



CEO Approval (CEO) entry ? Medium Sized Project ? GEF - 7

Strengthening engagement and action by the Least Developed Countries Group on climate change

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10994

Project Type

MSP

Type of Trust Fund

LDCF

CBIT/NGI

CBIT **No**

NGI **No**

Project Title

Strengthening engagement and action by the Least Developed Countries Group on climate change

Countries

Global

Agency(ies)

UNIDO

Other Executing Partner(s)

UNIDO, IIED and Climate Analytics

Executing Partner Type

GEF Agency

GEF Focal Area

Climate Change

Taxonomy

Type of Engagement, Stakeholders, Food Security in Sub-Sahara Africa, Integrated Programs, Commodity Supply Chains, Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Communications, Strategic Communications, Awareness Raising, Public Campaigns, Information Dissemination, Consultation, Participation, Partnership, Beneficiaries, Gender Equality, Adaptive Management, Resilience to climate and shocks, Gender Dimensions, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Enabling Activities, Knowledge Exchange, Peer-to-Peer, South-South, North-South, Conference, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation, Training, Workshop, Learning, Adaptive management, Indicators to measure change, Theory of change, Focal Areas, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Least Developed Countries, Mainstreaming adaptation, National Adaptation Plan, Private sector, National Adaptation Programme of Action, Small Island Developing States, Climate information, Adaptation Tech Transfer, Climate resilience, Climate finance, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Paris Agreement

Sector

Mixed & Others

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Climate Change Mitigation 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 2

Submission Date

4/13/2022

Expected Implementation Start

7/1/2022

Expected Completion Date

6/30/2025

Duration

36In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
CCA-3	Foster enabling conditions for effective and integrated climate change adaptation	LDC F	1,826,484.00	1,140,540.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			1,826,484.00	1,140,540.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

The project will strengthen the institutional structures of the LDC Group on climate change to enable them to enhance their participation and advocacy for LDC positions in UNFCCC processes and decision-making on climate change adaptation and mitigation, as well as to access climate finance.

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
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Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component I: Strengthened institutional arrangement, governance and coordination of the LDC Group on Climate Change	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome</p> <p>1.1 LDC Group on Climate Change effectively and sustainably operated</p> <p>Outcome</p> <p>1.2 Enhanced internal coordination and institutional memory</p>	<p>Output</p> <p>1.1.1 Strategic Plan of the Group including adaptive capacity approach under implementation</p> <p>Output 1.1.2 Permanent Secretariat operational and quality services to the LDC Group delivered</p> <p>Output 1.2.1 Internal Institutional memory and coordination enhanced</p> <p>Output</p> <p>1.2.2 LDC initiatives better coordinated and facilitated covering adaptive capacity needs</p>	LDC F	613,248.00	130,540.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Enhanced capacity and knowledge of the LDC Group and designated focal points to effectively participate in UNFCCC process and the implementation of the Paris Agreement	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome</p> <p>2.1 Strengthened climate knowledge and capacity on climate change matters</p>	<p>Output 2.1.1 Climate change knowledge and awareness about adaptive capacity enhanced</p> <p>Output 2.1.2 Capacity for climate action and ambition and adaptive capacity strengthened</p>	LDC F	603,579.00	650,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3: Strengthened climate outreach and networks for climate actions	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 3.1 Visibility and outreach improved</p> <p>Outcome 3.2 Group network and partnership relations enhanced</p>	<p>Output 3.1.1 Communication strategy featuring the Group's adaptive actions under implementation</p> <p>Output 3.1.2 Outreach and public relations enhanced putting an emphasis on actions taken for strengthened adaptive capacity in the LDCs</p> <p>Output 3.2.1 Stakeholder engagement strategy featuring the Group's partnership needs in terms of adaptive capacity actions under implementation</p>	LDC F	350,365.00	220,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 4: Support to the Group monitored and evaluated	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 4.1 Monitoring and Reporting</p> <p>Outcome 4.2 Terminal evaluation</p>	<p>Output 4.1.1: Adequate monitoring and reporting mechanisms are in place, facilitating successful project implementation and sound impact reporting</p> <p>Output 4.2.1 Independent Terminal Evaluation conducted (<i>incl. gender and intergenerational disaggregated data</i>)</p>	LDCF	98,392.00	
				Sub Total (\$)	1,665,584.00	1,000,540.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
		LDCF	160,900.00		140,000.00	
Sub Total(\$)			160,900.00		140,000.00	

Project Management Cost (PMC)

Total Project Cost(\$)	1,826,484.00	1,140,540.00
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Please provide justification

2. The Group is committed to provide an in-kind support in the amount of USD 1,000,000 indicatively broken down as follow: 3. US \$ 948,540 ? Human resources cost covering the support provided by the LDC Chair support team in Senegal directly contributing to the project activities; the time spent by the LDC Elders, Coordinators and co-coordinators of the LDC Group on climate change on support the climate dialogues process and advising the Chair; 4. US \$ 82,000 ? Office related to the use of office space and equipment (conference halls, meeting rooms, and other facilities) from the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Government of Senegal, for the Project purposes. 5. UNIDO?s in-kind and cash co-financing refers to scientific research, knowledge, and training materials from which the project will benefit (e.g. UNIDO Operational Strategy and Implementation Plan for the LDCs 2022-2031, UNIDO Ministerial Conferences of the LDC, and other relevant strategy and projects with similar focus) throughout the project duration. Besides, as an executing entity, UNIDO will provide substantive support for the management, the monitoring of the project, providing facilities and access to UNIDO network of partners and experts.

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	UNIDO	Grant	Investment mobilized	40,000.00
GEF Agency	UNIDO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	100,000.00
Beneficiaries	LDC Group on Climate Change	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,540.00
Total Co-Financing(\$)				1,140,540.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Not Applicable

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(\$)
UNIDO	LDC F	Global	Climate Change	NA	1,826,484	173,516	2,000,000.00
Total Grant Resources(\$)					1,826,484.00	173,516.00	2,000,000.00

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 **false**

PPG Amount (\$)

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

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

Meta Information - LDCF

LDCF true

SCCF-B (Window B) on technology transfer false

SCCF-A (Window-A) on climate Change adaptation false

Is this project LDCF SCCF challenge program?

false

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

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

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

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

This Project has an urban focus. false

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

Agriculture	0.00%
Natural resources management	0.00%
Climate information Services	0.00%
Costal zone management	0.00%
Water resources Management	0.00%
Disaster risk Management	0.00%
Other infrastructure	0.00%
Health	0.00%
Other (Please specify:)	100.00%
Total	100%

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

Sea level rise true

Change in mean temperature true

Increased Climatic Variability true

Natural hazards true

Land degradation true

Costal and/or Coral reef degradation true

GroundWater quality/quantity true

[To calculate the core indicators, please refer to Results Guidance](#)

Core Indicators - LDCF

CORE INDICATOR 1	Total	Male	Female	% for Women
Total number of direct beneficiaries	0	0	0	0%

CORE INDICATOR 2	
Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)	0.00

CORE INDICATOR 3	
Total no. of policies/plans that will mainstream climate resilience	4

CORE INDICATOR 4		Male	Female	% for Women
Total number of people trained	2,116	1,058	1,058	50.00%

OUTPUT 1.1.1

Physical and natural assets made more resilient to climate variability and change

	Male	Female
Total number of direct beneficiaries from more resilient physical assets	0	

Ha of agriculture land	Ha of urban landscape	Ha of rural landscape	No. of residential houses
No. of public buildings	No. of irrigation or water structures	No. of fishery or aquaculture ponds	No. of ports or landing sites
Km of road	Km of riverbank	Km of coast	Km of storm water drainage
Other	Other(unit)	Comments	

OUTPUT 1.1.2

Livelihoods and sources of income of vulnerable populations diversified and strengthened

	Male	Female
Total number of direct beneficiaries with diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income	0	
Livelihoods and sources of incomes strengthened / introduced		

Agriculture	Agro-Processing	Pastoralism/diary	Enhanced access to markets
false	false	false	false
Fisheries /aquaculture	Tourism /ecotourism	Cottage industry	Reduced supply chain
false	false	false	false
Beekeeping	Enhanced opportunity to employment	Other	Comments
false	false	false	

OUTPUT 1.1.3

New/improved climate information systems deployed to reduce vulnerability to climatic hazards/variability

		Male	Female
Total number of direct beneficiaries from the new/improved climatic information systems	0		
Climate hazards addressed			
Flood	Storm	Heatwave	Drought
false	false	false	false

Other
false Comments

Climate information system developed/strengthened

Downscaled Climate model	Weather/Hydromet station	Early warning system	Other
false	false	false	false

Comments

Climate related information collected

Temperature	Rainfall	Crop pest or disease	Human disease vectors
false	false	false	false

Other
false Comments

Mode of climate information dissemination

Mobile phone apps	Community radio	Extension services	Televisions
false	false	false	false

Leaflets	Other	Comments
false	false	

OUTPUT 1.1.4

Vulnerable natural ecosystems strengthened in response to climate change impacts

Types of natural ecosystem

Desert false	Coastal false	Mountainous false	Grassland false
Forest false	Inland water false	Other false	Comments

OUTPUT 1.2.1

Incubators and accelerators introduced

	Male	Female
Total no. of entrepreneurs supported	0	
	Comments	
No. of incubators and accelerators supported		
	Comments	
No. of adaptation technologies supported		

OUTPUT 1.2.2

Financial instruments or models to enhance climate resilienced developed

Financial instruments or models

PPP models false	Cooperatives false	Microfinance false	Risk insurance false
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Equity false	Loan false	Other false	Comments
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OUTPUT 2.1.1

Cross-sectoral policies and plans incorporate adaptation considerations

Will mainstream climate resilience 0	Of which no. of regional policies/plans	Of which no. of national policies/plan
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Sectors

Agriculture false	Fishery false	Industry false	Urban false
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Rural false	Health false	Water false	Other false
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Comments

OUTPUT 2.1.2

Cross sectoral institutional partnerships established or expanded

No. of institutional partnerships established or strengthened

Comments

OUTPUT 2.1.3

Systems and frameworks established for continuous monitoring, reporting and review of adaptation

No. of systems and frameworks

Comments

OUTPUT 2.1.4

Systems and frameworks established for continuous monitoring, reporting and review of adaptation

No. of systems and
frameworks

Comments

OUTPUT 2.2.1

**No. of institutions with increased ability
to access and/or manage climate
finance**

No. of institution(s)

Comments

OUTPUT 2.2.2

**Institutional coordination mechanism
created or strengthened to access
and/or manage climate finance**

No. of mechanism(s)

Comments

OUTPUT 2.2.3

Global/regional/national initiatives demonstrated and tested early concepts with high adaptation potential

No. of initiatives or technologies

Comments

OUTPUT 2.2.4

Public investment mobilized

Amount of investment (US\$)

Comments

OUTPUT 2.2.5

Private investment mobilized

Amount of investment
(US\$)

Comments

OUTPUT 2.3.1

No. of people trained regarding climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation responses

Total no. of people trained	0	Male	Female
		0	0
Of which total no. of people at line ministries	0	Male	Female

Of which total no. of community/association	0	Male	Female
Of which total no. of extension service officers	0	Male	Female
Of which total no. of hydromet and disaster risk management agency staff	0	Male	Female
Of which total no. of small private business owners	0	Male	Female
Of which total no. school children, university students or teachers	0	Male	Female
Other	Comments		

OUTPUT 2.3.2

No. of people made aware of climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation responses

No. of people with raised awareness	0	Male	Female
Please describe how their awareness was raised			

OUTPUT 3.1.1

National climate policies and plans enabled including NAP processes by stronger climate information decision-support services

No. of national climate policies and plans **4**

Comments

The Project planned to support the LDC Group to develop a 2030 strategic plan on climate change (gender sensitive), to have more coherent and harmonised climate position. 120. Besides, it will support the Group to develop three (3) projects documents to effectively implement the LDC initiatives, mainstreaming as well climate resilience and adaptation.

OUTPUT 3.1.2

Systems and frameworks established for continuous monitoring, reporting and review of adaptation

No. of systems and frameworks 1

Comments

In collaboration with the UNFCCC focal points and climate experts from the LDC regions, the Project will establish an adequate reporting and knowledge sharing plan/mechanism.

OUTPUT 3.1.3

Vulnerability assessments conducted

No. of assessments conducted 0

Comments

OUTPUT 3.2.1

No. of institutions with increased ability to access and/or manage climate finance

No. of institution(s) **160**

Comments

Under activities 1.2.2d, 2.1.1b, 2.1.2a and 2.1.2b, the project will raise awareness and train stakeholders from at least 160 institutions from: the LDC Group on climate change (considered 1 institution); LDC Ministers body (46 ministries from each LDC); the LDC UNFCCC National Focal Points (46 institutions from each LDC), additional climate delegates/experts of each country (46 institutions), LIFE-AR initiative (6 institutions - 1 institution per project country -6 in total), LUCCC initiative (15 partner universities)

OUTPUT 3.2.2

Institutional coordination mechanism(s) created or strengthened to access and/or manage climate finance

No. of mechanism(s) 1

Comments

Knowledge system and coordination mechanism

OUTPUT 3.2.3

Global/regional/national initiative(s) demonstrated and tested early concepts with high adaptation potential

No. of initiative(s) or technology(ies) 2

Comments

The project will support the further development of two LDC Initiatives: LIFE-AR, LUCCC.

OUTPUT 3.3.1

No. of people trained regarding climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation responses

Total no. of people trained	2,116	Male 1,058	Female 1,058
Of which total no. of people at line ministries	263	Male 132	Female 131
Of which total no. of community/association	1,219	Male 609	Female 610
Of which total no. of extension service officers	19	Male 10	Female 9
Of which total no. of hydromet and disaster risk management agency staff	115	Male 57	Female 58
Of which total no. of small private business owners	150	Male 75	Female 75

		Male	Female
Of which total no. school children, university students or teachers	350	175	175

Other Comments

OUTPUT 3.3.2

No. of people made aware of climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation responses

		Male	Female
No. of people with raised awareness	7,147	3,573	3,574

Please describe how their awareness was raised

The 7147 (50% women) estimated number of beneficiaries will be made aware of the climate change impacts and appropriate adaptation responses through the training and knowledge activities offered, the communications, advocacy and networking work foreseen. From these 7,147 beneficiaries, at least 6.000 climate experts (at least 50% women envisaged) among 46 LDCs should benefit from quality climate advocacy, intelligence and outreach of the LDG Group on Climate Change.

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

Project brief Description

1. Least developed countries (LDCs) are the least responsible for global GHG emissions but the most impacted by its negative effects on economies and societies. Located in parts of the world that are severely affected by rising temperature and precipitation changes, most of the LDCs disproportionately experience the negative effects of global warming. Having the poor adaptive capacity, they are least able to avoid extreme climate hazards such as droughts and devastating floods. Adaptive capacity is defined as the ability of systems, institutions, humans, and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or to respond to consequences (IPCC, 2014). Adaptive capacity relates to both the resources ? including natural, financial, institutional, or human ? available in a given system for adaptation and the ability of that system to effectively deploy those resources to advance adaptation. If stronger actions and more resources are not allocated to adjust to climate change's potential damages or respond to its consequences, high climate scenarios predict that it will have a significant impact on global poverty, pulling about 88,7 million people into poverty in the LDC regions: Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), South Asia (SA), East Asia and Pacific (EAP), and Latin America & Caribbean (LAC) - (World Bank, Policy Research Working Paper 9417, Revised Estimates of the Impact of Climate Change on Extreme Poverty by 2030, 2020).

2. As of 2021, the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group comprises forty-six (46) countries representing over one billion people across Africa, Asia-Pacific and the Caribbean. These countries contribute the least to climate change, yet disproportionately suffer from its ever-increasing impacts.

3. The LDC Group in the multilateral process under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is coordinated by its rotating chairmanship among LDCs from Anglophone Africa, Francophone and Lusophone, and Asia-Pacific and Caribbean regions.

4. The LDC Group on climate change (Hereinafter referred as the Group) works to secure fair and ambitious actions to tackle the global challenge of climate change under the UNFCCC.

5. Since its formation in 2001, the Group is organised with the support of thematic teams responsible for respective UNFCCC negotiation items. The LDC Elders provide strategic advice and guidance, and a team of experienced advisers from partner organisations supports the Group.

6. However, this arrangement remains at an informal level, which is creating challenges in providing consistency and progressive leadership from the LDC Climate Change Chair (hereinafter referred to as the Chair). There is need for formalised institutional arrangements, improved internal and external

coordination and communication, systematised knowledge-sharing and -retaining mechanisms; increased technical capacities to deliver concrete domestic climate actions.

7. Therefore, the creation of an effective institutional mechanism and a sustainable financial and human resource base would enable the LDG Group to improve internal and external coordination and communication, knowledge management, capacity building and retention, and to provide coordinated support towards the implementation of climate actions on the ground. This gap is recognised by the [Thimphu LDC Ministerial Communiqué on Climate Change 2019](#), which recommended that: *“The LDC Group further institutionalizes its internal coordination through establishing a permanent secretariat to enhance engagement in UNFCCC processes (?)”*. This will result into the enhancement of adaptive capacities of LDCs and the reduction of their vulnerability to climate change as foreseen by the article 7 of the Paris Agreement.

8. The Group, in its Charter published in August 2020, responding to this recommendation, established the LDC Permanent Secretariat. In its 2021 Report, the Group recalled that the LDC *“need effective multilateral mechanisms to ensure that their voices are heard, and that they can participate in decisions taken on matters of climate change”*. A large gap between advocacy, commitments and actual investments to support the Group in its transition to climate-resilient economies remains.

9. Taking into account these recommendations and the decision of the Group Charter, the current project aims to strengthen the Group’s internal institutional proceedings for effective engagement in the UNFCCC process by supporting the institutionalisation of the Group and the operationalisation of the established LDC Permanent Secretariat (the Secretariat hereinafter) taking into consideration the climate change specificity and interests of the LDC Parties. The project will explore options to secure an appropriate legal status to institutionalise the work of the Group and to mobilise required financial and human resources to sustain operations beyond project close.

10. As per paragraph 34 of the Group charter, the permanent Secretariat’s purpose is to *“provide day to day management and organization of work of the LDC Chair to serve the LDC Group”*. Thus, the Secretariat will provide administrative and logistical assistance to the Chair and the Group, including preparation of meetings, engagement of the LDC CC chair and LDC Group on Climate Change constituted bodies (Elders, thematic coordinators and co-coordinators, etc.).

11. The Secretariat will carry out its tasks primarily under the instruction of the Chair. It will coordinate and facilitate the work of the Group, by establishing and systematising regular meetings, monitoring and reporting of climate-related decisions and actions, in line with the priorities and interests of the Group. This work is expected to have a positive impact in enhancing the institutional capacity of the Group for effective climate actions for a climate resilient future as envisioned by the LDC Group in its 2050 Vision. Further, the Secretariat will facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the LDC Initiatives, as well as collaborate the work of the LDC Group with other existing climate-related bodies and other thematic groups.

1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

12. According to the IPCC: *Regions and people with considerable development constraints have high vulnerability to climatic hazards (high confidence). Global hotspots of high human vulnerability are found particularly in West-, Central- and East Africa, South Asia, Central and South America, Small Island Developing States and the Arctic (high confidence). Vulnerability is higher in locations with poverty, governance challenges and limited access to basic services and resources, violent conflict and high levels of climate-sensitive livelihoods (e.g., smallholder farmers, pastoralists, fishing communities) (high confidence). Between 2010-2020, human mortality from floods, droughts and storms was 15 times higher in highly vulnerable regions, compared to regions with very low vulnerability (high confidence). Vulnerability at different spatial levels is exacerbated by inequity and marginalization linked to gender, ethnicity, low income or combinations thereof (high confidence), especially for many Indigenous Peoples and local communities (high confidence).* (IPCC AR6, WG2 SPM B.2.4, 2022)

13. LDCs are the least responsible for global GHG emissions but the most impacted by its negative effects. Located in parts of the world that are severely affected by rising temperature and precipitation changes, most of the LDCs disproportionately experience the negative effects of global warming. This is particularly true for LDCs which are small island developing states (SIDS) at the same time (e.g. Sao Tome and Principe). Having poor adaptive capacity, LDCs are least able to avoid extreme climate hazards such as droughts and devastating floods. Adaptive capacity is defined as the ability of systems, institutions, humans, and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or to respond to consequences (IPCC, 2014). Adaptive capacity relates to both the resources including natural, financial, institutional, or human available in a given system for adaptation and the ability of that system to effectively deploy those resources to advance adaptation. If stronger actions and more resources are not allocated to adjust to climate change potential damages or respond to its consequences, high climate scenarios predict that it will have a significant impact on global poverty, pulling about 88,7 million people into poverty in the LDC regions: Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), South Asia (SA), East Asia and Pacific (EAP), and Latin America & Caribbean (LAC) - (World Bank, Policy Research Working Paper 9417, Revised Estimates of the Impact of Climate Change on Extreme Poverty by 2030, 2020).

12.

13.

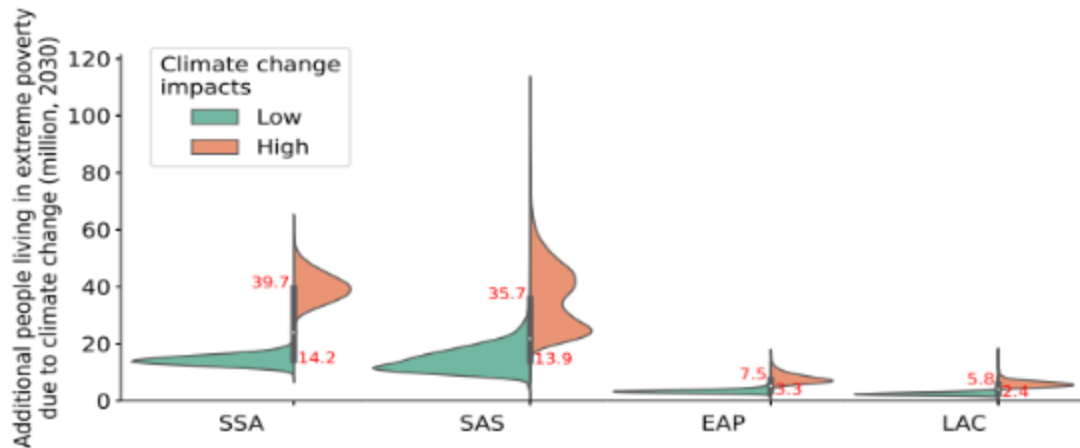


Figure 1: Regional breakdown of people pushed to extreme poverty in 2030 (World Bank, 2020)

14. The number of people in danger to fall (back) into extreme poverty due to negative climate change impacts varies across regions. However, as temperatures rise further, many countries in the LDC regions depending on climate-sensitive economic sectors, such as agriculture, are facing declining crop yields. This has an impact on agricultural productivity, food security and prices. Climate change impacts worsen the living conditions in many LDC where climate hazards are intensifying due to extreme weather such as abnormal rainfall, prolonged droughts, cyclone, sea level rise, etc. These hazards are already causing forced displacement with more than 20 million people push to leave their homes and move to other areas in their countries each year (UNHCR, 2020). If no adequate and effective adaptive actions are taken, the LDC's population already facing *considerable development constraints*, will be pushed into poverty. Adaptive actions are adjustments in assets, livelihoods, behaviours, technologies, or policies that address ongoing and future climate changes (IPCC, 2007).

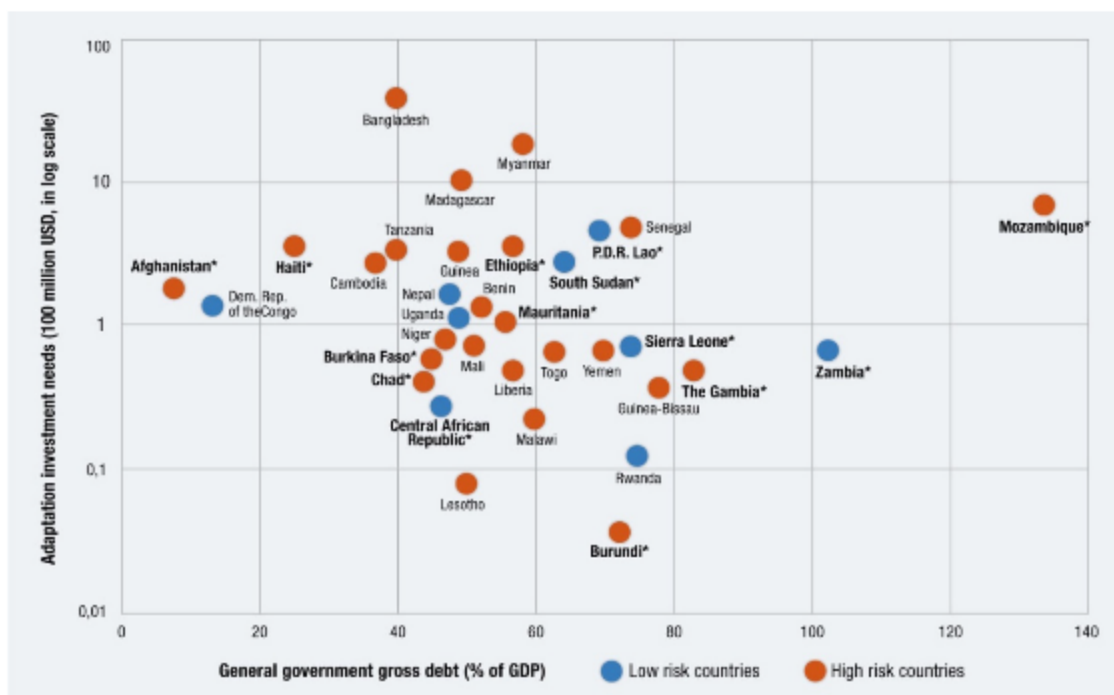


Figure 2: ADAPTATION INVESTMENT NEEDS FOR LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES

Date: 1 November 2021

Sources: UNCTAD staff calculations based on the IMF Fiscal Monitor (October 2020, October 2021) and the IMF low-income countries' debt sustainability analysis database. Countries in debt distress or high risk of debt distress are displayed with an asterisk following the country name.

15. *“Raising global ambition and increasing climate finance is paramount to our survival. We have come to Glasgow in full knowledge of the climate crisis. It is not just future generations at risk. Already homes are being lost to sea level rise in the Pacific. Climate change-induced famine is taking lives in Madagascar. And floods have displaced millions in Bangladesh.”* Sonam P. Wangdi, Chair of the Group (2021). As illustrated by the speech of Chair of the LDC Group on climate, Sonam P. Wangdi, at the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow (COP26), and the above chart, the majority of LDC Parties, already vulnerable to climate impacts, need resources to adapt and build resilience to climate change. However, *“they are simultaneously heavily indebted (about 42% are at high risk of or are already in debt distress) and have limited fiscal space to borrow money”*.

In the past two years, the COVID-19 health and economic crisis has worsened the situation, diverting the attention needed to raise climate ambitions and in parallel making uncertain the mid- to long-term prospects of climate finance that could support concrete actions on the ground. Concerns regarding debt sustainability and risks impact particularly the ability to mobilise domestic climate finance and foreign direct investment in LDCs. Recent oil price peaks are impacting the macroeconomic stability of fossil fuel import dependent LDCs and SIDS in addition.

16. It is estimated that the costs of adaptation for developing countries could reach US\$ 280-500 billion per year by 2050. Currently, the developing countries receive about five to ten times lesser than the

current public adaptation flows, with about US\$ 79.6 billion received in 2019 (UNEP, Adaptation Gap Report ? AGR- 2021). The amount allocated barely allows them to enhance their countries? adaptive capacity, strengthen their resilience and reduce their vulnerability to climate change as foreseen by the article 7 of the Paris agreement.

17. Taking into account consideration the general alarming frequent natural disasters induced by climate change affecting the LDCs, and the cost of adaptation, if no action is taken to support their participation in multilateral decision-making processes and to coordinate their climate efforts, LDCs will continue to suffer the most from the impacts of climate change.

18. As a heterogeneous group with divergent positions on climate matters, the LDCs require coordinated international support to adequately and effectively take actions, and bring forward their climate interest and needs. Since 2001, they negotiate as a Group in the UNFCCC process to ensure that their priorities are reflected in final negotiation outcomes and to deliver ?progressive climate actions that align with the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement of limiting the global average temperature increase to 1.5? C above pre-industrial levels, increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience, and making financial flows consistent with low greenhouse gas emissions pathways? (LDC Group on Climate Change Charter, 2020). However, to inspire and deliver concrete domestic climate actions, ensure that progress is made in the adoption and application of adequate and effective climate policy and planning instruments, the Group faces several barriers as described in the below table:

Table 1: MAIN BARRIERS

Heterogeneous group	Covering three continental regions (Africa, Asia-Pacific and the Caribbean), and interest of 46 countries, the Group is heterogeneous. The diversity of experiences and interests can be an opportunity, but it is also a constraint to render coherent and consistent decisions and harmonised positions.
Limited institutional memory and coordination mechanism to ensure sustainability of the Group?s work and coherent decision-making	The Group has a charter providing information about its governance and the establishment of the Secretariat. However, it does not have a long-term strategy, and a formal institutional memory and coordination systems in place to ensure the sustainability of its work. This is mainly caused by the rotational basis of chairmanship, the absence of an operational permanent LDC Secretariat and of a secured funding source. It subsequently impact the decisions making process, slowing it and impeding the coherence and harmonisation of the decision
Resource constraint	The absence of legal status, institutional arrangement and strategic plan including notably a long-term financial plan, prevent the Group to get a secured fund to sustain its work. This makes it difficult to: maintain a dedicated team (support and technical teams, and negotiators, etc.) to implement and deploy adaptation actions, to engage on equal footing with wealthier counterparts. The Group?s representatives have restricted involvement and are underrepresented in climate dialogues and negotiations (disproportionately smaller government delegation assisting negotiations and dialogues due to travel expense, cots of interpretation and translation, etc.).

Capacity and knowledge constraints	The UNFCCC process has become more complex over the years, and makes it difficult for the Group and the negotiators, often rotating, to meaningfully engage in climate change negotiations, and to communicate, analyze and implement the outcomes of the decisions at national level, properly transferring the UNFCCC outcomes to national/regional development planning. In addition, located far from the decisions making centers, and not able to attend intersectional sessions, they often have limited access to continual and updated knowledge and capacity building on climate change themes. The Group members have therefore difficulties to effectively participate in negotiations, undertaken analyses and interpretation of decisions. This undermines their contribution with well-informed decisions, positions and intelligence to the UNFCCC process and negotiations.
Limited visibility and stakeholders engagement	The Group has a communication plan, but no communication strategy and stakeholder engagement plan. If the Group is engaging with several other groups, it has a limited number of solid and supportive network and partnership. This limits the advocacy work and positioning of the Group and limits coordination of actions and potential for climate action scale.

19. These main challenges essentially related to the organisational, structural and financial constraints hamper the LDC Group on Climate Change to effectively participate in climate negotiations, follow-up on decisions and advice countries on concrete actions. Their interests are consequently not duly reflected, and decisions related to climate change adaptation do not necessarily reflect the full set of LDC priorities and needs. It is in this context, that the Group requested the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to provide support to strengthen their governance through the operationalisation of its Permanent Secretariat, the enhancement of its members' capacity and knowledge to efficiently engage in the UNFCCC process and access climate funding. This will enable better coordination and outreach, effective engagement in the UNFCCC process, and support the Group to contribute to the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The GEF support will ultimately result into the enhancement of adaptive capacities of LDCs, the increase of their climate resilience and reduction of vulnerabilities in line with article 7 of the Paris Agreement.

2) The baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

Group context

20. The LDC Group on Climate Change is organised with the support of thematic teams responsible for respective UNFCCC negotiation themes, a group of LDC Elders for providing overarching advice and guidance, and a team of experienced advisors from partner organisations.

21. Adaptive governance requires coordination of stakeholders at different levels, but the Group's arrangement remains informal. While the Group has become active, often working together to defend its particular interests with regard to vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, it has not established appropriate institutional arrangements to better coordinate its climate adaptation planning and actions as well as its climate technical and financial requests. This impairs the ability of LDC Parties to advance their climate priorities and access sources of international adaptation financing including the LDCF and the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Such international support is crucial to undertake climate vulnerability assessments, identify additional and evolving adaptation needs, and

invest in technologies to accelerate the climate resiliency of LDC societies and economies to the increasing and severe impacts of climate change.

22. This gap is recognised by the [Thimphu LDC Ministerial Communiqué on Climate Change 2019](#), which recommended that: *“the LDC Group further institutionalizes its internal coordination through establishing a permanent secretariat to enhance engagement in UNFCCC processes”*.

23. Responding to this recommendation, the group published in August 2020 its first charter, sharing the Group’s vision, mission, and governance. This charter establishes the LDC Permanent Secretariat.

24. In its 2021 Report, the group recalled that the LDC Parties *“need effective multilateral mechanisms to ensure that their voices are heard, and that they can participate in decisions taken on matters of climate change.”* A large gap between pledges and actual investments to support LDCs in their transition to climate-resilient economies and societies remains.

25. Taking into account these recommendations, the current project proposes to support the Group in further institutionalising its work, operationalising its Permanent Secretariat (the Secretariat hereinafter), sustaining its financial, human resource and partnership base for joint climate coordination, cooperation, coherence, as well as national, regional and triangular LDC action, beyond GEF project closure. This will enable the Group to effectively contribute to build adaptive capacities of LDCs and increase their climate awareness and resilience in line with Article 7 of the Paris Agreement.

26. The Secretariat will support the Group in various ways: enhance internal coordination and capacity building efforts to strengthen engagement of the group in the UNFCCC process; facilitate the coordination and implementation of LDC initiatives ([LIFE-AR](#) and [LUCCC](#)); support to access climate funding, to improve the Group’s visibility and advocacy work, strengthening partnership with key stakeholders; provide a more durable and effective link between the LDC Chair, the UNFCCC Secretariat, and other UNFCCC constituted bodies.

Baseline policies

27. At the Seventh Conference of the Parties (COP7) in Marrakesh in 2001, the UNFCCC developed the LDC Work Programme. The Work Programme supports LDCs in planning and implementing adaptation actions, especially providing technical support for preparing National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) through the LEG and financing for NAPAs and urgent adaptation projects through the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF).

28. Parties to the Convention and its Paris Agreement have since created additional workstreams and issues that speak to the priorities of LDCs, including as they relate to adaptation, and the LDC Group, despite its financial constraints, has had to become increasingly active in international climate change processes as a result.

29. The project is in line with the [Thimphu LDC Ministerial Communique on Climate Change 2019](#), the LDC Climate Change Group Charter, the updated LDC Work Programme of 2018, adopted by COP24, and the LDCs Vision 2050 for a resilient future. The project is also fully in line with the requirement of the: UNFCCC process and the Paris Agreement, the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, adaptation Committee's (AC's) work plan, assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). It will support the Group to get regional analysis and interpretation of the: National Determined Contribution (NDC); LDC's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) under LDCF/UNFCCC; LDC's National Communications (NC) under UNFCCC; National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) under UNFCCC; Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) under UNFCCC; the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts.

Baseline projects

30. Number of baseline projects and (climate) funding schemes interesting for the project are described below:

31. Strengthening Endogenous capacities of Least developed Countries to Access Finance for Climate Change Adaptation (UNEP, GEF project ID 10525): the project team will liaise with this ongoing GEF project team to ensure complementarity the development and implementation of activities under component 1 and component 2. These efforts will be further strengthened through the involvement of the Private Finance Advisory Network (PFAN), which is hosted by UNIDO, and maintains a service network of climate finance experts providing advice and coaching for climate mitigation and adaptation investment projects.

32. Training support from the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG): under component 2, the project will consult the LEG to develop and coordinate training programme, avoiding duplication and seeking complementary with the LEG's training programme. The LEG is mandate to provide technical guidance and support to the LDC on the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs), the preparation and implementation of the national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) and the implementation of the LDC work programme.

33. NAP Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) for the LDC: under component 1, 2 and 3, the project will gather lessons learnt from this UNDP-UNEP programme, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The aim of the programme is to assist least developed and developing countries to identify technical, institutional and financial needs to integrate climate change adaptation into medium and long-term national planning and financing. The programme supports the process to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

34. Green Climate Fund Readiness Programme: This programme provides resources for strengthening the institutional capacities and assists countries in undertaking adaptation

planning and the development of strategic frameworks to build their programming with GCF. The Project could maximise synergies with the GCF to further support the work of the group in terms and support its countries to formulate nationally determined contributions (NDCs) or regional institutional capacities.

?35. United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI): under component 1 and 2, the project will consult the UNEP FI for fund mobilisation aspects. The UNEP FI is a partnership between UNEP and the global financial sector to mobilize private sector finance for sustainable development. UNEP FI works with more than 400 banks, insurers, and investors and over 100 supporting institutions.

?36. GCF Structured Dialogue : under component 2, the project will analyse the results and lessons learned from the GCF Structured Dialogue with Least Developed Countries (LDCs) organised by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), in collaboration with the Government of Ethiopia and the LDC Group, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on November 2018.

?37. Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC): Under component 3, the project will build and engage with regional organisations and climate centres such as the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC). Covering 42 of 46 LDCs, the GN-SEC aims to accelerate the energy and climate transition from the region for the region by promoting joint coordination, implementation, equal progress and spill-over effects between countries. The GN-SEC was established by UNIDO in partnership with various regional economic communities (e.g. ECOWAS, SADC, EAC, ECCAS, CARICOM, SPC). Under the joint GN-SEC platform, south-south and triangular cooperation on common LDC climate adaptation and mitigation issues and solutions is facilitated.

38. At the project inception phase, an assessment will be undertaken to confirm the list and provided further information about similar initiatives, gathering lessons learned and opportunities for the Group.

Business as Usual (without project interventions)

39. Without enhancing the institutional arrangements and the strengthening of the human and financial resource base of the Permanent Secretariat, the Group will continue to face challenges to actively and effectively participate in the UNFCCC process and climate negotiations, and to provide intelligence and quality services to LDC members for the concrete follow-up and action on the ground. The growing complexity of the UNFCCC process, the high cost of participation to international climate dialogue, engaging in networking and positioning the Group will make difficult for the Group to improve their structural and institutional arrangements. This will affect knowledge retention and sharing as well as internal coordination and translate in poor ability to participate effectively in climate negotiations, analyse, interpretations and implementations of decisions into actions.

3) the proposed alternative scenario with a description of outcomes and components of the project

40. The overall objective of the project is to increase the effectiveness and the quality service delivery of the LDC Group on Climate Change to support LDC Parties to actively participate in the UNFCCC process, effectively implement related decisions and concrete climate actions to increase their regions' adaptive capacity, strengthen their resilience and reduce their vulnerability to climate change as foreseen by the article 7 of the Paris agreement. This will be achieved by strengthening the governance and institutional arrangements of the Group, the operationalisation of the permanent Secretariat, the enhancement of the human and financial resource base, as well as the strengthening of planning, coordinative, knowledge and technical capacities of the Group's members. The project will thus contribute to the Group Vision 2050 which is "(?) for all Least Developed Countries to be on climate-resilient development pathways by 2030 and deliver net-zero emissions by 2050 to ensure our societies and ecosystems thrive". The Permanent Secretariat will support the LDC Chair and the Group to effectively engage in the UNFCCC process and the facilitation of follow-up and climate action in LDCs. The Secretariat will ensure enhanced coordination and dialogue between the different bodies, supporting the Group in different aspects such as organising meetings, providing expertise and recommendations, generating knowledge products and tools, and expanding the Group's network to further advocate for their interests and access climate finance.

41. The proposed project interventions will support approximately seven thousand one hundred forty seven (7147) people, among which **two thousand one hundred sixteen people trained (with 50% women participation).**

42. The project is aligned with the Thimphu LDC Ministerial Communiqué on Climate Change 2019, paragraph 34 of the Group's charter. The Secretariat will establish and systematise the monitoring and reporting of climate related decisions and actions, harmonising the LDC Parties' objectives and facilitating their dialogue. This work is expected to translate into effective climate actions for a climate-resilient future as foreseen by the LDC Group vision 2050.

43. The project will be implemented on the basis of four interrelated components:

- Component 1: Strengthened institutional arrangement, governance and coordination of the LDC Group on climate change,
- Component 2: Enhanced capacity and knowledge of the LDC Group and designated focal points to effectively participate in UNFCCC process and the implementation of the Paris Agreement,
- Component 3: Strengthened climate outreach and network for climate actions,
- Component 4: Support to the Group monitored and evaluated

44. The project contributes to the GEF focal area CCA3 which aim is to foster enabling conditions for effective and integrated climate change adaptation. In line with the GEF focal area, the project will provide support to the Group through the operationalisation of its Permanent Secretariat.

45. The Secretariat will enable information retention and knowledge sharing, capacity building, and institutional strengthening towards more effective participation in UNFCCC and Paris Agreement

implementation by the LDC Parties. The below theory of change (ToC) reflects the pathway planned to create the enabling conditions to strengthen the work and actions of the LDC Group on Climate Change.

The project has been designed to address the existing barriers set out in the previous section, preventing the Group to effectively engage in the UNFCCC and support the LDCs to implement the Paris Agreement, namely: heterogeneity of the Group; limited institutional memory and coordination mechanisms, lack of a sustained financial and human resource base; complexity of the UNFCCC and organizational difficulties to participate to major climate dialogues; limited visibility, outreach, supportive network and partnerships. The expected outcomes and impact aim to contribute to strengthen the resilience of LDCs to the impact of climate change with a focus on adaptation.

Under component 1, the project seeks to strengthen the Group governance and institutionalisation through the establishment of a LDC Permanent Secretariat and its internal rules and proceedings, the support to improve the internal coordination and engagement within and outside the UNFCCC process, and the support the Group to access climate funding to ensure the sustainability of its work, human and financial resources beyond the project closure. This component will facilitate as well the coordination and implementation of LDC climate related initiatives.

Under component 2 and 3, knowledge generation and exchange, networking and outreach will enhance awareness amongst stakeholders and increase the impact of the project whilst increasing opportunities for the LDCs to build new partnership, identify and access new funding scheme for increase climate actions.

Under component 2, the project will specifically provide knowledge and capacity building support to the Group and designated focal points and experts to effectively take part in the UNFCCC process and support the LDCs to implement the Paris Agreement.

Component 3 will support the Group in building a strong support and partnership network and increase its visibility and outreach to sustain its actions and commitment. To have enhanced impact the Secretariat will facilitate south-south and triangular cooperation on common climate issues and solutions between the various LDC regions and systematically harness the benefits of regional approaches and methodologies.

Taking into account these element, the project sets that:

IF the LDC Group on climate change operationalize its Permanent Secretariat and institutionalised its work, for improved coordination, access to climate funding, enhanced knowledge and capacity, and strengthening of its networks and outreach, THEN the Group will effectively take part in climate change processes and better support the LDCs to implement the Paris Agreement BECAUSE the institutionalization and support of the Secretariat will enable institutional memory, improved internal coordination, and improved

knowledge, visibility and capacity building of the Group to strengthen their climate change engagement. Important emphasis will lie on the facilitation of regional and triangular cooperation on climate issues and solutions between LDCs. Enhancement of gender equality and women's empowerment is considered cross-cutting and, therefore, has not been explicitly included in the ToC.

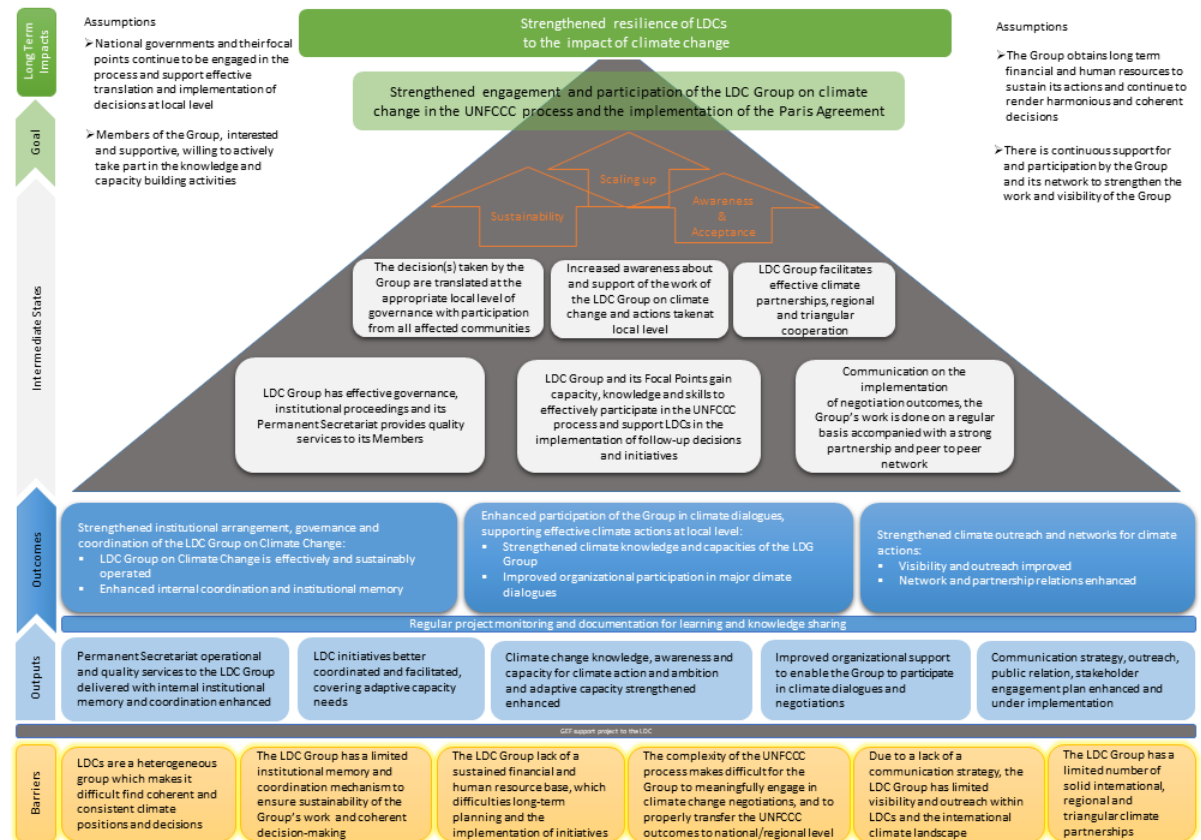


Figure 3: THEORY OF CHANGE*

*To better visualise the ToC, please consult the related document uploaded under the section 2. Stakeholders

46. Although a gender and intergenerational dimensions as well as knowledge and communication aspects are primarily covered by component 1 and 2, these elements will be transversal to all four components to strengthen the impact of the project actions.

Component 1 - Strengthened institutional arrangement, governance and coordination of the LDC Group on climate change

COMPONENT 1: STRENGTHENED INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT GOVERNANCE AND

COORDINATION

Outcome 1.1 LDC Group on Climate Change effectively and sustainably operated

Output 1.1.1 Strategic Plan of the Group including adaptive capacity approach under implementation

1.1.1a Undertake a consultative baseline and needs assessment to develop the long-term strategic plan and governance structure

1.1.1b Organise a validation workshop on the strategic plan and governance structure

1.1.1c Reach an agreement on the legal status and hosting arrangements

Output 1.1.2 Permanent Secretariat operational and quality services to the LDC Group delivered

1.1.2a Recruit staff of the Secretariat in line with the organisational chart and the LDC Group on climate change and gender considerations

1.1.2b Establish the Secretariat's institutional interim internal structure and proceedings

1.1.2c Quality services delivered and continuity of operations beyond the GEF project closure secured

1.1.2d Fund mobilisation strategy developed and funding to secure the core-operations and services of the Group beyond GEF project closure mobilised

Outcome 1.2 Enhanced internal coordination and institutional memory

Output 1.2.1 Internal institutional memory and coordination enhanced

1.2.1a Set-up and implement an institutional knowledge management system

1.2.1b Establish and implement an internal mechanism to coordinate joint positions and activities

Output 1.2.2 LDC initiatives better coordinated and facilitated covering adaptive capacity needs

1.2.3a Support the implementation and monitoring of the LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR)

1.2.3b Support the implementation and monitoring of the Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC)

1.2.3c Support the implementation and monitoring of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative (LDC REEEI)

1.2.3d Develop a new initiative to promote local climate technology entrepreneurship, innovation and clusters for enhanced adaptive capacity in LDCs

47. The activities under Component 1 focus on strengthening the governance and administrative arrangements of the Group, the operationalisation of its Permanent Secretariat, the improvement of the Group's coordination, institutional memory and access to climate funding to ensure the expansion of its human and financial resources beyond the GEF project closure. This component is key to ensure coherence, efficiency and sustainability of the work of the Group beyond the project

lifetime, strengthening the contribution of the Group to climate actions, notably actions to support adaptive capacity of the LDCs.

48. This component primarily targets the Group's governance body: the Chair, the permanent Secretariat, the Elders, the Election Committee, the advisors, the thematic coordinators, and UNFCCC focal points. The UNFCCC Secretariat and other identified key stakeholders will be consulted within the framework of consultative and needs assessment activities. These parties will guide and support the development of the Group's strategic plan and subsequent roadmap on governance needs, climate actions and commitments, as well as the institutionalisation process of the Group and its permanent Secretariat.

49. At the inception phase, the project will conduct a consultative baseline and needs assessment of the Group. The assessment results will inform the long-term strategic plan and governance structure of the Group. It will also inform the final institutional and hosting arrangements, as well as the potential legal status of the Group and its Permanent Secretariat.

50. The gender-mainstreamed assessment will cover three critical levels: (i) governance, which concerns the institutional and legal set-up; (ii) organisational, which concerns systems, procedures and tools for effective and efficient organisational functioning and coordination; (iii) knowledge, capacity development (to be covered by Component 2); (iv) and visibility and advocacy (to be covered by Component 3).

51. Through these activities, the Project will obtain an assessment of the Group's current structure and needs in terms of climate actions, as well as in terms of coordination, capacity building, knowledge, communication and advocacy, and long term funding. The focus of the assessment will be to identify priorities and areas of interventions, and ensure stakeholders support and 'buy-in' of the long-term work of the Group and the proposed permanent Secretariat's interventions. The assessment will support the Project to create a comprehensive and inclusive approach, involving all key stakeholders to strengthen their engagement and participation, central to the Group and its adaptation interventions planning and implementation, addressing challenges related to the heterogeneous aspect of the Group. At the end of the project, it is expected that The Group will be supported by a permanent Secretariat that will enable strengthened action and better coordinated engagement in line with their collective and common positions and interests.

52. Until the option for the institutionalisation is reached, a Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established to implement the projects activities, ensuring a successful operationalization of the Permanent Secretariat.

53. The main role of the PMU, will be to ensure relevant organisational, logistical and technical expertise support. The team will assist in the establishment of the Secretariat's institutional structure and internal proceedings (i.e. staffing and internal appraisal framework including gender and youth aspects), that follows, until an administrative agreement is reached, UNIDO's rules and regulations in terms of procurement and recruitment.

54. The PMU in consultation and agreement with the Chair and the Group, will establish a Project Steering Committee (PSC) under component 4 of the project. The PSC will monitor the project activities, guide and support the institutionalisation process. Until an institutionalisation agreement is reached, the PSC will agree upon an interim structure and internal proceedings. This will enable the PMU and the Group to effectively start the implementation of the established strategic plan.

55. The results of the baseline and needs assessment will inform a 2030 Strategic Plan of the LDC Group on climate change. This plan will include among others: the Group's gender-responsive governance structure; climate related knowledge and training; communication and partnership engagement plan; a staff chart; and a budget and financial long term plan. It will include a menu of options including actions identified to support the institutionalisation of the Group and its Secretariat. The Group will be invited to choose the best option based on criteria agreed throughout the assessment process.

56. The project duration will be considered as an interim period during which the PMU will support the Group to operationalize its Secretariat, set up its 2030 Strategic Plan and choose a legal option to sustain its work. During this interim period, the following arrangement is proposed: one senior expert will lead and manage the Secretariat, supported by a project administrator and an assistant. The senior expert will provide overall leadership and coordination of the project. They will act under the overall direction of the Chair and the project steering committee. The project officer will provide support and direction on the implementation of the roadmap-strategic plan by the Secretariat and the Group. They will act under the leadership and day-to-day guidance of the senior expert following UNIDO rules and regulations.

57. In order to ensure effective coordination of the Group's activities and an enabling working environment, a hybrid office space will be set up for the PMU. During the consultation phase, the Group indicated Bonn, Germany, as the preferred hosting location of the Secretariat as the headquarter of the UNFCCC Secretariat is located there. However, an assessment (financial, institutional, etc.) will be undertaken at the inception phase to provide offers and options to the Group before confirming this location. Until an agreement concerning the hosting is reached, the physical office will be located at in Vienna, Austria. During the project implementation, UNIDO will provide institutional peer-to-peer learning and support the overall implementation of the project. During the final phase of the project, depending on the achieved progress and following the decision of the LDC Group, UNIDO will delegate duties and responsibilities to the consolidated team and management of the Permanent Secretariat. Ultimate goal is to strengthen the capacities and resource base of the Group and Secretariat, which will allow the Group to operate sustainably beyond GEF project close in line with the principles of ownership "support from LDCs for LDCs" and sustainability. In this context, UNIDO will contribute with lessons learned from its experience in building regional and national cleaner production and energy technology centres, including the GN-SEC.

58. The office will consist of an online coordination platform allowing the Secretariat to easily organize, gather, and exchange information with the Group. Three office spaces will be set up to host

the three project team members. The office spaces will have access to IT infrastructure and dedicated support to establish the online coordination platform.

59. This platform will consist of a coordination, knowledge and capacity building platform. It should offer evidence-based data on LDCs and particularly the Group's needs, risks and opportunities. These data and analysis will guide the Group to review and strengthen its climate change strategies and negotiations with a particular focus on adaptation matters.

60. This e-platform will maintain the institutional memory, key elements to ensure continuity and overall coherence in decision-making by the rotating chair and the project steering committee. It will be established in consultation with the UNFCCC Secretariat who hosts the existing LDC Climate Change webpage (www ldc-climate.org), and other identified relevant Parties.

61. The operationalisation of the Secretariat and the subsequent support it will provide to the Group is expected to improve the overall climate change leadership of the Group in the collective global effort to combat climate change and its effects.

62. In order to set up an enabling working environment for the Group, Component 1 will strengthen the institutional framework at the Secretariat level to plan, improve and monitor the Group's work, and enhance the coordination and synergies with relevant climate bodies. The Project will provide tools and mechanisms for coordination and cooperation, through the collection of information and exchange of experiences and best practices.

63. On an internal level, a yearly hybrid retreat with the Project Steering Committee and identified key stakeholders will be organized to explore ways to enhance and strengthen the group dynamic, get a state of play of the activities, retrieve lessons learned and seek alignment on pre-identified key climate thematic areas. To reinforce the Group's network, hybrid coordination activities will be undertaken on a regional basis for individual countries with high vulnerability to climate change. The project will seek the support of the UNFCCC focal points and identified key climate experts.

64. The Project will adopt an action and communication plan to strengthen climate change coordination with particular focus on adaptation actions. Primarily foreseen under component 3, this activity will also serve component 1 as the communication strategy and plan will foster awareness and facilitate dialogue, ensuring that all members of the Group and partners are fully informed and engaged.

65. On an external level, the communication plan will enhance dialogue among Group members and with their counterparts. It will promote active participation and reinforce interest of the Group on climate change-adaptation matters. This should support knowledge sharing of lessons learned and expertise gained by the members as strengthen the long-term impact of the permanent Secretariat.

66. UNFCCC focal points are essential to the work of the Group. Active on the ground, they can enhance ownership of the work of the Group. In consultation with and under the guidance of the project steering committee, the Secretariat will engage with them and the UNFCCC Secretariat to ensure effective cooperation, awareness of climate-related decisions, actions and opportunities.

67. For the long-term perspective, to sustain the work of Group after the project duration, a mapping of climate funding and resources will be undertaken to give the Group an overview of potential opportunities. In this regard, the Secretariat will support the Group to develop and submit a concept to sustain its work. The objective is to mobilize at least one (1) million USD by the end of the project. This will allow the Group sustainably beyond GEF project closure.

68. Under component 1, the Secretariat will also support the establishment of a governance structure to support the implementation and monitoring of the LDC initiatives, specifically the: LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience ([LIFE-AR](#)), LDC Universities Consortium on Climate Change ([LUCCC](#)), and LDC Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative (LDC REEEI). After an assessment of the needs in this respect, the Secretariat will develop a project document for each of the initiative to guide and orientate its work as well as inform a donors strategic plan. The third initiative (LDC REEEI) is already in place and funded. Through the assessment, the project will therefore make sure that there is no duplication of efforts and aid.

Climate Analytics and IIED will support the further development and implementation process of these initiatives, undertaking a review and analysis of evidence on effective adaptation and resilience interventions.

69. The project will support the Group to organize a round table to pitch the initiative to donors and financiers during major events such as the Conference of the Parties. Under component 2, the Project will further undertake activities related to access to climate funding to ensure efficiency and sustainability of these initiatives and the project in general.

70. To promote at national and regional levels climate technology, entrepreneurship, innovation and clusters, the project will support the Group to design a new initiative in partnership with UNIDO, taking advantage of its network and experiences in these regions. In this context synergies to other GEF funded UNIDO programs will be created (e.g. Global Clean Tech Innovation Programme and the BLOOM Clean Tech Cluster Program). The strengthening of local suppliers of adapted climate mitigation and adaptation solutions in LDCs is an important measure to ensure the long-term sustainability of the climate and energy transition, as well as the creation of local jobs and revenues along the global value chains of climate products and services.

Component 2 - Enhanced capacity and knowledge of the LDC Group and designated focal points to effectively participate in UNFCCC process and the implementation of the Paris Agreement

COMPONENT 2: ENHANCED CAPACITY AND KNOWLEDGE

Outcome 2.1 Strengthened climate knowledge and capacity

Output 2.1.1 Climate change knowledge and awareness about adaptive capacity enhanced

2.1.1a Develop and disseminate climate change related knowledge products, policy statements and analytics

2.1.1b Organize awareness and knowledge activities about the UNFCCC process and climate change actions and good practices including information about actions to enhance adaptive capacity

Output 2.1.2 Capacity for climate action and ambition and adaptive capacity strengthened

2.1.2a Develop and provide climate related training including training on enhancing adaptive capacity

2.1.2b Organize training sessions on climate finance

71. Knowledge and capacity are fundamentals for the Group to advance a transformational climate change and particularly an adaptation agenda within the global climate change context. Transformational change for climate action is defined as "the fundamental change in systems relevant to climate action with large-scale positive impacts that shift and accelerate the trajectory of progress towards climate neutral, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable development pathways" (Climate Investment Funds "CIF Transformational Change Learning Partnership "TCLP- Working Definition of Transformational Change for Climate Action, 2021). A holistic and cross-sectoral response of LDC Governments is required.

72. The main objective of this component is to deepen understanding and approaches consistent with adapting to and limiting global warming to 1.5°C and to set a supportive environment, enabling the Group to build shared and common understanding for effective engagement in the UNFCCC Process and to support implementation of climate actions on the ground inline with the Paris Agreement. The Project will do so by primarily sharing updated climate change information and knowledge about UNFCCC sessions and advancement about the implementation of the Paris Agreement. This will be coupled by capacity building sessions of the Group to take an active role in the UNFCCC process and guiding the LDC in the implementation of the Paris Agreement to strengthen the LDC response to the threat of climate change. The information and knowledge to be shared and provided should support the Group and the LDC to contribute to strengthen national climate adaptation efforts by raising awareness about adaptation costs, challenges and opportunities, promoting actions to enhance adaptive capacities and avoid maladaptation, reducing their vulnerabilities and strengthening their resilience to climate change.

73. As with component 1, component 2 primarily targets the LDC Group.

74. The project will undertake a knowledge and capacity building assessment and mapping to inform

and finalise the training and knowledge activities. Climate Analytics and IIED will support activities under this component.

75. From the knowledge point of view, the project will support the development of climate knowledge products and services on climate best practices and lessons learned applicable to the LDC context to contribute to the improvement of climate change education and awareness in general. This is expected to accelerate the development of competences of the LDC Group members, enhance collaborative and efficient working environment, as well as promote awareness among key stakeholders on the main outcomes from successive rounds of the intergovernmental negotiations, in particular on: decisions/provisions and processes under the UNFCCC (procedurally/substantively).

76. Through these activities, the project will support the Group and involved Focal points to identify key issues and challenges, opportunities and prepare technical briefing papers accordingly.

77. From the capacity-building point of view, trainings will be primarily provided to two target groups: the members of the Group and focal points (UNFCCC focal points, and to the extent possible to the IPCC focal points, the GEF Operational Focal Points of the LDC, and GCF National Designated Authorities). Training session topics will be determined through the assessment and in close coordination with the project steering committee. The general results expected are: a better understanding of the climate science aspects related to IPCC; enhanced understanding and access to climate finance through existing financial mechanisms (e.g.: GCF); monitoring and evaluation of the Parties' adaptation actions including requirements of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement and the preparation of the Biennial Transparency Report; effective data and evidence sharing to strengthen the Group's climate change and adaptation strategies; reporting back process and decision translation into national policy. This should support the thematic committee and the Chair to obtain tangible information and supportive data for enhanced participation of the Group to intergovernmental negotiations. These activities should complement the work of the LEG with whom the project will coordinate efforts to avoid duplication.

78. The training will be organized at least once a year, each year in one LDC sub-regions (Africa - Anglophone Africa, Francophone and Lusophone Africa- Asia-Pacific and Latin America). These activities will be offered in a hybrid form, sponsoring each time twelve (12) participants to take part in-person. Synergies to the LDC climate training activities of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC), coordinated by UNIDO in partnership with regional organisations will be created particularly in Africa.

79. To complement the specific capacity building and knowledge activities, support will be provided to the Group to organise peer exchange in line and complementing activities under component 3. Particular attention will be given to the participation of women.

80. The Project will support the Group to formally engage with relevant climate actors and peers. The exchange of experiences and lessons learned should help them to better comprehend climate change and climate adaptation issues at stake. These sessions should help them to better position themselves

and influence international dialogues on climate change matters as well as support them to promulgate specific (harmonized) policies in their respective regions and countries.

81. Gender mainstreaming will be a priority in the implementation of component 2. It will be approached at different levels: i) group level with key concerned bodies to raise awareness on the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women in fighting climate change; ii) capacity building and training on bias as well as on operational gender mainstreaming; and iii) pro-active involvement of women as well as gender focal points. The documentations and trainings to be offered will be gender-responsive.

Component 3 ? Strengthened climate outreach and network for climate actions

COMPONENT 3: STRENGTHENED CLIMATE OUTREACH AND NETWORK

Outcome 3.1 Visibility and outreach improved

Output 3.1.1 Communication strategy featuring the Group's adaptive actions under implementation

3.1.1a Develop and implement a communication and visibility strategy and plan

3.1.1b Design communication products including products on enhancing adaptive capacity

3.1.1c Provide communication trainings

Output 3.1.2 Advocacy and public relation putting an emphasis on actions taken for strengthened adaptive capacity in the LDCs

3.1.2a Improve the Group's digital media and press presence

3.1.2b Conduct communication campaign about the Group's climate needs, commitment and actions including adaptive capacity actions

Outcome 3.2 Network and partnership relations enhanced

Output 3.2.1 Stakeholder engagement strategy featuring the Group's partnership needs in terms of adaptive capacity actions under implementation

3.2.1a Develop and implement a partnership framework and a networking plan

3.2.1b Organize and facilitate climate networking and peer-to-peer events

3.2.1c Cooperate with other LDC/SIDS groups within and outside the UN on climate actions, including adaptive capacity and climate advocacy

82. To enhance the visibility and better position the Group on climate change negotiations and dialogues, it is fundamental to improve its outreach effort and establish a support network, building trust with partners and donors. Therefore, Component 3 will focus on improving the visibility and network of the Group. Key climate organizations and institutions as well as the public will be the primary target group.

83. The Secretariat will establish a communication and partnership framework to guide the planned activities. The framework and plan will support awareness raising about the climate vulnerabilities as well as the Group's climate commitments and actions.

85. The communication strategy will specifically address the awareness, interest and understanding of the climate issues at stake for the Group. The objective is to raise the visibility of the Group's work, its urgent and immediate climate needs, communicating about actions related to their exposure, resilience and adaptive capacity to the effects of climate change .

86. If this component target primarily targets the Group's direct stakeholders and public, the gender mainstreamed communication plan will address for both the internal and external communication needs. The work will consist, among other things, of active outreach during climate events and gender responsive digital campaigns through the Group website, social media and eventual newsletter. The Project will establish official emails addresses for the Chair, the Secretariat's team and other support team members.

87. The Secretariat in agreement with the project steering committee will improve the structure and design the Group website to make it more interactive and responsive. This work will be done in consultation and coordination with IIED, who currently support the website (www.ldc-climate.org).

88. The outreach work will consist of communication campaigns, publications about the Group's work, commitment, engagement, challenges and achievement in terms of climate actions in general and actions to enhance the LDC adaptive capacity in particular.

89. At the partnership and networking level, the Secretariat will develop and maintain a database of key stakeholders (partners, donors, including experts, etc.), share guidance and support to strengthen the Group's network. The project will organize and coordinate the participation of the Group to key networking climate events, cooperate with other LDC and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) groups within and outside the UN on climate advocacy.

90. In order to unlock investment opportunities, the Secretariat will support the Group to enter at least into one strategic partnership agreement on climate change adaptation matters.

Component 4 ? Support to the Group monitored and evaluated

COMPONENT 4: SUPPORT TO THE GROUP MONITORED AND EVALUATED

Outcome 4.1: Monitoring and Reporting

Output 4.1.1 Monitoring and reporting

- 4.1.1a Establish and implement a gender responsive project monitoring, reporting and evaluation mechanism
- 4.1.1b Establish a Project Steering Committee (PSC), developing its rules and procedures
- 4.1.1c Organize PSC meetings
- 4.1.1d Develop annual work plans and project implementation reports
- 4.1.1e Track progress on the gender mainstreaming strategy and action plan and adjust action if required

Outcome 4.2: Evaluation

Output 4.2.2 Terminal evaluation

- 4.2.2a Gather lessons learned and experiences from the project
- 4.2.2b Conduct a final independent evaluation

91. The Project will require an effective monitoring, reporting and evaluation framework that addresses both the delivery set-up and related procedures and processes. The project team will develop this framework in line with GEF guidelines and UNIDO Integrated Results and Performance Framework (IRPF), supporting better performance and greater accountability.

92. For the duration of the project, the Secretariat together with the Chair will set up a Project Steering Committee (PSC) to: offer strategic guidance to the LDC project management unit to meet the project objectives; propose strategic flagship activities; approve the project annual work plan and budget after review as well as the annual status reports and financial statements; monitor the progress and performance of the project; approve evaluations and management responses and contribute to the project's fund raising and visibility, fostering its promotion towards key stakeholders and strategic partners.

93. The PMU together with the project steering committee will regularly monitor progress on each component to ensure that the project is completed on time and according to the budget allocated. The project team will be responsive and proactive about any potential adjustment or opportunities arising, allowing to further advantage grant from GEF or other relevant bodies such as the Green Climate Fund.

94. The PSC will be composed of the LDC Chairperson, the Secretariat team (PMU), one representative of each governing body (Elders, thematic coordinator, election committee, technical lead for LDC initiatives), three (3) UNFCCC National Focal Points representing each one LDC region, one representative of UNIDO, and one representative of the GEF team. The PSC will meet at least every six months. The PSC decides in consensus. The PSC will guide the work of project activities. It will be presided by the LDC Chair and a participation of at least 50% women in the PSC will be pursued.

95. The Secretariat will carry out its tasks under the instruction of the Chair in consultation with the

PSC. It will contribute to the organization of the groups internal and external meetings (thematic meetings, COP etc.).

96. As per GEF and UNIDO guidelines, an independent terminal evaluation will be conducted at the end of the project to gather best practices and lessons learned for a potential replication or follow up project.

97. The final evaluation will focus on the delivery of the project's results as initially planned and consider changes that occur in its lifetime. It will look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of project objectives and outcomes.

98. The terms of reference for the evaluation will be prepared by UNIDO based on guidance from the UNIDO evaluation group. The final evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow up activities. The comprehensive report will summarize the results achieved (objectives, outcomes, outputs), lessons learned, problems met and areas where results may not have been achieved. It will also lay out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability of the project's results.

99. All monitoring and evaluation tools and documents such as the monitoring plan, progress reports, final evaluation report, and thematic evaluations (i.e. capacity needs assessment) will be gender-responsive. The reporting and evaluation will be conducted with respect to an established baseline for gender related targets.

4) alignment with GEF focal area and/or impact program strategies

100. The proposed project is fully aligned with the Climate Change Adaptation 3 (CCA-3) focal area: *Foster enabling conditions for effective and integrated climate change adaptation*. Through the governance, capacity and knowledge activities, it will enhance the coordination of the Group and its synergies and coalition with other likeminded Group, and the UNFCCC Secretariat. It will strengthen the climate knowledge and capacities of the Group to better and further engage in the UNFCCC process, and take sound decision on climate adaptation matters, improving their climate efforts and commitment.

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

101. The project support the LDC Group on climate change in sustaining its engagement in the UNFCCC process and to the Paris Agreement. The project will address barriers where LDC governments support is absent and financial constraint are hindering their full participation in climate dialogues and negotiations, and the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Due to the serious resource constraints, particularly of Ministries with climate mandates, it is challenging for LDCs to immediately contribute to the operations of the Group beyond in-kind support in financial terms. Therefore, the GEF grant support is highly justified and required until a more sustainable modality is found. In this context, UNIDO will support the Group in finding a sustainable operational model

beyond GEF project close, by tapping into its long-standing experience in establishing cleaner production centres and regional sustainable energy centres in LDCs and SIDS.

102. The enabling environment that will be facilitated by the project will assist to realise the alternative scenario. The enabling governance and institutional structure will improve the internal coordination of the Group and retention of knowledge. The proposed improved knowledge systems and coordination mechanisms will induce greater interest and involvement of the Parties. The UNFCCC processes will benefit from a better organised and effective LDC participation in discussions and negotiations.

103. Assessment work to be undertaken at the project inception will provide a list of similar initiatives and baseline data to ensure that the work of the Group is coherently and strategically coordinated.

104. The Group members will be given opportunities to exchange with peers and build strong supporting network and partnership to exchange lessons learned and improve their positioning on climate related topics.

105. The project will be supported by the LDC Group in an in-kind co-financing form covering the cost of human resources and cost of office and equipment provided to the LDC Chair to sustain their work.

106. The support from the LDCF will sustain the work of the LDC through the establishment of a solid institutional structure, systems and mechanisms. The amount allocated will allow the project to support the Group to take adequate and effective decisions to enhance their regions' adaptive capacity, strengthen their resilience and reduce their vulnerability to climate change as foreseen by the article 7 of the Paris agreement. The project will maximise this by supporting the Group to access funding for a long term and sustained engagement in UNFCCC process and other key climate dialogues and negotiations process.

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

107. With the support of the LDCF, the project will generate indirect multiple global environmental benefits. By supporting the Group to better coordinate their actions and engagement in with the UNFCCC process and outreach climate diplomacy, the LDC are expected to: enhance implementation of their climate actions and initiatives; increase their climate advocacy, effective engagement in decision making on climate change matters; increase commitments and actual investments to support them in their transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient economies mobilizing support from the international community. In accordance with GEF programming strategy on Adaptation, the project will support enabling activities in response to COP guidance, indirectly supporting the advancement of National Adaptation Plan (NAP). It will strengthen enabling environment, creating institutional framework and providing climate information and decision support services to the LDCs. Under component 2 and 3, its activities will aimed at "sustainably develop and enhance the capacity" of LDCs to better and effectively engage in adaptation planning processes.

Training

108. Throughout the project, from component 1 to component 3, various training on institutional procedures and systems, UNFCCC process and targeted climate topics, communications and reporting, will be provided to about two thousand one hundred sixteen (2116) beneficiaries including 50% women.

Training to institutions

109. Under activities 1.2.2d, 2.1.1b, 2.1.2a and 2.1.2b, the project will raise awareness and train stakeholders from at least hundred sixty (160) institutions from: the LDC Group on climate change (considered 1 institution); LDC Ministers body (46 ministries from each LDC); the LDC UNFCCC National Focal Points (46 institutions from each LDC), additional climate delegates/experts of each country (46 institutions), LIFE-AR initiative (6 institutions - 1 institution per project country -6 in total), LUCCC initiative (15 partner universities).

Training to line Ministries

110. The training will be provided to about two hundred sixty three (263) at line ministries from, among others the: forty six (46) LDC Ministers' line ministry, LDC Chair's line Ministry; twenty two (22) LDC thematic coordinators and co-coordinators; eleven (11) LDC negotiators ; forty six (46) LDC UNFCCC National Focal Points; twenty (22) LDC representatives to various constituted bodies under COP/CMP/CMA; half of the foreseen two hundred thirty (230) additional climate delegates (experts), so hundred fifteen people from various ministries.

Training to community/association

111. Training will be provided to about thousand two hundred nineteen (1,219) people from climate communities and association (including climate institutes) from the additional climate delegates (experts) targeted as primary beneficiaries (about 115 people), the LDC initiatives (LUCCC), and climate experts to be identified at the start of the project.

Training to extension service officers

112. The LDC Elders and Election committee will also benefit from targeted training identified during the inception assessment.

Training to hydromet and disaster risk management staff

113. Through the LIFE-AR and LUCCC initiatives, about hundred and fifteen (115) hydromet and disaster risk management staff will benefit from awareness raising and to the extent possible training activities.

Training to small business owner

114. Under output 1.2.2, awareness raising activities will be provided to small business owner through the LDC initiatives and the proposed new initiative to be developed.

115. Under component 1, the project will produced one (1) strategic plan that will support the Group to mainstream climate resilience. Besides, it will support the Group to develop three (3) projects

documents to effectively implement the LDC initiatives, mainstreaming as well climate resilience and adaptation.

7) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Innovation

116. The project is bringing an innovative angle by setting up a collaborative platform (incl. database) for an enhanced dialogue and increased involvement of the Group and key stakeholders. This platform will support the Group to enhance their knowledge on climate adaptation matters as well raise awareness about their immediate and urgent climate needs. It will encourage networking and communication. The project will use the e-platform to better inform and help the Group to address climate related challenges and opportunities. This platform will be built in coordination with the UNFCCC on the already available LDC Climate change website (www ldc-climate.org). It will gather quantitative and qualitative data to build shared and clearer common understandings of climate change and climate adaptations needs. The ultimate goal is to establish a structure that ensure a sustainable and consistent support, maintain an institutional memory for coherent and harmonized decision-making. This structure will be supported by an innovation governance system. Innovation governance is a system of mechanisms to align goals, allocate resources and assign decision-making authority for innovation, across the organization and with external parties. This will not only ease and benefit the internal coordination, but also the coordination with key external stakeholders such as the UNFCCC Secretariat.

Sustainability and Exit strategy

117. The sustainability of the project will be ensured through the implementation of the 2030 strategic plan to be developed at the start of the project, the introduction of innovation governance, knowledge and coordination systems. These systems and plan will sustain the work undertaken beyond the project life. UNIDO is applying a peer-to-peer learning approach, which delegates gradually more and more duties and responsibilities to the team and management of the newly established Permanent Secretariat and contributes to the mobilisation of funding and international and regional partnerships to ensure the sustainability of the Group beyond GEF project closure. UNIDO will create synergies to its ongoing climate networks and particularly the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC), which is covering most of the LDCs.

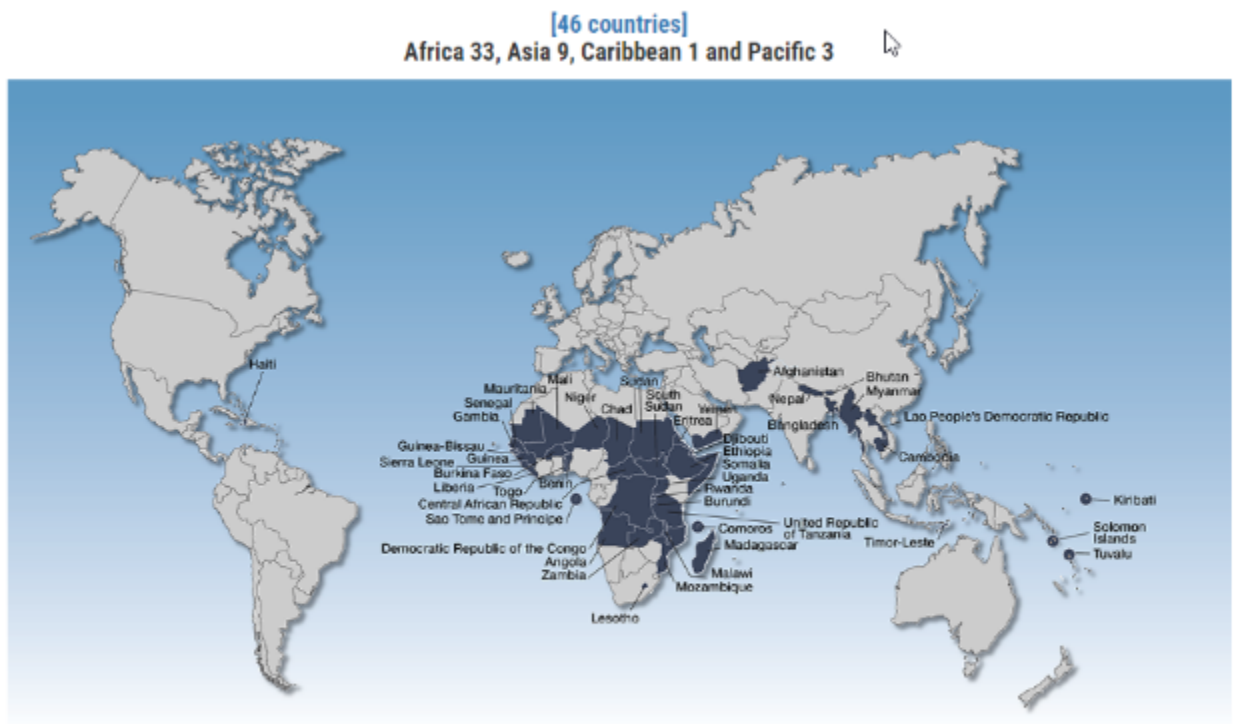
118. The fund allocated from the LDCF will allow the project to support the Group to access funding for a long term and sustained engagement in UNFCCC process and other key climate dialogues and negotiation process. The long-term fund and resource mobilization strategy in place and the continuous engagement with key stakeholders and funding institutions will support and guide this process. Under component 1, the project concretely aimed at securing at least 1 million USD additional funding (cash/in-kind) to sustain the core-operations and services of the LDC Group beyond GEF project. Drawing on the results of the needs assessment and consultations with the Group and its main key stakeholders (to be undertaken at the inception phase of the project), the LDC Strategy plan 2030 will set a strategic approach and programming directions to guide the work of the Group. It will focus on strategic actions to strengthen the Group's involvement in the UNFCCC process and facilitate their

participation in climate decision-making process to take appropriate measures, mainstream climate considerations and needs across different global and national levels to help their country implement the Paris Agreement. The Strategy, including a roadmap, will guide the work of the LDC Group on climate change beyond the project lifetime and form the basis of priority activities to be undertaken to facilitate the transformational change for climate actions in the LDC. The priority areas of the strategy will focus among others on further strengthening institutional capacity, reinforcing coordination and decision making process, establishing and nurturing long-term financing mechanisms, fostering partnership. The strategy will place an emphasis on adaptation priorities fully aligned with the Paris Agreement's adaptation goal. A Monitoring and Evaluation plan will be prepared during the first phase and integrated within the project management plan to support the deployment of the established strategic plan, mechanisms and frameworks. To increase the reach-out, the collected data and lessons-learned collected throughout the project will be publicly shared on relevant knowledge sharing platforms as well as on the Group website (www.ldc-climate.org) and social media ([twitter](#) of the Chair).

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

The Secretariat will work in close collaboration with the LDC group covering its forty-six countries (46).



Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Figure 4: Map of the Least Developed Countries

Source: UNCTAD

1c. Child Project?

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

Not applicable

2. Stakeholders

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

An assessment of stakeholders will be undertaken at the first phase of the project under component, outcome 1.1. Consultations and surveys will enable the project to update the stakeholder mapping and ensure acceptance. Please refer to Annex H for further details about the stakeholder engagement plan.

Table 5: Project Stakeholders and their Role in the Project

Stakeholder	National Mandate and Role in the project
LDC Group on Climate Change	<p>Mandate: ensure that the outcomes of UN climate change negotiations reflect LDC interests and priorities</p> <p>Role: provide technical inputs and guidance to the Permanent Secretariat work, participate in assessment, consultations, and contribute in technical thematic discussions and related activities.</p>
Chair of the Group	<p>Mandate: advance the LDC climate involvement in international dialogue, foster ownership and consensus among Parties, and maintain the momentum created at LDC and climate related meetings</p> <p>Role: Provide leadership to the LDC Group, supervise and guide the permanent Secretariat work, chair the project steering committee; Diplomacy, including representing the Group in forums inside and outside of the UNFCCC</p>
LDC Elders	<p>Mandate: assist the LDC Chair and the LDC Group with a view to improve decision-making process at the technical level. They act as the institutional memory of the group.</p> <p>Role: provide guidance to the permanent Secretariat in revising and finalizing reports and other relevant documents for the group; suggest relevant topic for the thematic meetings</p>
LDC Thematic coordinators and co-coordinators	<p>Mandate: lead thematic discussion, represent LDC Group in respective thematic discussions in the negotiations; assess and support the group on thematic areas, update Chair and LDC Group on respective thematic areas</p> <p>Role: support on knowledge management, capacity building, technical advancement, guide development and update of technical thematic briefings and papers.</p>
LDC Election Committee	<p>Mandate: ensure transparent decision making in the election matters</p> <p>Role: support the permanent Secretariat in organizing elections, recommending candidature of the LDC group members; decide on the nomination of the LDC representative to various positions in UNFCCC constituted bodies and others</p>
UNFCCC LDC national focal points	<p>Mandate: Party representatives to the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement; undertake activities pertaining to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at national levels and fulfil mandates and obligations arising from the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement</p> <p>Role: Participate in the negotiations, provide guidance to the LDC Chair and the Group, provide evidence based data on climate change and adaptation actions to the LDC group for an enhanced dialogues and negotiations</p>

<p>Project Steering committee (<i>To be established</i>)</p>	<p>Mandate: Oversight of the project and ensure that the project is implemented and delivering as per the objective and planned activities</p> <p>Role: offer strategic guidance to the LDC project management unit to: meet the project objectives; propose strategic flagship activities; approve the project annual work plan and budget after review as well as the annual status reports and financial statements; monitor the progress and performance of the project; approve evaluations and management responses and contribute to the project’s fund raising and visibility, fostering its promotion towards key stakeholders and strategic partners.</p>
<p>UNIDO</p>	<p>Mandate: support Member States in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID)</p> <p>Role: GEF Agency Undertake the implementation and the execution of the project, covering among other the monitoring, reporting and terminal evaluation of the project</p>
<p>LDC Expert Group (LEG)</p>	<p>Mandate: advise on the preparation and implementation strategy for national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), which would meet the urgent and immediate adaptation needs of the least developed countries</p> <p>Role: advise the Group on capacity-building needs and guide the draft of the yearly common position paper on climate adaptation in the LDC</p>
<p>UNFCCC Secretariat</p>	<p>Mandate: Facilitate the intergovernmental climate change negotiations providing organizational support and technical expertise to the UNFCCC negotiations and institutions and facilitates the flow of authoritative information on the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement</p> <p>Role: coordinate with the LDC Chair and secretariat on the UNFCCC process and related information flow and communication</p>
<p>Climate Analytics (AC)</p>	<p>Mandate: By linking scientific and policy analysis, Climate Analytics provide state-of-the-art solutions to global and national climate change policy challenges. Supporting science-based policy to prevent dangerous climate change to enable sustainable development.</p> <p>Role: Support the Chair and thematic coordinators of the LDC Group through real-time and inter-sessional support, covering where requested all major negotiation themes, through the provision of scientific, technical and analytical inputs for climate ambition raising consistent with 1.5°C pathways; the preparation of UNFCCC submissions; preparation of knowledge products and briefings summarizing latest scientific reports, high-level ministerial briefings, and technical and legal analysis of UNFCCC decisions. Climate Analytics will primarily cover activities under outputs 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 3.1.2, 3.2.1.</p>

<p>International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)</p>	<p>Mandate: conduct independent research to drive progress, support sustainable development and protect environment. Identify local solution that can scale and introduce to global platforms.</p> <p>Role: Provide on demand and real-time legal, technical and strategic advice and support to the Chair and the Group. IIED will assist implementing activities under output 1.2.2 through the Secretariat.</p>
<p>Adaptation Committee (AC)</p>	<p>Mandate: promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention</p> <p>Role: provide technical support and guidance to the Secretariat and the LDC climate change group, sharing relevant information, knowledge, experience and good practices; provide information and recommendations, drawing on adaptation good practices, for consideration by the COP when providing guidance on means to incentivize the implementation of adaptation actions, including finance, technology and capacity-building; promote synergy and strengthen engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks; consider common information</p>
<p>Global Environment Facility (GEF)</p>	<p>Mandate multilateral trust fund enabling developing countries to invest in nature, and supports the implementation of major international environmental conventions including on biodiversity, climate change, chemicals, and desertification.</p> <p>Role: Monitor and guide the project development and implementation</p>
<p>Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)</p>	<p>Least Developed Countries Funds (LDCF) Mandate: serve the Paris Agreement by supporting urgent, medium, and long-term adaptation needs in LDC. The fund exclusively targets adaptation needs Role: Guide and provide financial support to develop and further implement LDC’s adaptation initiatives</p> <p>Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF): Mandate: serve the Paris Agreement by facilitating the creation of strong, climate-resilient economies and communities by helping countries address a range of barriers Role: support the LDC group ongoing initiatives as well as new innovative projects/programmes, support facilitating private sector engagement in climate adaptation, climate risk management, and climate resilient technology and infrastructure</p>
<p>Green Climate Fund (GCF)</p>	<p>Mandate: limit or reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in developing countries, and to help vulnerable societies adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Role: support in diversifying the funding of existing and/or new adaptations initiatives</p>

Adaptation Fund (AF)	<p>Mandate: give developing countries full ownership of adaptation projects, from planning through implementation, while ensuring monitoring and transparency at every step</p> <p>Role: support in diversifying the funding of existing and/or new adaptations initiatives</p>
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UNIDO will be responsible for project management including activities implementation, financial management, fundraising support and reporting to the GEF, the LDC Chair and the Project Steering Committee. UNIDO will provide services related to institution building and technical climate advisory to the Group. **During project implementation, UNIDO will gradually, depending on the achieved progress, delegate more responsibilities to the established Permanent Secretariat. This will allow the Secretariat and the Group to take full ownership beyond the GEF project closure.**

Climate Analytics (CA ? www.climateanalytics.org) and International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED - www.iied.org) are supporting the LDC Group on various climate and negotiations aspects.

CA is a non-profit climate science and policy institute based in Berlin (Germany), with offices in New York (USA), Lomé (Togo), Perth (Australia), Kathmandu (Nepal) and Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago).

IIED is an independent research organisation that aims to deliver positive change on a global scale. The organisation has a long and deep partnership with the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group at the UN climate change negotiations. It provides legal, technical and strategic advice to the LDC Group in the UNFCCC process. IIED team are supporting the LDC Group's Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR). This initiative aims to develop an over-arching LDC vision for adapting towards a climate resilient future by 2050. IIED is supporting the implementation process and is undertaking a review and analysis of evidence on effective adaptation and resilience interventions.

To ensure continuation of the work carried out by CA and IIED, UNIDO in agreement with the LDC Chair and the Group will grant contracts to the two institutes to provide further scientific, technical and analytical inputs for climate ambition-raising consistent with 1.5°C pathways, the preparation of UNFCCC submissions, briefings summarising latest scientific reports, high-level ministerial, and technical and legal analysis of UNFCCC decisions that support the objectives of the project. Through the Secretariat, CA and IIED will support and provide guidance on activities under component 1, 2 and 3. The specific activities will be determined at the start of the project in consultation with the Group.

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; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

Gender inequality and climate change intersect in many ways, threatening women's livelihoods, well-being, and progress for girls and women around the world:

- ?Women face barriers to leaving areas prone to climate change and natural disaster.
- ?Women face disproportionately high health risks from the effects of climate change.
- ?Gender-specific threats are used to silence female environmental leaders.
- ?Women are excluded from decision-making spaces and climate change negotiations.
- ?Female-led groups do not receive sufficient climate funding.

UNIDO recognises that interventions related to climate change are expected to have an impact on people and are, therefore, not gender-neutral. UNIDO recognises that gender equality and the empowerment of women have a significant positive impact on sustained economic growth and inclusive industrial development, which are key drivers of poverty alleviation and social progress. However, there is limited information and resources regarding gender, and gender perspectives are not yet been adequately considered by the LDC Group. It is therefore advisable that qualitative and quantitative data are collected and compiled by the Secretariat throughout the project implementation in order to better inform the climate negotiations and decisions and apply gender mainstreaming based on research findings. Explicit and implicit social norms and laws have imposed differentiated powers, roles, and responsibilities on women and men in all aspects of life. Girls and women ? especially those living in the Global South ? bear an unequal responsibility for securing food, water, energy, and other vital resources as well as for caring for the young and elderly ? all of which place them at greater risk of experiencing detrimental climate impacts. For example, girls and women often suffer the most when heat waves, droughts, severe storms or other extreme climate events strike. They face physical and mental health complications, bear the burden of traveling farther to collect scarce food, water, and firewood, and are often forced to stay behind in disaster-prone areas to care for the vulnerable. In addition, girls and women have been prevented from full and fair participation in the global climate action movement. Women face multiple barriers to equal leadership and involvement in climate change mitigation due to the following: gender roles and norms; gender bias; women are underrepresented while men still predominately occupy most of the higher hierarchy position, especially in the LDCs; lack of knowledge and gender-disaggregated data with regards to climate change impact; lack of data on women's participation in the LDC climate related dialogues and decision making even if women are the most vulnerable to climate change in the LDC region. They continue to face gender-specific violence and harassment as a result of their climate activism, remain underrepresented in global climate negotiations, and their solutions are drastically under-resourced. Initially tabled by the LDC Group, the Lima work Programme on Gender established a two-year work programme for promoting gender balance and achieving gender-responsive climate policy by guiding the effective participation of women in UNFCCC bodies. The programme encourages training and awareness-raising for all delegates on the issue of gender balance, and special sessions for female delegates to build their skills in negotiation and communication. Within the LDC Group, women negotiators currently play a key role at international climate change negotiations. In 2019, when Bhutan was the Chair, the Lead

Negotiator from Bhutan was a woman. In 2022, as Senegal as a Chair, LDC Chair for the first time is a woman. During 2018, approximately 30% of the total 29 LDC Group lead negotiators were women, and they were actively engaged in making statements and giving keynote speeches. In 2020, around 35% of the total 17 LDC Group coordinators are women and they have actively engaged in giving keynote statements and leading the Group discussions. One of the women LDC lead negotiators from LDC also currently serves as the Rapporteur of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). However, further implementation and improvement to promote gender balance and achieve gender responsive climate policy are required. Recognising this, the project will ensure that both women and men are provided equal opportunities to lead, participate in and benefit from the project. The project structure includes several gender responsive activities. In practical terms this means:

- ? during the first phase, the project will undertake a gender analysis and based on this develop a gender mainstreaming strategy and action plan to be included in the Group's 2030 strategic plan.
- ? Efforts will be taken to ensure that both women and men have equal opportunities to lead, participate in and benefit from all project activities. At least 40% of the total number of project beneficiaries are expected to be women.
- ? Gender-responsive recruitment will be practiced (where possible at all levels), especially in selection of project staff, researchers and experts, as well as technical staff. In cases where the project does not have direct influence, gender- responsive recruitment will be encouraged;
- ? LDC Group on climate change bodies will be trained on gender mainstreaming and their awareness will be raised on gender bias. ? When data-collection or assessments are conducted as part of the project implementation, gender dimensions will be considered. This will include gender-disaggregated data collection.
- ? All decision-making processes will consider gender dimensions. At project management level, efforts will be made for the Project Steering Committee and participants to other important meetings for the Group to be gender balanced. Also, at the level of project activity implementation, efforts will be made to consult with stakeholders focusing on gender equality and women's empowerment issues. This is especially relevant in policy review and formulation.
- ? Research, data and assessments will consider gender and age differentiated needs of women and men from different social groups.

Gender inequality and climate change intersect in many ways, threatening women's livelihoods, well-being, and progress for girls and women around the world:

- ? Women face barriers to leaving areas prone to climate change and natural disaster.
- ? Women face disproportionately high health risks from the effects of climate change.
- ? Gender-specific threats are used to silence female environmental leaders.
- ? Women are excluded from decision-making spaces and climate change negotiations.
- ? Female-led groups do not receive sufficient climate funding.

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Explicit and implicit social norms and laws have imposed differentiated powers, roles, and responsibilities on women and men in all aspects of life. Girls and women ? especially those living in the Global South ? bear an unequal responsibility for securing food, water, energy, and other vital resources as well as for caring for the young and elderly ? all of which place them at greater risk of experiencing detrimental climate impacts. For example, girls and women often suffer the most when heat waves, droughts, severe storms or other extreme climate events strike. They face physical and

mental health complications, bear the burden of traveling farther to collect scarce food, water, and firewood, and are often forced to stay behind in disaster-prone areas to care for the vulnerable.

In addition, girls and women have been prevented from full and fair participation in the global climate action movement. Women face multiple barriers to equal leadership and involvement in climate change mitigation due to the following: gender roles and norms; gender bias; women are underrepresented while men still predominately occupy most of the higher hierarchy position, especially in the LDCs; lack of knowledge and gender-disaggregated data with regards to climate change impact; lack of data on women's participation in the LDC climate related dialogues and decision making even if women are the most vulnerable to climate change in the LDC region. They continue to face gender-specific violence and harassment as a result of their climate activism, remain underrepresented in global climate negotiations, and their solutions are drastically under-resourced.

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Within the LDC Group, women negotiators currently play a key role at international climate change negotiations. In 2019, when Bhutan was the Chair, the Lead Negotiator from Bhutan was a woman. In 2022, as Senegal as a Chair, LDC Chair for the first time is a woman.

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However, further implementation and improvement to promote gender balance and achieve gender responsive climate policy are required. Recognising this, the project will ensure that both women and men are provided equal opportunities to lead, participate in and benefit from the project.

The project structure includes several gender responsive activities.

In practical terms this means:

- ? during the first phase, the project will undertake a gender analysis and based on this develop a gender mainstreaming strategy and action plan to be included in the Group's 2030 strategic plan.
- ? Efforts will be taken to ensure that both women and men have equal opportunities to lead, participate in and benefit from all project activities. At least 40% of the total number of project beneficiaries are expected to be women.
- ? Gender-responsive recruitment will be practiced (where possible at all levels), especially in selection of project staff, researchers and experts, as well as technical staff. In cases where the project does not have direct influence, gender- responsive recruitment will be encouraged;
- ? LDC Group on climate change bodies will be trained on gender mainstreaming and their awareness will be raised on gender bias.
- ? When data-collection or assessments are conducted as part of the project implementation, gender dimensions will be considered. This will include gender-disaggregated data collection.
- ? All decision-making processes will consider gender dimensions. At project management level, efforts will be made for the Project Steering Committee and participants to other important meetings for the Group to be gender balanced. Also, at the level of project activity implementation, efforts will be made to consult with stakeholders focusing on gender equality and women's empowerment issues. This is especially relevant in policy review and formulation.
- ? Research, data and assessments will consider gender and age differentiated needs of women and men from different social groups.

The project structure includes several gender and youth responsive activities. At least 50% of the total number of project beneficiaries

are expected to be women.

UNIDO recognises that gender equality and the empowerment of women have a significant positive impact on sustained economic growth and inclusive industrial development, which are key drivers of poverty alleviation and social progress. However, there is limited information and resources regarding gender, and gender perspectives are not yet been adequately considered by the Group. It is therefore advisable that qualitative and quantitative data are collected and compiled by the Secretariat throughout the project implementation in order to better inform the climate negotiations and decisions and apply gender mainstreaming based on research findings.

Barriers are faced due to the following: men still predominately occupy most of the higher hierarchy position, especially in the LDC; lack of gender-climate disaggregated data; lack of data on female participation in the LDC climate related dialogues and decision making even if women are the most vulnerable to climate change in the LDC region.

UNIDO recognises that interventions related to climate change are expected to have an impact on people and are, therefore, not gender-neutral. As a guiding principle, the project will ensure that both women and men are provided equal opportunities to lead, participate in and benefit from the project.

In practical terms, during the first phase the project will undertake a gender analysis and based on this develop a gender mainstreaming action plan to be included in the Group's roadmap.

Efforts will be taken to ensure that both women and men have equal opportunities to lead, participate in and benefit from all project activities.

Gender-responsive recruitment will be practiced (where possible at all levels), especially in selection of project staff, researchers and experts, as well as technical staff. In cases where the project does not have direct influence, gender- responsive recruitment will be encouraged.

LDC Group on climate change bodies will be trained on gender mainstreaming and their awareness will be raised on gender bias.

When data-collection or assessments are conducted as part of the project implementation, gender dimensions will be considered. This will include gender-disaggregated data collection.

All decision-making processes will consider gender dimensions. At project management level, efforts will be made for the Project Steering Committee and participants to other important meetings for the Group to be gender balanced. Also, at the level of project activity implementation, efforts will be made to consult with stakeholders focusing on gender equality and women's empowerment issues. This is especially relevant in policy review and formulation.

Research, data and assessments will consider gender and age differentiated needs of women and men from different social groups.

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;

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women

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

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Elaborate on private sector engagement in the project, if any

The private sector is not a primary target group or beneficiary of the project. However, the assessment activities to develop the Group roadmap will take into account the climate actions needs related to this particular and relevant sector for the LDC.

Under component 1, UNIDO will support the Group to develop one new initiative to promote local climate technology and entrepreneurship, innovation and clusters in LDCs, bringing its private sector networks, experience and knowledge for the long term benefit of these regions. Regarding this activity, UNIDO will build synergies to ongoing private-sector oriented programs, such as the Private Finance Advisory Network (PFAN), the Global Clean Tech Innovation Programme (GCIP) and the BLOOM Clean Tech Cluster Programme.

At the networking level, the project will identify key industries and sub-sectors, and explore forms of potential partnerships that can be built in the long term to support the LDC Parties and their private sector to accelerate the shift to climate resilient investments, focusing on making key services and products climate proofed.

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):

Table 2: RISK ANALYSIS

Risk / Opportunities	Level	Risk Type	Mitigation Actions
Lack of partnership engagement (from stakeholders, government, etc.)	Low	Governmental	Early engagement strategy, regular outreach with the group to keep the momentum. Dissemination of information and knowledge to ensure engagement of the key stakeholders.
Climate Change	Low	Climate	The project focuses on institutional and structural strengthening of the LDC Group and its Secretariat. Even if the project will support the implementation and coordination of the LDC initiatives (LIFE-AR and LUCCC), it will primarily focus on knowledge and capacity aspects rather than technology investment and commissioning. The risk of to be affected or contribute to climate change is low.

<p>National/regional political instability or conflicts and tensions between partners</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Political</p>	<p>The project will fully consider this aspect and ensure effective communication with stakeholders, raising awareness about expected outputs of the project based on a strategy framework established.</p> <p>The hybrid platform for knowledge sharing and capacity building will help mitigate consequences of political instability in case of impossibility of the members to participate to some activities.</p>
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<p>Low participation rates of women due to missing qualified female at decision level</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Gender</p>	<p>The project will pursue thorough gender responsive communication and ensure stakeholder involvement at all levels, with special regard to involving women and men. As gender has been clearly mainstreamed throughout the project design, this will help mitigate any potential risk.</p> <p>Taking into consideration the lack of gender related data and tools, it is advisable that qualitative and quantitative data are collected and compiled from the LDC group members and the UNFCCC focal points in order to better inform the common position policy paper, the thematic meeting report and apply gender mainstreamed based on the research findings.</p>
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<p>COVID-19</p> <p><i>Risk and opportunities</i></p> <p>Risk of lack of resources, failing to implement according to project schedule or change in priorities from stakeholders due to ongoing economic and social challenges due to pandemic or its consequences</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Global</p>	<p>The project will fully consider the negative implications of COVID-19 during the first phase and identify the most appropriate ways to conduct implementation by using safety measures and preventive precautionary procedures. Further consultations will be conducted on how COVID-19 could have bearing on the project's implementation and design interventions and activities to consider additional challenges that may subsequently arise due to the pandemic. That would be pinned in the project schedule to accommodate to the extension of activities implementation and mobilization challenges during the pandemic period.</p>
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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.

UNIDO will be the lead implementing and executing agency for this global project. UNIDO will therefore hold the ultimate responsibility for the implementation of the project, the delivery of the planned outputs and the achievement of the expected outcomes. In particular, UNIDO will be responsible for monitoring the programme, supervising the coordination efforts and reporting on the project performance to the GEF. The implementation and execution arrangements can be found in the table below:

Component 1	Component 2	Component 3	Component 4
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Implementation	UNIDO department of Energy (office of the Director)	UNIDO department of Energy (office of the Director)	UNIDO department of Energy (office of the Director)	UNIDO department of Energy (office of the Director)
Execution	UNIDO ESI division: 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.1, 1.2.2 With the involvement of: IIED & Climate Analytics: 1.2.2	UNIDO ESI division: 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1 With the involvement of: IIED, Climate Analytics: 2.1.2, 2.2.1	UNIDO ESI division: 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.2 With the involvement of: IIED, Climate Analytics: 3.1.1, 3.1.2	UNIDO ESI division

Table 6: Implementation and execution arrangement

Project Implementation and Execution

UNIDO will implement this global project as a whole. Specifically, the implementation will be handled through the Office of the Director of the Department of Energy, and the execution will be handled within the Energy Systems and Infrastructure (ESI) division.

From the execution point of view, UNIDO will execute all components with the support of International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and Climate Analytics for the execution of activities under component 1, 2 and 3. These two entities provided in-kind contributions to the project. They will execute activities under the mentioned components in line with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with the LDC Chair on behalf of the Group. The list of specific activities to be executed will be determined at the inception phase once the needs and baseline assessment will be conducted. The result of the assessment will inform a contractual agreement between UNIDO and each institution, detailing the expected outputs and deliverables including conditions of payment amongst other conditions.

As lead executing agency, UNIDO will hence be entrusted with the Project Management Unit (PMU). The PMU will be responsible for day-to-day management of project activities and ensure regular project monitoring. The PMU will ensure that the activities are coordinated with the ongoing Chair and the SC, LDCs group in general, and the UNFCCC Secretariat through the main project stakeholders. The PMU will report to the LDC Chair and the Project Steering Committee (PSC) to be established at the inception phase.

The PSC will be composed of the LDC Chairperson, the Secretariat team (PMU), one representative of each governing body (Elders, thematic coordinator, election committee, technical lead for LDC initiatives), three (3) UNFCCC National Focal Points representing each LDC region, one representative of UNIDO, and one representative of the GEF team. To ensure that the maximum countries are represented, it is proposed to have the UNFCCC National Focal Point in a rotational basis for a duration of one year. The PSC can have observers identified as key stakeholders such as the UNFCCC Secretariat. The final composition and rules and procedures of the project steering committee will be formed during the first phase of the project implementation. The PSC will act as an advisory mechanism to ensure the successful design and implementation of the project. The main role of the PSC is to provide operational guidance as well as overall, high-level coordination and project validation forum during the implementation of the project. The PSC will meet at least biannually to track progress and provide opportunities for identifying potential synergies, as well as to increase uptake of lessons and build synergies. The Chair of the Group is envisaged to Chair the PSC.

The project implementation will be supported by two institutes, recognized as partners institutions having formal MoU with the LDC Chair: Climate Analytics and International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). These two institutes will be contracted to provide further scientific, technical and analytical inputs for climate ambition-raising consistent with 1.5°C pathways, the preparation of UNFCCC submissions, briefings summarizing latest scientific reports, high-level ministerial, and technical and legal analysis of UNFCCC decisions that support the objectives of the project. Through the Secretariat, Climate Analytics and IIED will support activities under component 1, 2 and 3. The exact activities will be agreed at the project inception in accordance with the project document and the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two institutes and the LDC Group.

To avoid duplication and ensure complementarity, the project team will liaise with the team of the GEF LDCF project "Strengthening Endogenous capacities of Least developed Countries to Access Finance for Climate Change Adaptation" (UNEP, GEF ID 10525), as well as with other identified similar projects.

The project implementation arrangement will be structured as follows:

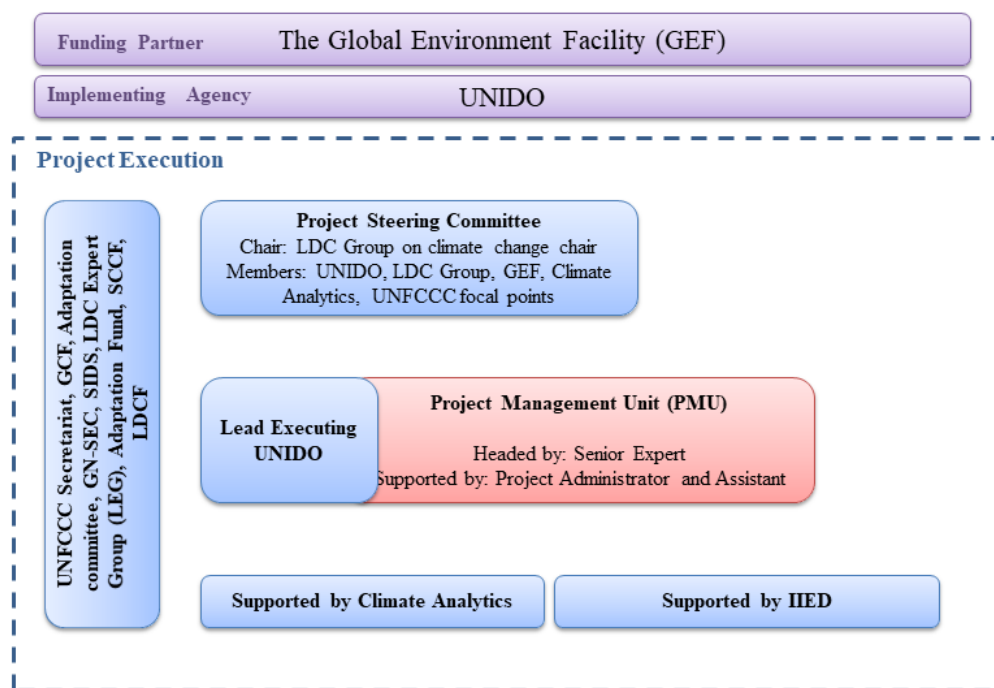


Figure 5: Project Institutional Arrangement

Full or partial ownership of equipment/assets purchased under the project may be transferred to project beneficiaries during the project implementation as deemed appropriate by the LDC chair in consultation with UNIDO.

Legal Context: It is expected that each set of activities to be implemented in the target countries will be governed by the provisions of the Standard Basic Cooperation Agreement concluded between the Government of the recipient country concerned and UNIDO or in the absence of such an agreement by one of the following: (i) the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement concluded between the recipient country

and UNDP, (ii) the Technical Assistance Agreements concluded between the recipient country and the United Nations and specialised agencies, or (iii) the Basic Terms and Conditions Governing UNIDO Projects.?

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 in line with the [Thimphu LDC Ministerial Communiqué on Climate Change 2019](#), the LDC's Climate Change Group Charter, and the LDC Vision 2050 for a resilient future.

The project is also fully in line with the:

- LDC Work Program adopted at COP24 in 2018
- UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement
- National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) under UNFCCC
- LDC's National Adaptation Programm of Action (NAPA) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) under LDCF/UNFCCC
- LDC's National Communications (NC) under UNFCCC
- Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) under UNFCCC

Within the framework on the Paris Agreement, the Project will provide support to the Group to contribute to the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement and the preparation of the Biennial Transparency Report. Under component 1 and 2, the Secretariat, to the extent possible and as appropriate, will support the Group and identified focal points (UNFCCC, IPCC, etc.) to develop and implement systems to report on the ETF provisions. The project will provide knowledge and capacity building sessions addressing the reporting needs.

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.

Knowledge management activities are key for the Project to maintain institutional memory and ensure coherent and efficient decision-making. After assessing the available knowledge management framework and products, primarily under component 2, the Project, in consultation with the Group, will update or develop a new framework. It will set up knowledge programmes and invest in knowledge tools to collect, exchange and disseminate information about the LDC Group activities and climate adaptation related data throughout the project. A specific knowledge process will be established to sustain knowledge sharing and dissemination beyond the project lifetime. It will complement and strengthen the existing [NAPs knowledge repository](#) available on the LDC climate change website and other available process.

The Project will strengthen the network of experts, allowing peer-to-peer exchange of knowledge and deployment of knowledge products.

Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the existing Group website through existing identified information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in meetings and conferences, which may be of benefit to the project

implementation through lessons learned. The PMU will identify, analyse and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in sustaining the work of the Secretariat and the LDC Group.

Different tools such as the development of a database will allow gathering quantitative and qualitative data as well data visualisation and analysis. Collaboration with other entities through their information exchange platform can be of benefit for the Project. Promotion through social media channels, UNFCCC and UNIDO portals in addition to other tools will support the knowledge sharing and dissemination efforts.

All knowledge management activities (such as trainings, awareness raising) will be gender mainstreamed. This includes integration of gender dimensions into the project documents (incl. action plans), publications, for instance presenting sex-disaggregated data, gender sensitive language in publications, photos showing both women and men, and avoid presenting stereotypes, as well as assuring that women, men and the youth have access to and benefit from the knowledge created.

UNIDO will create strong synergies to the climate knowledge activities of its ongoing network programs, such as the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC) and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN).

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

The project will provide an effective monitoring system to support concrete implementation of commitments and a structured framework for multilateral cooperation.

A periodical project monitoring, evaluating, and reporting process will be set up by UNIDO in line with its organisational rules and regulations and in close coordination with the LDC Chair and LDC Group on climate change. The system will allow to systematically assessing the results achieved as readiness activities and deliverables are completed.

The M&E plan will include specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound indicators that will be used to assess the timeliness and effectiveness of the project's implementation. The basis for the M&E plan will be the logical framework and the established indicators. Relevant data and indicators and other assessments will be reconfirmed by the project steering committee at the inception phase. Where necessary, additional baseline data will be collected.

The system will be harmonised with the established M&E framework under the GEF project. The monitoring of progress will be ensured by the PSC, which approves the annual work plans and budgets, as well as the progress reports. An evaluation of the support will be undertaken by an independent consultant at the end of the support duration.

Moreover, an internal communication plan will be set-up between project team members, i.e. LDC Group on climate change and UNIDO personnel. The detailed M&E plan, with a clear structure and set of project milestones, will be developed at the inception phase of the project. Moreover, the M&E plan will include utilisation of the GEF 'Progress Implementation Report' (PIR) based upon an agreed schedule, comparing against the work plan, budget, and agreed targets.

Throughout the project, UNIDO will assess and propose potential revisions or adaptations to activities and milestones to manage project scope in relation to future implementation success. Upon completion of all activities and outputs, evaluation forms will be completed by the (i) LDC Group about overall satisfaction level with the technical assistance service provided; (ii) UNIDO team about the knowledge and learning gained through delivery of technical assistance; At project end, UNIDO will prepare and submit a project completion report to the GEF and LDC Group on climate change.

All monitoring and evaluation tools and documents, such as the monitoring plan, progress reports, final evaluation report, and thematic evaluations (e.g. training needs assessment), will include gender dimensions, and report with respect to an established baseline for gender related targets. When data collection or assessments are conducted, gender dimensions will be considered. This will include in particular collection of sex-disaggregated data.

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 (LDCF/SCCF)?

The Project will have direct and short term benefits at national and local levels from the activities to be undertaken through the support the Project will provide to the implementation of the three LDC initiatives: the LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR); the Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC); and the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative (REEEI). These initiatives aim to strengthen LDC's response to climate change to build climate resilience and adapt to low-carbon economy, strengthen capacity of the LDC universities to become able to serve as knowledge hub; and enhance access of climate finance. With the support of the project, these initiatives will ultimately contribute to enhance adaptive capacity and actions in LDC.

At the global level, in the mid- and long-term, the support provided, is expected to contribute to climate change-relevant decisions making, defined as decisions leading to actions that have consequences for climate change, particularly through mitigation and adaptation. The support to be provided by the Project should allow the Group to effectively take part to international climate decision-making processes, undertake adequate climate adaptation-related decisions. These decisions are expected to be translated into actions at local levels, contributing to build resilience to climate adverse impacts.

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/Approva I	MTR	TE
Low			

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.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
E&S_Screening_SAP_ID_220042_LDC_Signed_08	CEO Endorsement ESS	

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

Framework	Baseline	Target/Activities deliverables	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
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<p>Project objective</p>	<p>Strengthened institutional structures of the LDC Group on climate change, enabling them to enhance their participation and advocacy for LDC positions in UNFCCC processes and decision-making on climate change adaptation and mitigation, as well as to access climate finance</p>	<p>Absence of a secretariat, and systematized knowledge sharing and -retaining mechanism creating challenges in: providing consistency and progressive leadership; improving internal and external coordination; inspiring and delivering concrete domestic climate actions.</p>	<p>? Survey among UNFCCC negotiators and delegates confirm better coordinated and coherent LDC quality inputs into climate debates, processes and decision-making (at least 65% positive responses) ? Evidence on at least 4 (four) coordinated gender-sensitive well-informed LDC positions brought systematically into climate decision-making processes is available ? Forty-six (46) LDC Governments benefit from favourable multilateral climate decisions on mitigation, adaptation and finance issues in the context of UNFCCC processes (evidence on two cases available) ? At least three (3) well-informed gender responsive public high-level statements of LDC Heads of State are issued in the context of major climate events and receive broad public awareness. ? At least 6.000 climate experts (at least 50% women) among 46 LDCs benefit from quality</p>	<p>? Project terminal evaluation ? GEF project tracking tool ? UNFCCC reports ? Country reports ? Surveys ? Coordinated positions and statements ? Quantitative assessment of LDG Group outreach</p>	<p>? Effectiveness and capacities of the LDC Group on Climate Change is strengthened ? Continued readiness of LDC Governments to coordinate positions and to speak with one voice ? The different Parties aligned their request and commitments ? The decision(s) taken by the Group are translated at the appropriate local level of governance with participation from all affected communities</p>
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COMPONENT I: Strengthened governance and coordination of the Group, sustaining a continuous and harmonized involvement of the Parties in the UNFCCC process

<p>OUTCOME 1.1</p>	<p>OUTCOME 1.1: LDC Group on Climate Change is effectively and sustainably operated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Limited institutional memory due to the absence of a permanent LDC Secretariat and rotational basis of chairmanship ? Poor internal coordination due to the lack of institutional support and continued funding to mobilise an internal team ? Lack of coherent and harmonized decisions on climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Final terminal evaluation confirms increased relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of the LDC Group ? Survey among the LDC members demonstrates increased satisfaction with the provided services of the LDC Group (at least 65% of members) ? Additional funding to sustain the core-operations and services of the LDC Group beyond GEF project is secured (at least 1 million USD cash/in-kind) ? LDC Group and Secretariat has the capacity to operate independently from UNIDO after GEF Project completion ? Enhanced gender awareness of LDC Group and Secretariat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Evaluation ? Surveys ? Funding commitments and agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Cooperative target group ? Majority of the members of the Group agree on one proposed legal option
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	<p>Output 1.1.1 Strategic Plan of the Group including adaptive capacity approach under implementation</p>	<p>? Limited understanding of the Group's specific needs and long term strategy ? No legal entity available</p>	<p>? One (1) consultative baseline and needs assessment report on the LDC Group available (incl. gender disaggregated data) ? 2030 Strategic Plan of the LDC Group on Climate Change, including budget, gender-responsive governance structure and staff chart, is developed and adopted ? One (1) validation workshop on the Strategic Plan is organised (at least one gender group/association per LDC region participating) ? Final agreement on the legal status and hosting arrangements of the LDC Group is reached ? Legal hosting and registration arrangements are implemented (if required)</p>	<p>? Consultations and survey outcomes report incl. participants list (50% women consulted) ? Strategic and legal plan ? Validation workshop report incl. sex-disaggregated list of participants ? Legal status and hosting arrangement established/signed</p>	<p>? Cooperative target group</p>
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	<p>Output 1.1.2 Permanent Secretariat operational and quality services to the LDC Group delivered</p>	<p>? Secretariat established, but not operational ? No existing Secretariat team</p>	<p>? Staff of the Secretariat in line with the organisational chart, gender and LDC considerations recruited ? Internal rules and procedures (procurement, finance, staffing, travel, gender), fiduciary standards and quality framework of the Secretariat established and tested (if required) ? Rules and procedures and gender-sensitive composition of the Governance structure is established and implemented ? At least one physical or online (1) Project Steering committee conducted per year ? At least (1) one annual coordination retreat organised by online means ? One (1) fund and resource mobilisation strategy for the LDC Group developed and under implementation</p>	<p>? ToRs of the staff recruited ? At least three (3) documents (procurement, recruitment, M&E plan) describing the Secretariat internal structure and proceedings ? Meetings (incl. PSC) minutes ? One (1) fund mobilisation strategy ? One (1) funding agreement signed</p>	<p>? An interim structure and procedure for the operationalisation of the Secretariat is established following UNIDO rules and procedures. ? The specific proceedings of the Secretariat are developed and available at the end of the project. Documentation and training material are available to ensure the transition from the interim to the fully operational Secretariat</p>
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<p>OUTCOME 1.2</p>	<p>OUTCOME 1.2: Enhanced internal coordination and institutional memory</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Limited institutional memory exacerbated by the rotational chairmanship ? Existing internal coordination of positions and activities, but difficulties to continuously follow-up because of the lack of institutional coordination and recording ? Lack of coherent joint positions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Evidence on more effective and frequent coordination through the Secretariat within the LDC group on joint gender-sensitive climate positions, policy statements and initiatives (at least ten (10) examples available) ? Evidence on enhanced quality policy inputs of the Group based on LDC climate intelligence and gender-disaggregated data (at least three (3) examples) ? Availability of generated knowledge and intelligence on LDC climate issues beyond GEF project close through the Secretariat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Established and implemented KM system incl. database ? Established and implemented coordination mechanisms ? Joint statements, positions and initiatives ? LDC publications, studies and statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? Members of the Group, interested and supportive, willing to take part in the change process
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	<p>Output 1.2.1 Internal institutional memory and coordination enhanced</p>	<p>? Limited internal institutional memory and coordination mechanisms</p>	<p>? One (1) institutional KM system including a gender-sensitive database set up and implemented ? One (1) training on the utilisation of the KM systems (at least 50% women participation) ? One (1) internal mechanism to coordinate joint positions and activities established ? One (1) introductory workshop on the coordination mechanism (at least 50% women participation) ? At least one (1) report including lessons learned from the KM and coordination systems established</p>	<p>? Institutional KM incl. database set up with development and commissioning reports ? Document describing the established coordination mechanism ? Training report on the utilisation of the KM systems incl. gender disaggregated list of participants ? Workshop report on the introduction of the coordination mechanism incl. gender disaggregated list of participants</p>	<p>? Members of the Group, interested and supportive, willing to take part in the change process ? Established systems are friendly and adapted to the diversity of the Group</p>
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Output
1.2.2 LDC
initiatives better coordinated and facilitated covering adaptive capacity needs

? Lack of capacities to design, implement and fund the existing three (3) LDC led and driven initiatives to deliver the LDC vision 2050: towards a climate-resilient future at the UN Secretary General's United Nation Climate Action Summit (UNCAS) on September 2019:

- o LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR)
- o Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC)
- o LDC REEEI initiative's coordination facilitated following a gender sensitive approach

? Absence of funding and dedicated team to facilitate the coordination and implementation of the three (3) initiatives

? Absence of initiatives strengthening climate technology entrepreneurship and innovation in LDCs

? Three (3) project documents (gender responsive), including budget and resource plans, on the initiatives developed

- o LIFE-AR initiative's coordination facilitated following a gender sensitive approach
- o LUCCC initiative's coordination facilitated following a gender sensitive approach
- o LDC REEEI initiative's coordination facilitated following a gender sensitive approach

? At least 900 beneficiaries (50% beneficiaries) of the three initiatives are reached through three online gender sensitives online awareness raising in the context of the COP organised

? At least one (1) round table to pitch the initiatives to donors and financiers organised in the context of the COP or other UN meetings

? One (1) new initiative to promote local climate technology entrepreneurship, innovation and

? Project documents

? Minutes of donor roundtable

? LIFE-AR monitoring report and gender-mainstreamed project related documents developed

? LUCCC monitoring report and gender-mainstreamed project related documents developed

?

? Enough human resources, time and funding are available to support the coordination and implementation of the three initiatives

COMPONENT II - Enhanced capacity and knowledge of the LDC Group and designated focal points to effectively participate in UNFCCC process and the implementation of the Paris Agreement

<p>OUTCOME 2.1</p>	<p>OUTCOME 2.1 Strengthened climate knowledge and capacities of the LDG Group</p>	<p>? Limited capacities of the Group and decision-makers in 46 LDC Ministries to contribute with well-informed positions and intelligence to the UNFCCC process and negotiations</p> <p>? Limited capacities of key stakeholders in 46 LDCs to enforce and implement climate change mitigation and adaptation decisions within the UNFCCC process</p> <p>? Limited access to continual and updated knowledge and capacity building on climate change themes</p>	<p>? At least 92 experts (50% women involved) of the LDC Group receive certified training on climate change adaptation and mitigation issues (certificates and test results are available)</p> <p>? Increased quantity and quality of generated climate reports, joint statements and positions of the LDC Group in comparison to the baseline is evident</p> <p>? At least 300 LDC climate experts in 46 LDC countries are trained on climate implementation issues including gender dimensions of CC by online webinars and trainings (at least 50% female participation envisaged)</p>	<p>? Training certificates and passed tests</p> <p>? Reports, briefs and statements</p> <p>? Report of the dialogues/negotiations showcasing the participation of the Group's members</p> <p>? List of participants from LDCs in webinars</p>	<p>? Members of the Group, interested and supportive, willing to actively take part in the knowledge and capacity building activities</p>
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	<p>Output 2.1.1 Climate change knowledge and awareness about adaptive capacity enhanced</p>	<p>? Climate change information is rapidly evolving; there is a need to continually stay informed and better comprehend what is at stake at each climate dialogue/negotiation session</p>	<p>? At least one (1) knowledge product, one (1) policy statement and one (1) analytical report are developed and disseminated ? At least three (3) awareness and knowledge activities about the UNFCCC process and climate change actions and good practices are organised with one focusing on gender climate nexus</p>	<p>? Gender sensitive knowledge products designed and disseminated ? Training ? workshops reports including sex-disaggregated list of participants</p>	<p>? Members of the Group, interested and supportive, willing to actively take part in the awareness and knowledge activities ? Activities offered are tailored to the diversity of the Group and key stakeholders taking part</p>
	<p>Output 2.1.2 Capacity for climate action and ambition and adaptive capacity strengthened</p>	<p>? Support needed to build capacity to access climate funding and better take part in climate negotiations</p>	<p>? At least three (3) climate related training developed and provided (gender responsive) including training sessions on climate finance organised (with at least 50% women participation)</p>	<p>? Training plan and reports including sex-disaggregated list of participants ? Results of training evaluation</p>	<p>? Enough time is provided to deepen the thematic retained for the training ? Participants actively take part and apply on the knowledge acquired</p>

COMPONENT III - Strengthened climate outreach and networks for climate actions

<p>OUTCOME 3.1</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1: Visibility and outreach improved</p>	<p>? Limited visibility and advocacy work</p>	<p>? At least 6.000 climate experts among 46 LDCs are reached through advocacy and outreach of the LDC Group on Climate Change (at least 50% female beneficiaries envisaged)</p>	<p>? Media presence and visibility of the Group</p>	<p>? The Group actively participates in the communication strategy established and implement it throughout the project</p>
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	<p>Output 3.1.1 Communication strategy featuring the Group's adaptive capacity actions under implementation</p>	<p>? Communication strategy not up to date</p>	<p>? One (1) gender responsive communication and visibility strategy and plan developed ? At least three (3) gender responsive communication and advocacy products designed and disseminated ? At least one (1) communication training is provided (with 50% women participation), including gender responsive communication aspects, (e.g. avoiding gender stereotypes, etc.)</p>	<p>? Communication and visibility strategy and plan ? Gender sensitive communication and advocacy products ? Communication training report(s) incl. sex-disaggregated list of participants</p>	<p>? The Group actively participates in the communication training and implement it throughout the project</p>
	<p>Output 3.1.2 Outreach and public relation enhanced putting an emphasis on actions taken for strengthened adaptive capacity in the LDCs</p>	<p>? The Group possess a website and the Chair has a good presence a twitter. However, the media and digital coverage could be further increased to increase the visibility of the Group and its outreach</p>	<p>? Weekly gender responsive posting on social media (Twitter) ? At least four (4) articles and two (2) press release organised ? At least three (3) communication campaign (gender responsive) organised about the Group's needs, actions and commitment</p>	<p>? Group's digital media and press presence ? Communication campaign reports ? Communication products developed</p>	<p>? The Group builds rapport with journalists and stay on top of trends in terms of digital presence and climate news</p>

OUTCOME 3.2	Outcome 3.2 Network and partnership relations enhanced	? Limited number of reliable network and partnership	? Partnership with peer-to-peer and other LDC/SIDS group outside the UN on climate advocacy fostered	? Partnership plan and at least one cooperation agreement	? A list of major partners and network is established and enough resources are allocated to organise and support the Group to take part
	Output 3.2.1 Stakeholder engagement strategy featuring the Group's partnership needs in terms of adaptive capacity actions under implementation	? No existing stakeholders engagement strategy	? One (1) partnership framework and a networking plan developed and implemented ? At least three (3) networking and peer-to peer events organised ensuring women's participation outside their core working hours ? Cooperate with other LDC/SIDS groups within and outside the UN on climate advocacy ? Accelerate LDC climate action and advocacy through regional organisations and climate centres (e.g. GN-SEC centres covering 42 of 46 LDCs)	? Partnership framework and a networking plan ? Networking and peer-to peer events reports	? A list of major partners and network is established and enough resources are allocated to organise and support the Group to take part
COMPONENT IV - Support to the Group monitored and evaluated					
OUTCOME 4.1	Outcome 4.1: Monitoring and Reporting	? No existing monitoring, reporting and evaluation system in place	? Adequate monitoring and reporting mechanism are in place, facilitating successful project implementation and sound impact reporting	? Monitoring, reporting and evaluation plan mechanisms established	? The project is continuously monitored and timely evaluated with KPI clearly identified at the start

	<p>Output 4.1.1 Monitoring and reporting</p>	<p>? M&R to be established</p>	<p>? One (1) gender responsive project monitoring, reporting and evaluation mechanism ? Gender mainstreaming strategy and action plan and regular yearly monitoring reports ? One (1) Project Steering Committee (PSC) established, developing its rules and procedures ? PSC meetings: Organise PSC meetings ? Annual work plan and budget ? At least three (3) project implementation reports (PIR)</p>	<p>? Established gender sensitive project monitoring, reporting and evaluation mechanism ? Documents presenting the rules and procedures of the established PSC ? PSC meeting reports ? Revised annual work plan ? PIR reports</p>	<p>? The KPI and UNIDO Integrated Results Performance Framework (IRPF) are integrated and continuously monitored</p>
<p>OUTCOME 4.2</p>	<p>Outcome 4.2: Evaluation</p>	<p>? Evaluation to be conducted</p>	<p>? One (1) Terminal evaluation conducted by third party independent experts providing list of challenges, lessons learnt, opportunities and recommendations (gender responsive)</p>	<p>? Terminal evaluation report (gender mainstreamed)</p>	<p>? The Project is evaluated in a timely manner in accordance with UNIDO and GEF procedures</p>

	Output 4.2.1 Terminal evaluation	? Evaluation to be conducted	? Lessons learned and experiences from the project gathered (gender responsive) ? A final independent evaluation conducted (gender review integrated)	? Survey and lessons learnt report ? Terminal evaluation report	? Surveys and evaluation are conducted in a timely manner ? Enough women are involve in the LDC Group
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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).

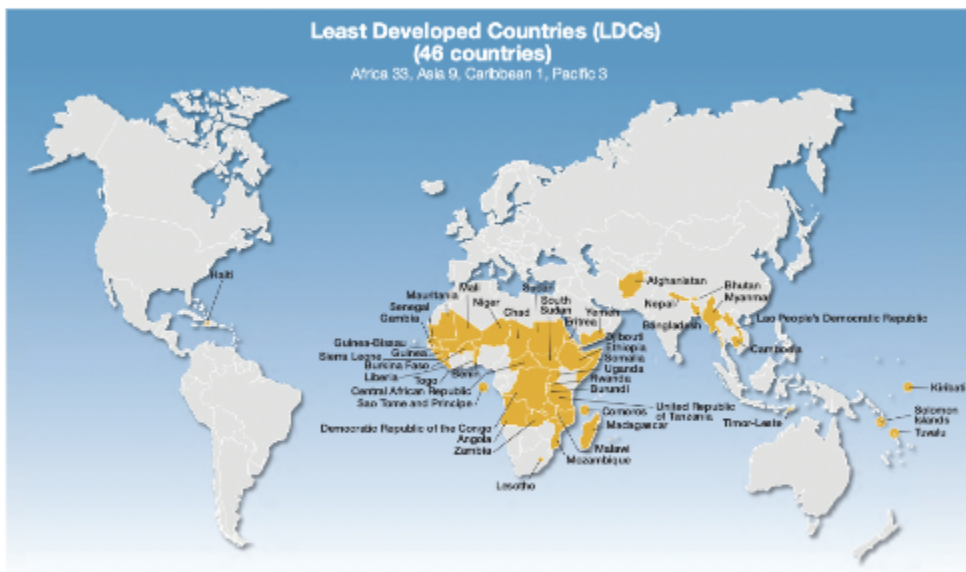
not applicable

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

not applicable

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

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



Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Annex U: Component and Outputs Based Budget for the GEF Grant

Strengthening Engagement and Action by the Least Developed Countries Group on Climate Change

			COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 4 - M&E	PMC	Grand Total
Budget category	Outputs	Contractual/Procurement Details	613.248	603.579	350.365	98.392	160.900	1.826.484
Internat. Cons/Staff (BL 1100)	Output 1.1.1.5	Environmental expert	10.000					10.000
	Output 1.1.1.5	Gender officer	7.000					7.000
	Output 1.1.1.5	Communication and knowledge officer	5.400		50.400			55.800
	Output 1.1.2.4	PMC - Senior expert to support the legalisation process, capacity build	30.000	8.000	15.000	10.000		63.000
	Output 1.2.1.1	PMC - Project assistant	10.000	17.000	10.800	18.000		55.800
	Output 1.2.1.1	PMC - Project administrator	18.000	10.000	8.000	11.000	153.000	200.000
	Output 1.2.2.1	International consultant (environmental, policy, technical, etc.)	15.000					15.000
	Output 2.1.1.4	Climate finance expert		20.000				20.000
	Output 2.1.1.4	Climate policy expert with focus on adaptive capacity policy		20.000				20.000
	Output 2.1.2.4	Trainer to develop and provide training			22.500			22.500
		Sub-total Internat. Cons/Staff (BL 1100)	95.400	97.500	84.200	39.000	153.000	316.100
Technical Services (BL 1101)*	Output 1.1.2.4	Technical support provided to establish the Permanent Secretariat and	7.071	7.071	7.071	7.071		28.284
		Sub-total Technical Services (BL 1101)	7.071	7.071	7.071	7.071	-	28.284
Tech/Admin Support (BL 1701)*	Output 1.2.1.1	Diverse admin support provided for procurement, recruitment and fi	7.071	7.071	7.071	7.071		28.284
		Sub-total Tech/Admin Support (BL 1701)	7.071	7.071	7.071	7.071	-	28.284
Contractuel Services (BL 2100)	Output 1.1.1.5	Contract with Consultancy Company to undertake the baseline study	40.000					40.000
	Output 1.1.2.4	Contract with environmental-climate finance consulting firm/expert to	20.000					20.000
	Output 1.2.1.1	Contract with IT Consultancy Company to establish the internal coord	65.600					65.600
	Output 1.2.2.4	Contract with IIED** to support activities under outputs 1.2.2, 2.1.1, 2	35.500	61.313	9.019			105.832
	Output 1.2.2.4	Contract with Climate Analytics** to support activities under outputs	35.500	61.314	9.019			105.833
	Output 3.1.1.4	Contract with Communication Consultancy Company to establish the	-		52.500			52.500
	Output 3.2.1.5	Contract with partnership consulting firm/expert to establish a partne	-		30.000			30.000
	Output 4.2.1.1	Terminal evaluation of the project including travel expenses if required				40.000		40.000
			Sub-total Contractuel Services (BL 2100)	196.600	122.627	100.538	40.000	-
Train /Fellowship/Study (BL 3000)	Output 1.1.2.4	Validation workshop + Training on the Secretariat's internal structure	9.750					9.750
	Output 1.2.1.1	Training on the utilisation of the KM systems and one introductory wd	46.420					46.420
	Output 1.2.2.4	Online gender sensitives awareness raising session & training to supp	45.000					45.000
	Output 2.1.1.4	Awareness and knowledge activities about the Paris Agreement - UNFC	-	92.840				92.840
	Output 2.1.2.4	Climate related training in hybrid format		92.840				92.840
Output 3.1.1.4	Climate Communication training			7.500			7.500	
		Sub-total Train /Fellowship/Study (BL 3000)	101.170	185.680	7.500	-	-	294.350
International meetings (BL 3500)	Output 1.1.1.5	Organisation of the Group events (side event, retreat, PSC) or external	123.195	-	-	-		123.195
	Output 2.1.2.4	Organisation of hybrid meeting (standard venue and proceeding	-	7.500	-	-		7.500
	Output 2.2.1.5	Organisation of training	-	158.130	-	-		158.130
	Output 3.2.1.5	Organisation of major events (Networking, partnership etc.)	-		121.485	-		121.485
		Sub-total International meetings (BL 3500)	123.195	165.630	121.485	-	-	410.310
Premises (BL 4300)	Output 1.1.2.4	Permanent Secretariat operational and quality services to the LDC Group	20.000					20.000
		Sub-total Premises (BL 4300)	20.000	-	-	-	-	20.000
Equipment (BL 4500)	Output 1.1.2.4	Equipment for the set up of the PMU and the Permanent Secretariat	46.200					46.200
		Sub-total Equipment (BL 4500)	46.200					46.200
Other direct cost (BL 5100 - translation)	Throughout	Translation, transcription and printing of various documents throug	16.541	18.000	22.500	5.250	7.900	62.291
		Sub-total Other direct cost (BL 5100 - translation, transcrip	16.541	18.000	22.500	5.250	7.900	62.291
TOTAL per component including DSC			613.248	603.579	350.365	98.392		1.665.584
PMC	Throughout		40.225	40.225	40.225	40.225		160.900
GRAND TOTAL			653.473	643.804	390.590	138.617		1.826.484

Project Budget Summary							
Total per component (%)			36,8%	36,2%	21,0%	5,9%	100,0%

* These figures corresponds to the Direct Service Costs (DSC), costs for services that are rendered to deliver specific project outputs such as: procurement services (staff costs for procurement services, equipment and supplies for a specific activities under the projects managed by procurement) treasury and payments services (staff costs for travel advance and expense report processing, payroll processing, settlement of invoices).

** Through the PMU, CA and IIED will primarily support activities under components 1, 2 and 3. The specific activities will be determined at the inception phase, within the framework of the project document and in line with the Memorandum of Understanding both institutions have signed with the LDC Chair on behalf of the Group.

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.

not applicable

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.

not applicable

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).

not applicable