scale (1 = very unconfident, 2 = fairly unconfident, 3 = neutral, 4 = fairly confident, and 5 = very confident)</i>	<i>An increase of at least 2 on a 5-point Likert scale</i>
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3.1.	Output 3.1.1: A knowledge management and communications strategy developed and implemented			
Outcome 3.2: Environmental and Social Safeguards operational across the project's Components	<i>Indicator 10: Number of plans, assessments, mechanisms, and procedures developed or updated, including Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), gender action plan, Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP), Stakeholder Engagement Plan, and Grievance Redress Mechanism.</i>	<i>In the baseline, a PPG-stage ESMP, SESP, SEP, GRM, GAP, and FPIC are drafted (6)</i>	<i>By midterm at least 8 assessments (1 ESIA and 1 SESA) and plans (3 ESMPs, 1 IPP, 1 CSEP, 1 GAP) are drafted, revised, and under implementation</i>	<i>At least 8</i>
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3.2.	Output 3.2.1. Environmental and Social Safeguards Management is developed and operationalized			
Project component 4	Project M&E			
Outcome 4.1: Project impacts are monitored and learning is identified and shared for scaling up of results	<i>Indicator 11: Number of instances where new or ongoing projects reused or adapted previously captured lessons learnt to design or start a project, program, and/or initiative</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>
Outputs to achieve Outcome 4.1.	Output 4.1.1: A tailored M&E framework is developed			

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

GEF Secretariat Comment at PIF Stage	UNDP Response at PIF Stage	UNDP Actions Undertaken/Responses at PPG Phase
---	-----------------------------------	---

Is there potential for innovation, sustainability and scaling up in this project? April 16, 2022 - Yes about innovation with the development of a LDN framework. - Sustainability: to be developed (see also some comments above about sustainability). - Scaling up: yes, included in the LDN framework. - Please, see how you can move forward the potential for integration/multi-sector approaches.

Response to point #1: The issue of sustainability is very important and will be assessed and analyzed in depth in the PPG. The commitment from national and local institutions is certainly key for sustainability. The possibilities of engaging national and local budgets will be discussed, also during the PPG, but it is important to consider the national circumstances in Burkina Faso. In order to strengthen the pursuit of sustainability goals since design, UNDP intends to use participatory methods in the engagement of key stakeholders to consider a realist forecasting and backcasting of what the GEF intervention can effectively deliver, and thereafter leave as impact and legacy. The TOC will be liberally used in such exercises of stakeholder engagement during the PPG, exactly with this purpose. Some edits were made in Part II, Section 7 (Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up), in order to reflect the enhanced approach towards sustainability. As explained in the mentioned section, the strengthening of the National Coalition for Sustainable Land Management (CNGDT) foreseen under Output 1.3 will specifically cater for aspects of stakeholder engagement and sustainability.

Response to point #2: Integration across sectors and multi-sectoral approaches have more inherent challenges than single-sector approaches. However, with certain topics?and LDN is one of them?a cross-sectoral approach is needed. We are inspired by the STAP 2020 Guiding Note on ?Multi-stakeholder Dialogue [MSD] for transformational change?, these progressive steps will start with mere information exchanges, to then be gradually strengthened towards include collaborative management of landscapes involving all relevant sectors and stakeholders. With reference to 2020 STAP guidance, this would equate to moving at least three steps in the ?ladder of citizen participation? (refer the STAP publication?s box 1). All processes that involve multiple sectors and stakeholders are complex. The MSD offers the catalytic elements for a more successful process. The guidance will be followed. Additionally, the application of ?LDN frameworks?, as referred to in the Scientific Conceptual Framework for LDN (LDN-SCF) will also inspire the gradual processes foreseen in Outputs 1.3 and 1.2.

Specific sections dedicated to innovation, sustainability and scaling up in the project have been elaborated. The project presents several elements of **innovativeness**, through the combination of both the support to monitoring and coordination of LDN framework implementation; and the implementation of LDN activities that contribute to social cohesion and support green economy opportunities.

In terms of **sustainability**, the project will contribute to the mid and long-term establishment of an enabling environment for scaling up an inclusive, gender sensitive, and degradation neutral land use planning. Moreover, strengthening the capacities of key stakeholders at local, regional and national scales and provide them with knowledge and skills necessary for long-term implementation of LDN targets will support to capacity-building in the long-term. A sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses targeting LDN will also contribute to sustaining the results of the project over time.

The project presents several opportunities for **scaling up**. Designed to be implemented in the

		<p>Centre-nord region, the participatory approach identifying the most relevant actions for sustainable land management, as well as the support provided to local value chains, could be further replicated in other regions of the country, with the relevant adjustments. Other best practices could be drawn from this experience and implemented in other sites across the country.</p>
--	--	---

<p>Is the case made for private sector engagement consistent with the proposed approach? Yes at PIF level. To be reinforced during the PPG and at CEO endorsement. Please, confirm.</p>	<p>UNDP Response - 07 May 2022 UNDP confirms that the engagement of the private sector will be strengthened during the PPG. A key stakeholder for assisting with this purpose is Farmers' Confederation from Faso (CPF). Not only are they a member of the National Coalition for Sustainable Land Management (CNGDT), but they are also a national umbrella organization that brings together 14 other umbrella organizations of agricultural producers, which will be engaged in the project through the Coalition and through CPF.</p>	<p>The overall role of the private sector regarding land management in Burkina (mining sector) was further analyzed during the PPG Phase, as well as its contributions to sustainable land management. The project will engage the private sector through several activities, in particular under the Component 2, for both Outcomes 2.1 and 2.2. Under Outcome 2.1., as part of the identification of sustainable funding opportunities for the continuous management of landscapes towards LDN, social cohesion and green economy (Output 2.1.2.), a study on potential sources of sustainable funding for LDN will be conducted and involve the private sector. Under Outcome 2, the project will stimulate the engagement in the green economy through the development of key value chains (Output 2.2.1.), as well as establishing a sustainable financing and investment platform for businesses supporting LDN in the communes (Output 2.2.2). Operationalizing this platform will imply mapping and awareness raising of financial institutions about MSME financial needs, negotiation of partnerships based on facilitating women's access to financing; and strengthening the capacities of MSMEs by</p>
---	---	---

		providing business advisory services.
--	--	---------------------------------------

Does the project/program consider potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved or may be resulting from project/program implementation, and propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design? Yes However please consider the risks related to a possible weak commitment from the government and a too sectoral approach. It seems a recurrent difficulty in past projects (CPP): to promote intersectoral decisions and frameworks for integration and have domestic financial contributions for sustainability.

UNDP Response - 07 May 2022 The GEF Secretariat appears to suggest that weak commitment from the government and a narrow sectoral approach seems to be 'a recurrent difficulty in past projects?', and mentions the CPP 'a program approved for implementation in GEF-3 (around 2009/10) and whose last evaluation was concluded in 2018. The GEF Secretariat asks UNDP to consider that such patterns may occur again, and that this should be addressed as a risk. In the risk table (Table 8), there are three risks that directly relate to the possibility of weak commitment from the government and of challenges in the pursuit of an integrated approach to land use planning: risks #1, #4 and #5. Other risks in Table 8 relate to these possibilities indirectly (e.g. #2, #4 and #6). All project risks listed in Table 8 have been meticulously formulated in relation to the assumptions that were included in the TOC. They reflect the possibility of these assumptions not realizing 'assumptions that serve to underpin the project strategy and its scope, including the issues that it will address and those that the project cannot address but will consider as part of the 'system?'. Therefore, UNDP does not see the need to propose a new risk or to amend the formulation of existing risks. Yet, in response to the comment from the GEF Secretariat, the overall risk level has been revisited and the risk mitigation responses strengthened. Changes were made to Table 8 as follows: - Risks ratings for risk #1 and #5 were elevated to 'Moderate?'. - The risk rating for #6 was corrected to 'Moderate?', but remained the same, given that 'medium? (previous formulation) is not the correct terminology for ratings. - A more thorough set of mitigation measures were included for risks #1, #4 and #5; - Risk mitigation measures were slightly amended for risk #3 In connection with the reassessment of project risks at PIF stage, it is important to consider exogenous aspects linked to governance in Burkina Faso. During the CPP's design, implementation and evaluation timeline (2009/10 through to 2018), Burkina Faso went through a number of disruptive events that affected institutional stability, and still continue to affect it. In order to adequately consider in the proposed project the risk of weak commitment from the government and the risk of an excessively narrow sectoral approach it is important to effectively learn the lessons from past projects. At PIF stage, it is particularly important to mitigate it preemptively, and considering that, during the PPG, the ground can be laid for taking the necessary measures into consideration. The official repository for UNDP's evaluations is <https://erc.undp.org/>. Evaluation reports were consulted, especially those for the CPP project. UNDP has also reached out to IFAD, which implemented one out of four GEF-3 CPP projects, and queried about the lessons learned and from their CPP experience. Finally, UNDP has also considered a related and relevant evaluation

Section 5 of the CEO Endorsement is dedicated to risk analysis and mitigation, as well as the Annex 7 of the Prodoc (UNDP Risk Register). The risks related to the consequences of climate change are taken into account in the UNDP Risk Register, along with mitigation measures. Moreover, an ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment) will be developed within the first 6 months of the project, and a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) will also be developed. An ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan) for each commune will be developed by the first year of project implementation, including the Livelihood Action Plan.

The risk related to the weak commitment of the government and too sectoral approach is explicitly considered as part of the project design, with support for the cross sectoral CNGDT and its regional counterparts being at the center of Component 1. UNDP will also ensure that the project document is signed by the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Forecasting, in addition to the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Environment, to ensure high level and

exercise, namely the 2020 'Independent Country Program Evaluation, Burkina Faso', conducted by UNDP Independent Evaluation Office and covering the previous programming (2018-2019), which can be accessed in:

<https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/evaluations/detail/12267>. Indeed the CPP made important efforts to promote intersectoral decisions and frameworks for 'integration', in particular CPP National Coordination Project (GEF Project ID 3884). One of the lessons reads as follows (translated): "[S]takeholders have internalized the principles of GEF intervention in terms of SLM: the coordination unit of the CN-CPP Sub-program has internalized the principles of GEF intervention, by developing an intervention partnership with rural development technical services, development projects and programs, local authorities, NGOs, the private sector and civil society. It has implemented an integrated and holistic, participatory approach, based on a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach that applied both nationally (national platform, thematic studies) and in the regions (Centre-Ouest and Boucles du Mouhoun). This approach has made it possible to raise stakeholders' awareness on the complementarity of SLM actions. It has demonstrated its validity even if the issue of financing the platform remains a real challenge.' The '2020 Independent Country Program Evaluation (IPCE), Burkina Faso' considers assessment of development results and mentions 'significant disruption of administration and socio-economic activity, further limiting access to basic public services and weakening social cohesion' when referring to the evolving programming context in the country. As clear recommendations to the UNDP Country Office, the 2020 IPCE also mentions that:

- '[?] UNDP in Burkina Faso has made remarkable efforts to adapt its program and operational capacities to the deteriorating security context and to promote capacity building at national, regional and local levels"

- '[?] the country office will have to strengthen integration and synergies in the design and implementation of its interventions, supported by its newly established regional offices' and

- 'It will need to strengthen partnerships with key development players and continue to focus on targeting the most vulnerable segments of the population. Such a consolidated approach must be grounded in an intervention logic, and based on knowledge management systems, that will guide the development of the next program.' The 2020 IPCE concludes that 'results [?] remain fragile, and the sustainability of interventions, particularly those that target institutional

all-of-government endorsement of the project.

	<p>strengthening, is undermined by the limited scope and resources.? In this light, the risk of weak government commitment and the barriers to an integrated approach to land use planning and management will be taken into consideration. The STAP 2020 Guiding Note on ?Multi-stakeholder Dialogue [MSD] for transformational change? will inspire the stakeholder engagement process. At this stage commitment from the government is strong and manifested through the SP/CNDD and through the strong participation in the PIF development process, which has so far directly engaged 107 unique stakeholders (18-22% women). The PPG will give continuity to the intense engagement of stakeholders in design and decision-making about the project. Finally, the goals for the project in terms of sustainability are clear from the TOC, now slightly revised to explicitly include sustainability.</p>	
<p>Is the institutional arrangement for project/program coordination including management, monitoring and evaluation outlined? Is there a description of possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects/programs and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project/program area? May 10, 2022 Please, note that the comments made in the last box will be checked at CEO endorsement, upon the results of the PPG, not at PIF level. April 16, 2022 Yes To be confirmed at CEO endorsement.</p>	<p>UNDP Response ? 11 May 2022 This is noted ? thank you for the clarification. UNDP Response - 07 May 2022 Yes, the arrangement will be confirmed during the PPG.</p>	<p>The institutional arrangement for project coordination, including management, monitoring and evaluation has been elaborated during the PPG Phase. Please refer to section 6 Institutional Arrangements of the CEO Endorsement.</p>

<p>Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion</p> <p>- Dig into the Terminal Evaluations and lessons from past SLM and LDCF projects, starting by the CPP and the SILEM.</p> <p>- Develop the sustainability aspects (relative weakness from past projects).</p>	<p>Please note that ADDITIONAL COMMENTS from GEF side have been placed to the last section that doesn't have any box for entering UNDP responses hence we are entering them here within our last response. Response to points #1 & # 2) UNDP has explored Terminal Evaluations and lessons from past SLM and LDCF projects, starting by the CPP and the SILEM. UNDP has explored Terminal Evaluations and lessons from past SLM and LDCF projects, starting by the CPP and the SILEM. Through revisions in several sections of the PIF Develop the sustainability aspects, including those related weakness from past projects, have been considered. Refer to response to comment 11. Refer also to changes to Table 2 (Other related initiatives concurrent with the GEFTF project) and to Table 8 (Project Risks).</p>	<p>The sustainability section elaborated during the PPG phase (Section 1a.7 of the CEO Endorsement) built on the section developed at the PIF stage.</p>
<p>- Confirm cofinancing.</p>	<p>Response to point #3) Slight changes to PIF Part I, Table C, and to table notes on investment mobilized were made to correct the nature of the co-financing from government. As referred to the response herein to Comment 3, the nature of the co-financing from Sweden, Canada, and Germany had been made explicit in the PIF. For now, amounts are indicative and tied to ODA programs that are currently on-going and funded by the entities listed. There is information on this in Part I, Table C, as well as in Part II, Table 1 (Baseline projects contributing co-finance to the GEFTF/LDCF project). Refer to the mentioned response for additional information on co-financing.</p>	<p>Confinancing letters confirming the total amount of investment mobilized were secured during the PPG phase.</p>
<p>- Confirm realistic targets under the Core Indicators 3, 4, 6, and 11.</p>	<p>Response to point #4) Realistic targets under the Core Indicators 3, 4, 6, and 11 have now been presented. Refer to response to Comment 4 for more details.</p>	<p>Calculations for the targets are integrated in the CEO Endorsement Document, and based on a detailed analysis of current conditions in the areas of intervention.</p>
<p>- Develop the Implementation arrangements.</p>	<p>Response to point #5) Refer to response to Comment 11 for more details. The arrangement will be confirmed during the PPG.</p>	<p>The implementation arrangements have been elaborated during the PPG Phase. Please refer to section 6 Institutional Arrangements.</p>
<p>- Provide a full risk analysis with mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Response to point #6) Content in project's Risk table (Table 8) has been revisited and revised. Refer to Agency Response 10 for more details. A full risk analysis with more thorough mitigation measures is now included in the PIF.</p>	<p>Risk analysis and mitigation measures are described in Section 5 of the CEO Endorsement.</p>

<p>- Confirm the strategic mainstreaming of gender issues into the project and the LDN framework.</p>	<p>Response to point #6) Part II Section 3 of the PIF includes a sufficiently thorough gender analysis for the current stage of project deployment. UNDP confirms the strategic mainstreaming of gender issues into the project and into the LDN framework, although it must be mentioned that LDN frameworks, as defined by the Scientific Conceptual Framework for LDN (LDN-SCF), already includes the delivery of multiple benefits (including gender equality and women's empowerment). In complementing this response, UNDP stresses that the project is strongly focused on creating gender-sensitive frameworks for LDN, gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment what is reflected in the design of the project components. Output 1.1. includes gender sensitive approaches to land use planning and management of landscapes and their applications at national and sub-national levels ensuring proper women participation in the decision-making processes. Component 2 of the project will focus on the activities on the ground with an emphasis on women's inclusion. Output 2.1. will establish or strengthen land use planning and management committees on the ground and will ensure the participation of vulnerable groups, including women and youth. This will contribute to better and more inclusive land use planning decision making on the ground. Output 2.1. will also ensure that traditionally underrepresented groups are being heard and have a real influence over land use-related decisions on the ground. Output 2.3. will operationalize the main idea of Component 2, by implementing selected gender-sensitive LDN solutions on the ground, targeting at least 35% of female-headed beneficiary households. Additionally, all training activities foreseen under this project have ambitious but viable gender targets.</p>	<p>The strategic mainstreaming of gender issues has been elaborated across the four components of the project. Please also refer to section 3 of the CEO Endorsement developing the gender analysis and gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps and promote gender equality and women's empowerment.</p>
---	---	--

<p>- Confirm the role of the private sector.</p>	<p>Response to point #7: UNDP confirm that the private sector will have a role in this project and that this role is described in PIF Part II, Section 4. The engagement of private sector players will be mostly focused on land productive sectors (agriculture, forestry, livestock rearing), although intends to engage during the PPG with players from the extractive sectors (mining industry operating in the project zone). The latter will be primarily in the sense of discussing the approaches to land use planning in the implementation of LDN strategy ?avoid? land degradation across landscapes. As for the land productive sectors, their engagement has so far been with those from the agricultural business through the Farmers' Confederation from Faso (CPF). A representative from CPF was present in the PIF Validation workshop and participated actively. CPF is one of the five structures / entities that form part of the ?National Coalition for Sustainable Land Management (CNGDT). CPF is a national umbrella organization that brings together 14 other umbrella organizations of agricultural producers. More details can be found in the PIF Part II, Section 4.</p>	<p>The role of the private sector is described under Component 2, in Section 4 of the CEO Endorsement and in Question 2 of the Responses to the GEF Secretariat. Private sector was engaged during the consultations of the PPG Phase. It will be also involved in the project implementation, especially under Component 2. Additional private sector stakeholders were consulted during the PPG, including financial institutions.</p>
--	--	--

STAP Comment at PIF Stage	UNDP Actions Undertaken/Responses at PPG Phase
<p>When developing component 1, STAP suggests conducting a land potential assessment and stratification by land type. A land potential assessment is an important output needed for integrated land use planning, especially for the neutrality aspect ? balancing losses with gains within the same land type and potential. Assessing the potential of the land is also essential considering the extent of degradation in the CentreNord (14% of land is degraded as mentioned in the PIF), which might limit the potential of LDN.</p> <p>The project team might wish to rely on two resources on integrated land use planning for LDN: 1) UNCCD-SPI?s paper on The Contribution of Integrated Land Use Planning and Integrated Landscape Management to Implementing Land Degradation Neutrality: Entry Points and Support Tools ;and, 2) LUP4LDN, a tool that integrates LDN into land use planning.</p>	<p>This suggestion has been considered and a land potential assessment is proposed under Output 1.1.3.</p>

<p>Is there a clearly-articulated vision of how the innovation will be scaled-up, for example, over time, across geographies, among institutional actors? Partly. The PIF indicates plans to scale out (disseminate results to others, replicate), but not necessarily how the innovations might influence policies, regulations, or impact behavioral change (scale deep). UNDP's scaling toolkit might help the project team identify strategies on scaling.</p>	<p>The section Potential for Scaling Up of the CEO Endorsement document, and includes dimensions such as focusing on policy coherence; building institutional capacity for monitoring and coordinating LDN action; and awareness raising as a means to foster behavioural change (see ToC for more details on how the project proposes to contribute to Medium term outcomes such as behavioral change contributing to LDN).</p>
<p>A project map is included. Suggest refining map to depict project areas, land use type, and land degradation classification if possible.</p>	<p>Additional maps are provided, in the ProDoc as well as in technical reports.</p>
<p>Do gender considerations hinder full participation of an important stakeholder group (or groups)? If so, how will these obstacles be addressed? Please consider whether gender considerations hinder the full participation of an important stakeholder.</p>	<p>This dimension has been considered and a comprehensive gender action plan has been prepared, and may be revisited during implementation to ensure full participation of women in the project, as well as equitable benefits.</p>
<p>Suggest embedding the critical risks at outcome and output level in the theory of change so they are visible, and accessible to monitor and pursue the required adaptive management.</p>	<p>The ToC has critical assumptions embedded within it, which can be linked directly to the risk table provided.</p>

<p>Council Comment at PIF Stage</p>	<p>UNDP Actions Undertaken/Responses at PPG Phase</p>
--	--

Canada Comments

? This is a strong project proposal for an area in need of forest/land management in order to increase the country's resilience to climate change. The project also applies a gender sensitive approach which aims to recognize and assist the participation of women in land management. ? The project aims at strengthening social cohesion among different actors and land use groups at a landscape level. However, the proposal does not explicitly specify what measurable indicators will be used to monitor changes in different aspects of social cohesion (e.g. trust, reciprocity, sense of belonging, experience of being valued, needed by others, etc.) in the process of improving governance and sustainable land management. ? Currently, the proposal indicates ?Data on gender disaggregated count of project beneficiaries is collected annually, in addition to other relevant socio-economic data, including on social cohesion indicators, stakeholder engagement and community outreach will be reported under Component 2.? As promoting social cohesion is one of the key goals of the project (as shown in the title of the project), the proposal should elaborate what aspects of social cohesion that are most important in the selected landscapes, why they are important, and the measurable targets of the important social cohesion dimensions.

The results framework of the project now integrates an indicator to monitor changes in social cohesion.

Indicator 7 is: ?Number of direct beneficiaries that report **feeling more secure** about their access to and use of land resource because of inclusive and gender sensitive planning processes?.

During project implementation the results framework will be validated, and any changes or additions to the indicator for social cohesion will be considered.

Germany Comments

Germany approves the following PIF in the work program but asks that the following comments are taken into account: Germany welcomes this proposal which applies the Land Degradation Neutrality Concept practical approach while promoting social cohesion. At the same time, Germany has the following comments that it suggests to be addressed in the next phase of finalizing the project proposal. 14 Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal: ? Further elaborate on how social cohesion is addressed by the project and which concrete actions - beyond gender mainstreaming and the inclusion of vulnerable groups - contribute to ensuring social cohesion. ? Elaborate on how the project will contribute to the objectives of the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) ? Germany highlights the potential of exchange with ongoing projects of the German development cooperation present in Burkina Faso, such as the Global Projects ?Soil Protection and Rehabilitation of Degraded Soil for Food Security (ProSoil)? (2014.0156.1) and ?Responsible Land Policy? (2015.0124.6). Further, learnings from the concluded project ?Erosion control, soil fertility protection and recuperation of degraded surfaces, adaptation to climate change? (201297522) could be taken into account.

The ProDoc has detailed further the approach to enhancing social cohesion, including the replication of the ?peace farm? model which has been demonstrated to have significant positive benefits in this space in Burkina Faso.

The ProDoc also highlights linkage with other initiatives, and opportunities to coordinate with other projects, including GGWI, and other projects supported by Germany.

United States Comments

? Increased attacks from violent extremist organizations are causing large-scale internal displacement in Burkina Faso. Desertification and resource scarcity are contributing to the violence. However, we remain concerned about the implementation of this program which seeks to address those root causes. The PIF discusses the problems of violence and internal displacement, but it does not address implementation risks and mitigation measures.

The project preparation phase took into consideration these risks, and as part of Outcome 3.2 the approach to address such risks is made central to the project design.

Furthermore, during project implementation ESIA will be completed for the three communes prior to the start of activities, and will have a security plan in place. The project has budgeted for a security officer as well.

<p>Comment for all UNDP projects</p> <p>? In light of the recent audit report by the UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) of UNDP GEF Management, all projects included in the Work Program implemented by UNDP shall be circulated by email for Council review at least four weeks prior to CEO endorsement/approval. This shall take place as actions of the Management Action Plan that address the OAI recommendations are being implemented, and as the independent, risk-based third-party review of compliance by UNDP with the GEF Policy on Minimum Fiduciary Standards is being completed. Project reviews will take into consideration the relevant findings of the external audit and the UNDP management responses and note them in the endorsement review sheet that will be made available to the Council during the 4-week review period.</p>	<p>UNDP is aware of this additional time requirement and will ensure that there is sufficient time available for the additional council circulation period.</p>
---	---

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

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: 150,000			
Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
International consultancy for UNDP-GEF project Development	45,500.00	20,250.00	25,250.00
International Social and Environmental Safeguards Consultancy	17,500.00	17,500.00	0.00
Local consultancy on SLM and Participatory Land use Planning	30,000.00	17,788.62	12,211.38
Community Livelihoods and Local Development Consultancy	21,000.00	4,691.09	16,308.91
Gender and stakeholder engagement consultancy	17,500.00	6,907.88	10,592.12
Inception and validation workshops	5,000.00	66.82	4,933.18
Local and international travel	10,000.00	2,896.58	7,103.42
Supplies and miscellaneous expenses including project document translation	2,000.00	1,799.72	200.28

HACT assessment of RP	1,500.00	0.0	1,500.00
Total	150,000.00	71,900.71	78,099.29

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

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

Figure 6: Location of the Centre-Nord region within Burkina Faso

- Geocoordinates of the 3 communes of project intervention:
- - Boussouma: 13°13'N 1°32'W
- - Korsimoro: 12°49'30"N 01°04'02"W
- - Ziga: 12.6175°N 0.823056°W

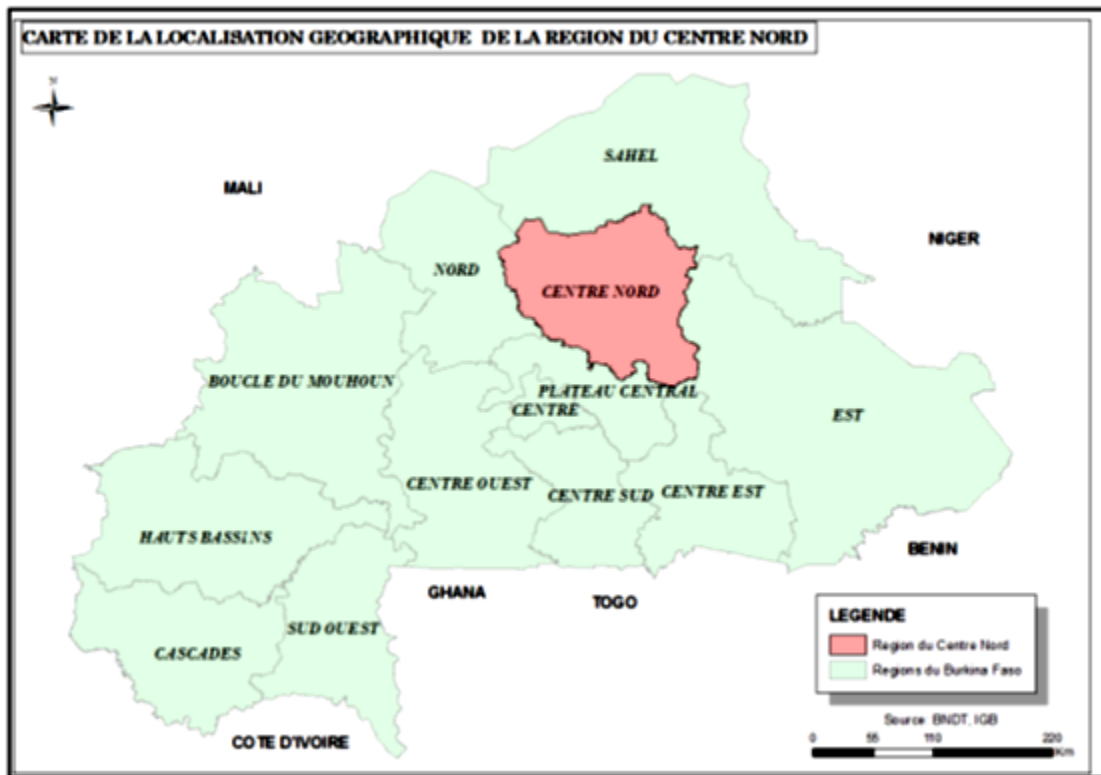
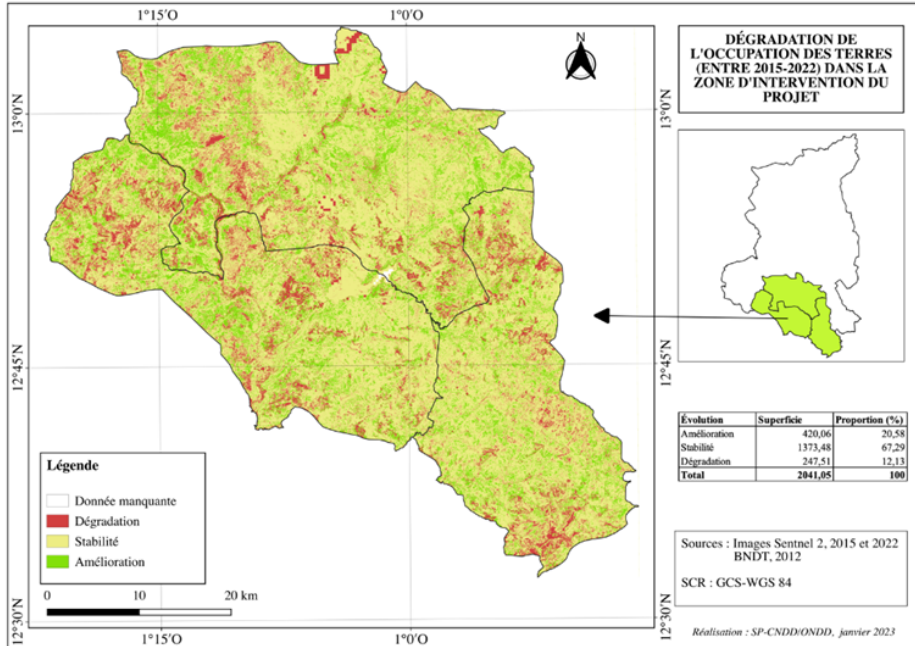


Figure 7: Level of land degradation in the 3 communes of project intervention (SP/CNDD, 2023)



GEO LOCATION INFORMATION

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap](#) or [GeoNames](#) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](#)

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location & Activity Description
Boussouma	13°13'N	1°32'W		<input type="checkbox"/>
Korsimoro	12°49'30"N	01°04'02"W		<input type="checkbox"/>
Ziga	12.6175°N	0.823056°W		<input type="checkbox"/>

ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Responsible Entity
		Component 1	Component 2	Component 3	M&E	Sub-Total	PMC	Total (USDeq.)	(Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency) [1]
Equipment	Materials and equipment for peace farms (e.g. materials to set up nurseries; fencing materials; small-scale irrigation equipment; etc.) USD150,000 Materials and equipment for SLM implementation (e.g. improved seeds; organic fertilizers; shovels; wheelbarrows; etc.); USD150,000 Energy efficient equipment for MSMEs; USD75,000 TOTAL: USD375,000		375,000			375,000		375,000	IUCN
Equipment	Inputs for SLM activities; USD60,000 Inputs for peace farms activities; USD60,000 TOTAL: USD120,000		120,000			120,000		120,000	IUCN

Equipment	Computers and phones for PMU staff; x4 computers @USD1,000 each and phones @USD364 each; plus USD1,217 for other miscellaneous IT equipment per PMU staffTOTAL; USD6,673					-	6,673	6,673	SP/CND D
Equipment	Equipment and materials for LDN monitoring digitization; TOTAL: USD50,000	50,000				50,000		50,000	SP/CND D
Contractual services-individual	Gender and Safeguards Specialist (PMU) @USD2000/month for 35 months; TOTAL: USD70,000			70,000		70,000		70,000	IUCN
Contractual services-Individual	M&E Officer (PMU) - 30% from GEF TF; TOTAL: USD41,400				41,400	41,400		41,400	SP/CND D
Contractual services-Individual	Senior Advisor on LDN Monitoring and Governance (also Project Manager) for 28% of time on Component 1 of project for support to operationalization of LDN monitoring frameworks and coordination support on LDNTOTAL: USD50,000	50,000				50,000		50,000	SP/CND D

Contractual services-Individual	<p>Administrative and financial assistant (IUCN) (Regional and Country level) Officer IUCN (part time=20%) (SP) Notes: 4.5 days/Months of work during the project period Ensure compliance of the financial, accounting and administrative management of components 2 and 3 of the project according to the procedures of IUCN and the funding partner; @USD58,224Project Liaison Officer IUCN (part time=25%) (P2) Notes: 2.2 days/Month of work during the project period; Ensure the technical and administrative implementation of the project @USD62,911TOTAL: USD121,135</p>						-	121,135	121,135	IUCN
---------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	---------	---------	------

Contractual services-Individual	<p>Head of Programme for backstopping (part time = 16%) (SP) Provide technical expertise on the implementation of the project component 2; USD46,579Project Liaison Officer IUCN (part time=20%) (P2) Enhance the achievements of the project component 2; USD50,329Security (IUCN existing staff; PMC) (part time=20%) (P2) Oversee security management and mitigation functions that support the effective implementation of project activities in complex locations. Specifically (i) serve as the primary advisor to the project on physical security issues for the IUCN field team, (2) prevent and anticipate risks and threats that may affect project implementation as it is implemented in a fragile security situation; USD50,329Field Officer LDN activities implementation (IUCN) - part time 50%; USD72,000Field Officer Green Economy</p>		291,237		291,237		291,237	IUCN
---------------------------------	---	--	---------	--	---------	--	---------	------

	activities implementation (IUCN) - part time 50%; USD72,000TOTAL: USD291,237								
Contractual services-Individual	<p>Head of Programme for backstopping (part time = 4%) (SP) Provide technical expertise on the implementation of component 3 of the project; USD11,645</p> <p>Project Liason Officer IUCN (part time=5%) (P2) to valorize the achievements of the component 3 of the project; USD12,582</p> <p>Security (IUCN existing staff; PMC) (part time=5%) (P2) Oversee security management and mitigation functions that support the effective implementation of project activities in complex locations. Specifically, (i) serve as the primary advisor to the project on physical security issues for the IUCN field team, (2) prevent and anticipate risks and threats that may affect project implementation as it is implemented in a fragile security situation. USD12,582TOTAL: USD36,809</p>			36,809		36,809		36,809	IUCN

Contractual services-Company	<p>Contract for recruiting a firm to provide trainings of data processing and analysis for monitoring LDN objectives ; USD36,500</p> <p>Contract for recruiting a firm to update and disaggregate national and regional baselines for LDN at commune level ; USD84,000</p> <p>Contract for recruiting a firm to Support the National Coalition for Sustainable Land Management (CNGDT) to coordinate the implementation of the LDN framework at national level, including support for 12 CNGDT meetings; USD105,000</p> <p>Contract for recruiting a firm to revise sectoral laws, policies and planning processes to create the enabling environment for an inclusive, gender sensitive and degradation neutral land planning, including 6 workshops for policy coherence review and 12 workshops on dissemination of policy reviews; USD104,000</p> <p>Contract for recruiting</p>	450,500				450,500	450,500	SP/CND D
------------------------------	--	---------	--	--	--	---------	---------	-------------

	a firm to operationalize Burkina Faso's LDN monitoring and evaluation manual to track progress against LDN targets ; USD79,000Contract for recruiting a firm to provide technical/methodological support for the digitization of the monitoring of progress against three LDN indicators; USD42,000TOTAL: USD450,500								
Contractual services-Company	Lump sum service contract for development and maintenance of project website TOTAL: USD50,000			50,000		50,000		50,000	IUCN
Contractual services-Company	Mid-Term Review; USD50,000Terminal evaluation; USD70,000TOTAL: USD120,000				120,000	120,000		120,000	SP/CND D

Contractual services-Company	<p>MoU with local NGO for the ongoing support to local land management committees revitalization for 5 years @USD15,000/year;</p> <p>USD75,000MoU with local NGO for the development and implementation of a training and awareness raising program on LDN, social cohesion, and conflict management, and raise awareness of linkages between SLM and livelihoods for 5 years @USD15,000/year;</p> <p>USD75,000MoU with local NGO for the development of training of trainers, implementation of trainings programme, and overseeing provision of materials/inputs for SLM techniques/technologies for 5 years @USD40,000/year;</p> <p>USD200,000MoU with local NGO for the participatory development of two peace farms;</p> <p>USD220,783MoU with local NGO for piloting support to women and IDPs towards</p>		1,359,716		1,359,716		1,359,716	IUCN
------------------------------	--	--	-----------	--	-----------	--	-----------	------

<p>securing land; USD75,000MoU with local NGO for the participatory updating of PRDs and PCDs; USD100,000MoU with local NGO for the participatory prioritization and budgeting of LDN activities; USD60,000Lump sum contract to company for ongoing market development studies for multiple MSMEs; USD40,000Lump sum contract to company for training on maintenance and upkeep of energy efficient equipment for MSMEs; USD30,000Lump sum contract to company for incubation services for MSMEs; USD288,933MoU with NGO to develop and operationalize AVECs; USD45,000MoU with local NGO to provide training programme for development of key value chains; USD150,000TOT AL: USD 1,359,716</p>							
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

International Consultants	International Safeguards expert (carry out ESIA and SESA, develop ESMPs and other plans)TOTAL: USD60,000			60,000		60,000		60,000	IUCN
Local Consultants	National consultant KM and communications specialist 33 days @USD250/day; TOTAL: USD8,250			8,250		8,250		8,250	IUCN
Local Consultants	National local land management governance specialist for 30 days @300/day ; USD9,000National SLM training specialist for 60 days @300/day; USD18,000National consultant on land security and access rights for 45 days @USD300/day; USD13,500National consultant value chains for 45 days @USD300/day; USD13,500National consultant on small scale financing for MSMEs for 45 days @USD300/day + 90 days to foster partnerships with financial institutions; USD40,500TOTAL: USD94,500		94,500			94,500		94,500	IUCN

Training, Workshops, Meetings	3 community workshops on local land governance; USD6,000 10 regional workshops for extension services; USD20,000 6 community workshops on land and access rights; USD12,000 6 community workshops on access to small scale finance; USD12,000 6 community event to foster partnerships with financial partners; USD12,000 TOTAL: USD62,000		62,000			62,000		62,000	IUCN
Training, Workshops, Meetings	4 exchange visits in Burkina Faso; USD20,000 2 regional dialogues events; USD10,000 2 national learning events; USD10,000 EIA public consultations; USD5,000 TOTAL: USD45,000			45,000		45,000		45,000	IUCN
Training, Workshops, Meetings	Inception workshop; TOTAL: USD1,748				1,748	1,748		1,748	SP/CND D
Training, Workshops, Meetings	PSC Meetings (one per year @USD1500/meeting); TOTAL: USD9,000					-	9,000	9,000	SP/CND D
Travel	PMU monitoring missions to project sites @USD2000/year; TOTAL: USD12,000				12,000	12,000		12,000	SP/CND D

Travel	Travel for National local land management governance specialist \$1000/trip for two trips travel costs; USD2,000Travel for National SLM training specialist for 10x\$1000 ; USD10,000Travel for National consultant on land security and access rights for 3 communes (2x each); USD6,000Travel for National consultant value chains; USD1,000Travel for National consultant on small scale financing for MSMEs to communes and region; USD4,000TOTAL: USD23,000		23,000			23,000		23,000	IUCN
Travel	Travel to communes for ESMP and ESIA monitoring; TOTAL: USD15,000			15,000		15,000		15,000	IUCN
Other Operating Costs	Audit @USD5,000 per year, TOTAL: USD30,000					-	30,000	30,000	SP/CND D
Total		550,500	2,325,453	285,059	175,148	3,336,160	166,808	3,502,968	

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

Instructions. Please submit an finalized termsheet in this section. The NGI Program Call for Proposals provided a template in Annex A of the Call for Proposals that can be used by the Agency. Agencies can use their own termsheets but must add sections on Currency Risk, Co-financing Ratio and Financial Additionality as defined in the template provided in Annex A of the Call for proposals. Termsheets submitted at CEO endorsement stage should include final terms and conditions of the financing.

ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agency is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

ANNEX H: (For NGI only) Agency Capacity to generate reflows

Instructions. The GEF Agency submitting the CEO endorsement request is required to respond to any questions raised as part of the PIF review process that required clarifications on the Agency Capacity to manage reflows. This Annex seeks to demonstrate Agencies' capacity and eligibility to administer NGI resources as established in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy, GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01, June 9, 2017 (Annex 5).