

# GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

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## General Project Information

### Project Title

Strengthening integrated transboundary source-to-sea management of the Ruvuma River Basin and its coastal zones to ensure ecosystem health and livelihood security

Region Africa	GEF Project ID 11410
Country(ies) Regional Malawi Mozambique Tanzania	Type of Project FSP
GEF Agency(ies): IUCN	GEF Agency Project ID
Project Executing Entity(s) Global Water Partnership-Southern Africa (GWPSA); Wetlands International  Co-execution by national entities Ruvuma Basin Committee (RBC) Administracao Regional de Aguas do Norte (ARA Norte-Mozambique) Malawi Department of Water) and the Ruvuma Basin and Coast Office in Tanzania as responsible parties through grant agreements	Project Executing Type Others Government
GEF Focal Area (s) International Waters	Submission Date 2/7/2025
Type of Trust Fund GET	Project Duration (Months) 60
GEF Project Grant: (a) 7,122,018.00	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b) 0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c) 640,982.00	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d) 0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d) 7,763,000.00	Total Co-financing 65,440,480.00
PPG Amount: (e) 200,000.00	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f) 18,000.00
Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f) 7,981,000.00	

Project Tags

CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Mixed & Others

Taxonomy

Climate Change, Focal Areas, Climate Change Mitigation, Climate Change Adaptation, Gender Equality, Stakeholders, Influencing models, International Waters, Strategic Action Plan Implementation, Sustainable Development Goals, Biodiversity, Forest, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Forest and Landscape Restoration, Learning, Fisheries, Coastal, Aquaculture, Freshwater, Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Plan Preparation, Pollution, Plastics, River Basin, Marine Protected Area, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Lake Basin, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Partnership, Participation, Information Dissemination, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, SMEs, Local Communities, Communications, Public Campaigns, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Strategic Communications, Education, Beneficiaries, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Women groups, Gender results areas, Access to benefits and services, Access and control over natural resources, Capacity Development, Participation and leadership, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Exchange, Field Visit, South-South, Conference, Peer-to-Peer, Theory of change, Adaptive management, Indicators to measure change, Knowledge Generation, Workshop, Training, Fragile and Conflict-Affected Situations, Conflict

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
No Contribution 0	Significant Objective 1	Principal Objective 2	Principal Objective 2

Project Summary

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

The Ruvuma River Basin, spanning Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania, serves as a vital lifeline for millions of people, supporting essential activities that sustain livelihoods in the region. The basin is rich natural resources, including fertile soils, freshwater systems, and diverse ecosystems, are crucial for agriculture, fisheries, and forestry. However, it faces increasing environmental and socio-economic pressures (deforestation, declining water resources, biodiversity loss, increasing urbanisation, etc). These challenges threaten the health of the basin’s ecosystems and the well-being of the communities that depend on them. Therefore, the project has been initiated to help tackle these critical issues.

This ambitious initiative, structured in five main components, seeks to address ecosystem degradation, promote the sustainable use of resources, and improve community resilience while navigating the complexities of the basin’s environmental, socio-economic, institutional, and policy landscapes. All through a source-to-sea management approach aimed at ensuring that ecosystem health and social inclusion are integrated into planning, development, and management, of the Ruvuma River Basin while promoting multi-sector transboundary water cooperation. The project aligns with the GEF’s Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs) by integrating activities related to biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, land degradation reduction, and sustainable forest management. Key outputs include environmental monitoring, vulnerability mapping, and conservation efforts to combat deforestation, enhance ecosystem restoration, and

ensure community resilience. The project emphasizes sustainability by integrating its outcomes into national policies and collaborating with institutions for long-term governance and equitable resource use.

## Project Description Overview

### Project Objective

The project aims to promote multi-sector transboundary water cooperation through a source-to-sea framework aimed at ensuring that ecosystem health and social inclusion are integrated into planning, development, and management, of the Ruvuma River Basin.

## Project Components

### Component 1 – Strengthening institutional frameworks for transboundary basin and coastal zone management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
426,500.00	3,474,890.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1: Basin-wide management/transboundary agreement and institutional capacity established and developed by Member States

Output:

Output 1.1: Inclusive and gender-responsive management bodies for transboundary source-to-sea and coastal zone management established and strengthened, ensuring equitable representation and participation of women within the Joint Water Commission (JWC) Secretariat and Technical Committees

Output 1.2: Ruvuma Transboundary Water Agreement signed by the Member States and engagement with SADC Secretariat supporting cooperation between shared watercourse institutions strengthened

Output 1.3: Enhanced gender and environmental mainstreaming and mitigation of environmental and social risks and impacts at local, national, and Basin levels, building directly on the Gender Analysis and Environmental and Social Screening conducted during the PPG, including the development of gender-responsive regulations, instruments, and plans

### Component 2 – Facilitating basin and coastal zone management through science-based decision making

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,791,800.00	13,304,050.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2: Scientific baseline for source-to-sea-based management of the basin and coastal zones established, and transboundary data and information exchange in place

Output:

Output 2.1: Inclusive water management system established and operationalised, consisting of:

(i) a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) incorporating a gender-sensitive source-to-sea framework (including eDNA analysis); and

(ii) a transboundary groundwater management strategy that accounts for differentiated water use patterns and equitable access.

Output 2.2: Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database (TFDD) updated to reflect key project findings, such as gender-sensitive TDA results and inclusive governance strategies, through formal collaboration with Tufts University, ensuring continuity, accessibility, and uptake of knowledge products.

Output 2.3: Environmental, climate, gender, and social vulnerability mapping, and inclusive data exchange for the basin and coastal zone carried out, incorporating disaggregated data and reflecting differentiated risks, exposures, and adaptive capacities of women, youth, and marginalized groups.

[\[1\]](#) Transboundary Freshwater Diplomacy Database

### Component 3 – Supporting strategic investment planning resource mobilisation for integrated basin and coastal management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,574,875.00	16,582,618.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3: National and transboundary priorities integrated into Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and endorsed by Member States

Output:

Output 3.1: SAP for the transboundary basin and coastal zones developed and endorsed by Member States, through an inclusive and gender-responsive participatory process. The SAP will integrate community resilience and water, energy, food, and ecosystem security (WEFE nexus), while explicitly addressing legal, institutional, and cultural barriers that affect women’s access, participation, and benefit-sharing in transboundary water governance.

Output 3.2: National Action Plans (NAPs) linking country priorities to regional priorities developed through an inclusive participatory approach and taking into consideration enhancing regulation and enforcement that support transboundary governance and approved by Member States. The NAPs will include gender-responsive actions and enforcement measures, ensuring that the roles, priorities, and rights of women and marginalized groups are recognized and supported in national-level planning and implementation

Output 3.3: Upscaled sustainable financing models, co-developed by the private sector and local communities, developed, integrated into a comprehensive Investment Plan for implementing the SAP and NAPs, and

adopted by Member States to support long-term, coordinated transboundary basin and coastal zone management. These financing models will integrate gender-responsive and socially inclusive mechanisms to ensure that women and community groups are actively engaged in co-development processes, benefit equitably from investments, and are included in long-term financial planning and decision-making

## Component 4 – Promoting integrated sustainable land and water management through effective community-based stakeholder engagement

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,310,625.00	22,707,847.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4: Protection of ecosystem services and rehabilitation of degraded areas

Output:

Output 4.1: Promoting inclusive community involvement, with a strong focus on gender equality and the active participation of women, in identifying, conserving and developing key transboundary water source protection areas across the river basin, to implement sustainable land and water practices including the implementation of Environmental and Social Safeguards

Output 4.2: Strengthening cooperation with private sector to reduce ecosystem degradation (incl. deforestation) through upscaling sustainable inclusive community initiatives, with particular emphasis on empowering women and promoting gender-responsive approaches

Output 4.3: Assess and harmonise regulations and enforcement in the different parts of the basin and develop a capacity building plan to respond

## Component 5 – Project and knowledge management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
444,053.00	4,096,574.00

Outcome:

Outcome 5: Effective knowledge generation and sharing mechanism, including lessons learned and best practices, and participation in IW Learn

Output:

Output 5.1: Mechanisms established for knowledge and experience sharing at local, national, regional and international levels targeting various stakeholder groups

Output 5.2: Gender-sensitive knowledge management and communication systems in place that support knowledge transfer and sharing of information at national, regional and international level

## M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
235,165.00	2,159,536.00

Outcome:

Monitoring and evaluation systems tailored to Project interventions and strategies established

Output:

Monitoring and evaluation systems established to enable adaptive management of project interventions and strategies in compliance with relevant GEF and IUCN policies - including the delivery of timely MTR and TE, comprising gender-specific results and progress in the implementation of the Gender Action Plan.

## Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1 – Strengthening institutional frameworks for transboundary basin and coastal zone management	426,500.00	3,474,890.00
Component 2 – Facilitating basin and coastal zone management through science-based decision making	1,791,800.00	13,304,050.00
Component 3 – Supporting strategic investment planning resource mobilisation for integrated basin and coastal management	1,574,875.00	16,582,618.00
Component 4 – Promoting integrated sustainable land and water management through effective community-based stakeholder engagement	2,310,625.00	22,707,847.00
Component 5 – Project and knowledge management	444,053.00	4,096,574.00
M&E	235,165.00	2,159,536.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,783,018.00</b>	<b>62,325,515.00</b>
Project Management Cost	339,000.00	3,114,965.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>	<b>7,122,018.00</b>	<b>65,440,480.00</b>

Please provide Justification

PMC cost is below 5%.

## PROJECT OUTLINE

### A. PROJECT RATIONALE

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

One of the drivers, if not the main one, to the above mentioned threats is the basin's increasing vulnerability to climate change, characterized by erratic rainfall patterns, rising temperatures, and extreme weather events such as prolonged droughts and severe floods. These factors disrupt water availability and agricultural productivity, disproportionately affecting communities reliant on rain-fed farming. Rainfall variability exacerbates food insecurity and drives unsustainable practices like deforestation and over-extraction of water resources, further degrading the ecosystem. Furthermore, severe floods highlight the basin's fragile resilience to climate impacts, while fragmented policies and weak transboundary governance among Mozambique, Tanzania, and Malawi exacerbate resource conflicts and hinder climate adaptation efforts.

Today, key environmental threats at the basin are the rising deforestation levels and land degradation, water security, and biodiversity loss.

- The increasing rates of widespread deforestation in the Ruvuma River Basin are driven by agricultural expansion, illegal logging, and charcoal production. These are causing extensive forest loss across the basin. Consequently, this not only reduces the forests carbon sequestration capacity but also accelerates soil erosion, disrupts water systems, and degrades habitats. The unsustainable agricultural practices exacerbate land degradation, reducing soil fertility and agricultural productivity. All of which, create a feedback loop of environmental deterioration, undermining food security and economic stability for those inhabiting the area.

- Another present threat is the unsustainable water usage, characterized by illegal extractions, inefficient irrigation, and pollution – all of which have severely strained the basin's aquatic resources and systems. Seasonal water scarcity fuels conflicts between upstream and downstream users (creating further transboundary challenges), while agricultural runoff, sedimentation, and untreated industrial discharges degrade water quality and harm aquatic biodiversity. The destruction of critical ecosystems like mangroves further compromises food security, coastal resilience, and climate mitigation efforts.

- The basin, known for its rich biodiversity, faces poaching, habitat destruction, and increasing percentages of invasive species. Key ecosystems, such as the Niassa-Selous Transfrontier Conservation Area and vital aquatic habitats, are under siege. The degradation of these ecosystems not only threatens wildlife but also undermines the livelihoods of communities dependent on natural resources.

Beyond environmental issues, deeply rooted socio-economic and governance threats significantly hinder the sustainable management of the Ruvuma River Basin. These challenges perpetuate resource mismanagement, exacerbate environmental degradation, and undermine the basin's capacity to adapt to climate change.

- The basin suffers from institutional shortcomings, including weak governance frameworks, underfunded agencies, and limited technical expertise. A lack of clear and enforceable policies undermines effective resource management and conservation efforts. Insufficient funding restricts the capacity of regulatory bodies to implement sustainable practices, monitor ecosystems, and enforce existing policies, while a shortage of

skilled personnel limits the ability to address complex challenges such as transboundary water management and climate adaptation.

Regional frameworks like the Southern African Development Community's (SADC) Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) illustrate these issues. Although designed to promote cooperation and climate resilience, these frameworks remain underfunded and poorly enforced, leaving communities without the tools needed to mitigate climate risks, sustainably manage resources, and build long-term resilience.

- The absence of cohesive, transboundary governance among the member countries - Mozambique, Tanzania, and Malawi - further exacerbates these challenges. Differing national priorities and policies create fragmented approaches to resource management, leading to unequal resource allocation and intensifying disputes between upstream and downstream users. This lack of alignment also delays climate adaptation efforts, as inconsistent coordination among member states limits the region's capacity to address shared vulnerabilities effectively.
- Economic constraints compound these governance issues, as limited financial resources hinder the adoption of sustainable practices such as agroforestry and water-saving technologies. Social barriers, including gender inequality and the exclusion of vulnerable groups, further complicate decision-making processes by sidelining critical stakeholders. Marginalized groups, particularly women and subsistence farmers, disproportionately bear the brunt of these challenges, as their reliance on natural resources leaves them especially vulnerable to the impacts of resource degradation and climate change.

To address the interconnected threats, barriers, and root causes affecting the Ruvuma River Basin, a comprehensive and coordinated approach is essential.

- Policy harmonization across Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania is a foundational step, ensuring that national strategies align with regional frameworks like the Southern African Development Community's (SADC) Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP). Policies identified for harmonization include:
  - o Water resource management frameworks - Malawi: National Water Policy (2005), Water Resources Act (2013), and Water Investment Strategy (2011); Mozambique: National Water Policy (1995, revised 2016) and Water Law (1991, revised 2007); Tanzania: National Water Policy (2002) and Water Resources Management Act (2009)
  - o Environmental and forest policies across the three countries: Malawi emphasises decentralised environmental governance through recent reforms to the National Environmental Policy (2024) and Environmental Management Act (2017), supporting integrated land and ecosystem management; Mozambique relies on longstanding frameworks (Environmental Policy (1995), Environmental Law 1997, Forestry and Wildlife Law 1999), though implementation remains constrained by enforcement capacity; Tanzania features a more structured system for community-based forest management (CBFM) under its National Forest Policy (1998) and Forest Act (2002), with some provisions for benefit-sharing and local rights
  - o Strategic plans for climate adaptation and biodiversity conservation: Malawi- National Climate Change Management Policy (2016), NBSAP II (2015–2025); Mozambique: National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (2013–2025), NBSAP II (2015–2035); Tanzania: National Climate Change Strategy (2021), NBSAP II (2015–2020). Although these frameworks support international commitments such as the UNFCCC and CBD, there is a valuable opportunity for regional synchronization
  - o Land-use and agriculture policies allow integration with water and forest planning to enhance environmental sustainability. In Malawi, the National Agriculture Policy (2016) and the Land Act (2016) can be aligned with water resource management to create synergy. Similarly, Mozambique's Land Law (1997) and the National

Agriculture Investment Plan can be harmonised to support sustainable land practices. Tanzania's Agricultural Sector Development Strategy (2015) and the Land Act (1999) also provide potential for better coordination.

- Furthermore, to foster more effective policies, it is crucial to address certain intra-national and cross-sectoral discrepancies, such as improving coordination among ministries (i.e. water, forestry, environment, and agriculture), aligning incentives across sectors (e.g. integrating subsidies for crop production with forest conservation initiatives), and enhancing the enforcement of environmental laws, particularly in remote or cross-border areas. This alignment can facilitate better coordination and more effective resource allocation, reducing duplication of efforts and addressing shared vulnerabilities at a systemic level.
- Investments in climate-resilient infrastructure are equally critical. These should prioritize enhancing water security through sustainable and efficient water storage solutions, improving irrigation systems to reduce water waste, and developing infrastructure that minimizes vulnerability to extreme weather events such as floods and droughts. Integrated disaster management systems and early warning mechanisms will play a pivotal role in mitigating the risks posed by climate variability, protecting both human lives and livelihoods.
- Empowering local communities is vital for ensuring the long-term sustainability of these interventions. Capacity-building programs that equip communities with the knowledge and tools to adopt sustainable practices can transform them into active stewards of the environment. Nature-based solutions, such as wetland restoration, reforestation, and agroforestry, offer a dual benefit: they enhance the basin's resilience to climate impacts while simultaneously supporting livelihoods by improving soil fertility, enhancing agricultural productivity, and providing alternative income streams.
- Equally important is addressing socio-economic disparities and ensuring inclusivity in decision-making processes. Programs should prioritize the inclusion of marginalized groups, particularly women and subsistence farmers, who are disproportionately affected by the basin's challenges. Empowering these groups through targeted initiatives, such as microfinance schemes for sustainable farming or training in alternative livelihoods, can help break the cycle of environmental degradation and socio-economic vulnerability.
- Improved governance structures are key to sustaining these efforts. Strengthening regulatory frameworks, enhancing enforcement mechanisms, and fostering transboundary cooperation among the basin countries will create an enabling environment for sustainable resource management. Establishing a shared vision for the basin's development, supported by robust environmental monitoring systems and scientific research, can further guide evidence-based decision-making.
- Innovative financing mechanisms, including public-private partnerships, climate funds, and green bonds, will be essential to bridge funding gaps and support the implementation of these strategies. International donors and development partners can play a pivotal role by providing technical and financial assistance, while governments can incentivize private sector investment in sustainable and climate-resilient projects.

By integrating these strategies, the basin can overcome its current challenges, ensuring the sustainable management of its natural resources, protecting its ecosystems, and safeguarding the socio-economic well-being of its communities for future generations.

The Ruvuma River Basin faces significant barriers that undermine its sustainable management and resilience. These challenges will be directly addressed through the project, "Strengthening Integrated Transboundary Source-to-Sea Management of the Ruvuma River Basin and its Coastal Zones to Ensure Ecosystem Health and Livelihood Security." A primary obstacle is the limited capacity for transboundary water cooperation, which hampers effective collaboration among Mozambique, Tanzania, and Malawi. Stakeholder engagement is fragmented and inadequate, particularly in addressing source-to-sea challenges that demand coordinated efforts across sectors and regions. Additionally, the lack of robust environmental monitoring systems and comprehensive scientific data undermines informed decision-making and the ability to track ecological

changes. Weak regulations, poor enforcement, and inadequate financial resources further exacerbate governance gaps and hinder the implementation of sustainable practices and infrastructure development. These interlinked barriers create a complex web of challenges that require urgent and coordinated action.

To overcome these challenges, the project focuses on strengthening institutional capacity for transboundary water cooperation, enhancing stakeholder engagement and coordination, improving environmental monitoring and data systems, and fostering a shared vision for sustainable development. By addressing these barriers holistically, the project aims to promote integrated planning, sustainable financing, and inclusive governance to safeguard ecosystem integrity and manage resources equitably. Engaging stakeholders at all levels—ranging from the Joint Water Commission (JWC) as a transboundary organization, to national governments, non-governmental stakeholders, and local communities—the project seeks to create a comprehensive governance framework. This will link land, freshwater, and marine management systems for the first time in the basin, anchored by the implementation of the source-to-sea management approach.

The source-to-sea approach emphasizes the continuous flow of water throughout the entire system, from land to ocean, encompassing the river basin, its lakes, connected aquifers, deltas, coastlines, estuaries, near-shore waters, and the open ocean. It complements and integrates established frameworks like Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), as described by Michels-Brito et al. (2023). By adopting this approach, the project ensures a holistic response to the interconnected challenges across the basin, ultimately building resilience, protecting ecosystems, and supporting sustainable livelihoods.

## **B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

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

The Ruvuma River Basin project aims to foster multi-sector transboundary water cooperation using a source-to-sea management approach that integrates ecosystem health and gender equality and social inclusion into planning, development, and management of water resources, while fostering sustainable development, strengthening governance frameworks, and building stakeholder capacity for equitable and resilient resource use.

The project aims to overcome key barriers to transboundary cooperation and sustainable development. These include limited technical, institutional, and operational capacity; insufficient stakeholder engagement and coordination; gaps in data, scientific knowledge, and environmental monitoring; weak governance and enforcement; the absence of a shared vision and cross-sectoral basin-wide plan; and inadequate financial and human resources to support inclusive livelihoods and ecosystem integrity. To address these challenges, the project is structured around five interrelated components. These include strengthening institutional frameworks for transboundary basin and coastal zone management (Component 1), facilitating basin and coastal zone management through science-based decision-making (Component 2), supporting strategic investment planning and resource mobilization for integrated basin and coastal zone management (Component 3), promoting integrated sustainable land and water management through effective community-based stakeholder engagement (Component 4), and ensuring effective project and knowledge management (Component 5). These components aim to achieve the following outcomes: basin-wide management agreements, development of scientific baselines and data exchange mechanisms, integrating national and

transboundary priorities into a Strategic Action Programme (SAP), enhancing ecosystem protection and rehabilitation, and creates an effective knowledge-sharing platform for best practices and lessons learned.

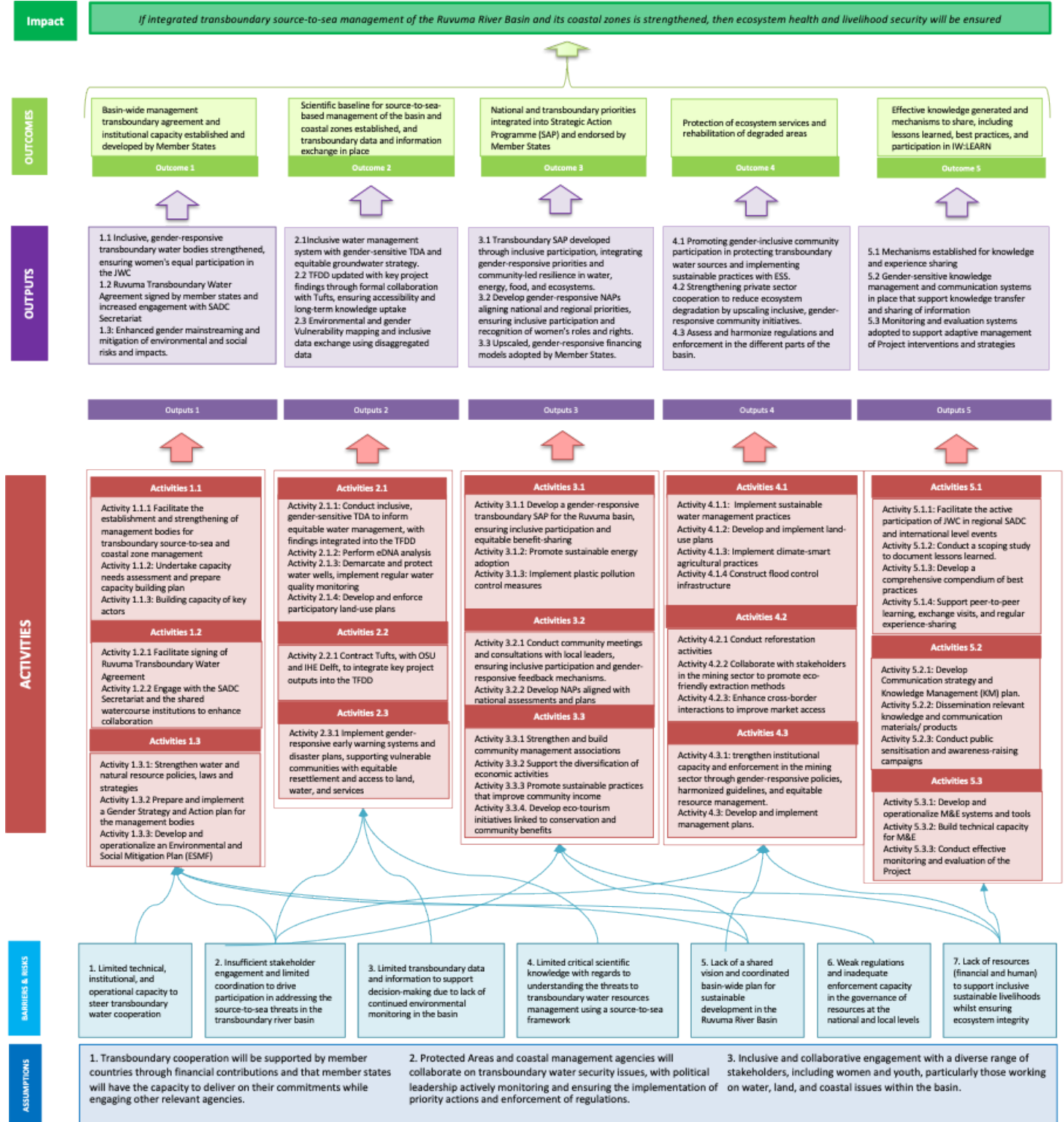
To achieve its outcomes the project delivers a broad range of outputs, such as establishing and strengthening transboundary management bodies, preparing and implementing a Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Capacity Building Plan, signing a Ruvuma Transboundary Water Agreement, developing a comprehensive Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and SAP, mapping environmental vulnerabilities, promoting inclusive community involvement and sustainable practices, harmonizing regulations, co-developing sustainable financing models, and fostering knowledge sharing through regional cooperation, peer learning, and a comprehensive compendium of practices. These actions are guided by the project's Gender Action Plan, which ensures that gender-responsive and inclusive approaches are mainstreamed across all components. The project will engage Tufts University, as the official custodian of the Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database (TFDD), to update and integrate relevant project outputs into the TFDD. This ensures global visibility and knowledge sustainability of transboundary water data and outcomes generated under the project. Tufts will be formally contracted to undertake this activity.

Relevant activities that the project aims to implement include implementing sustainable water and land-use practices, reforestation initiatives, conservation agriculture, climate-smart solutions, sustainable livelihoods and eco-tourism initiatives, flood control and disaster preparedness, community awareness and policy harmonisation. A focus on a source-to-sea approach, gender equality and the inclusion of vulnerable groups ensures equitable resource management and benefits for all stakeholders.

The project is expected to significantly enhance governance, ecosystem health, and socio-economic resilience in the Ruvuma River Basin. Its outcomes will align with and integrate into national policies and frameworks, promoting long-term sustainability in the regio.

It is within this context that the **Theory of Change** provides a structured framework with an overarching impact of strengthening the integrated transboundary source-to-sea management of the Ruvuma River Basin and its coastal zones which ensure ecosystem health and livelihood security. The five expected outcomes of the project include (i) the establishment of a basin-wide management framework supported by a transboundary agreement and institutional policy structure, collaboratively developed by member states to support integrated river basin management. (ii) A scientific baseline created through environmental, climatic, and social vulnerability assessments that will provide a robust foundation for transboundary data exchange and informed decision-making. (iii) National and transboundary priorities that will be integrated into a Strategic Action Programme (SAP), ensuring commitments to sustainable water resource management. (iv) Protecting and rehabilitating degraded ecosystems to enhance environmental resilience while (v) the Ruvuma Project is effectively managed and that knowledge generated will be disseminated through knowledge products that include the implementation of awareness-raising mechanisms to promote informed decision-making and public engagement.

**FIGURE 1: THEORY OF CHANGE**



To achieve these outcomes, the project will rely on transboundary cooperation and long-term commitments from member states to implement sustainable basin management. Adequate financial and technical resources will be mobilized to sustain the initiatives outlined in the SAP, and reliable, consistent data will support decision-making processes. Collaboration among national and regional institutions will be key to successfully implementing the strategic framework, and local stakeholders will actively engage in planning and decision-making processes to ensure sustainable outcomes.

Nevertheless, despite this structured approach and support, several risks and barriers that may hinder project progress have already been identified. These include a lack of technical, operational, and institutional capacity to steer transboundary water cooperation, insufficient stakeholder engagement and coordination in addressing the identified threats, the limited transboundary data to support decision-making as a result of a lack of continued environmental monitoring, as well as those gaps in critical scientific knowledge required to address the catchment-level threats and successfully apply the source-to-sea approach. Additionally, the absence of a shared vision and coordinated basin-wide plan, weak regulatory frameworks and enforcement capacity, and inadequate financial and human resources to support inclusive sustainable livelihoods and ecosystem integrity present significant barriers.

To address these barriers, and have the desired impact, the project will implement various activities. All of which have been framed across different components, focusing on a diverse range of themes that are responding to the identified needs of the Basin and its inhabitants, the different stakeholders and beneficiaries and the Project itself.

**A brief description of the Components, the considered activities and the barriers and risks tackled is provided here:**

- Institutional strengthening efforts, implemented under Component 1 of the project, will focus on establishing management bodies, creating multi-stakeholder platforms, developing and implementing basin-wide action plans, and building institutional capacity to manage transboundary water resources effectively. These activities will strengthen institutional frameworks and ensure robust governance structures are in place to support cooperative and inclusive transboundary management. Capacity-building initiatives and action plans will ensure stakeholder alignment on key management priorities such as water resource management and biodiversity conservation. Thus, tackling barriers and risks of limited technical, institutional and operational capacity. The insufficient stakeholder engagement and limited coordination to drive the project efforts and addressing the source-to-sea threats in the basin. Additionally, these efforts will mitigate the lack of a shared vision and coordination, the scarcity of financial and human resources to support sustainable livelihoods, and the persistence of weak regulations and inadequate enforcement capacities in resource governance at both national and local levels.
- Under Component 2 - which focuses on underpinning decision-making with science-based tools and data to enable evidence-driven strategies reflecting ecosystem interconnectivity from source to sea, data collection and analysis activities will be conducted. These include conducting environmental assessments, performing eDNA analysis of key water bodies, and integrating community inputs through participatory studies. Development of such task will mitigate insufficient stakeholder engagement and coordination issues, the availability of transboundary data and information to support decision-making, and lastly, the lack of critical scientific knowledge with regards to understanding the threats to transboundary water resources management using the source-to-sea approach.
- Component 3 of the project is centered around those activities that emphasize strategic investment planning and resource mobilization, aligning financial mechanisms with sustainable and inclusive management objectives. Strategic planning will encompass the development of the SAP and its implementation strategies, alongside the establishment of monitoring frameworks and multi-stakeholder consultations to align actions with national policies. Stakeholder consultations will align priorities and create a shared vision for future actions. These efforts will tackle barriers such as limited stakeholder engagement and coordination, the lack of a holistic vision and coordinated basin-wide plan for sustainable development, and the weak regulations and enforcement capacities stemming from governance challenges at both national and local levels.
- Community engagement initiatives will involve stakeholder workshops, training programs, awareness campaigns, and collaborative action plans to address local concerns. These initiatives are all framed in Component 4, which highlights community-based stakeholder engagement, ensuring that local communities,

including vulnerable groups, actively contribute to and benefit from integrated sustainable land and water management practices. Community engagement and awareness initiatives will foster inclusive governance models, encouraging active participation from local stakeholders and ensuring they have the necessary knowledge and resources to contribute to decision-making processes. As clearly indicated by the nature of the listed activities, these will serve to mitigate those challenges associated with poor participation and stakeholder engagement, the missing presence of a shared vision and synchronized basin-plan, and additionally, the lack of human and financial resources to support inclusive sustainable livelihoods and ecosystem integrity.

- Finally, Component 5 focuses on effective project implementation and facilitates knowledge sharing, promoting the replication of best practices and enhancing regional and global learning on transboundary water cooperation and ecosystem management. Activities here promote e knowledge management, development of case studies and best practices, and dissemination through various media channels and training sessions. Knowledge dissemination efforts will focus on collecting, analyzing, and sharing best practices and lessons learned across the basin. These activities will mostly help address these barriers and risks associated with the lack of available resources to support livelihoods across the basin.

Through the above mentioned activities, framed across five components, the project aims to achieve a series of pivotal outputs. Under Component 1, the establishment and strengthening of management bodies and frameworks will enable integrated management of the Ruvuma River Basin. It also includes the development and signing of a Ruvuma Transboundary Water Agreement by member states, as well as the enhancing gender mainstreaming and mitigation of environmental and social risks and impacts at local, national and Basin level.

Component 2 will deliver several environmental, climatic, and social vulnerability assessments, including the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA). These assessments will provide comprehensive insights into the basin's vulnerabilities and inform sustainable interventions. By offering member states a robust and updated baseline of information, these activities will strengthen evidence-based decision-making.

Outputs from Component 3 will include the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), which prioritizes national and transboundary interests to ensure that policies and actions address the basin's sustainability needs. This component will also see the formal approval and enforcement of National Action Plans, along with the scaling up of sustainable financing models adopted by member states.

Component 4 focuses on promoting inclusive community involvement and fostering stronger cooperation with the private sector to reduce deforestation. Key outputs include the assessment and harmonization of regulations across the basin and the enhanced enforcement of those regulations, contributing to sustainable resource governance.

Finally, Component 5 emphasizes knowledge and experience sharing across the basin and among member states. Outputs will include the establishment of mechanisms for knowledge and experience sharing at local, national, regional and international levels targeting various stakeholder groups; and preparation and operationalization of the gender-sensitive knowledge management and communication systems to support knowledge transfer and sharing of information at national, regional and international level.

The project integrates gender equality and women's empowerment across all five components, ensuring inclusive governance, equitable access to resources, and gender-responsive decision-making. Institutional frameworks and stakeholder platforms established under Component 1 will promote women's participation and leadership in transboundary water governance. Component 2 ensures gender-differentiated data collection through participatory assessments, capturing women's unique knowledge and vulnerabilities. Under Component 3, the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and National Action Plans will embed gender-sensitive monitoring and financing mechanisms to support equitable benefit-sharing. Component 4 directly empowers women and vulnerable groups through targeted training, livelihood diversification, and inclusive community

engagement, enabling active participation in land and water management. Finally, Component 5 establishes gender-sensitive knowledge-sharing platforms, ensuring that women's experiences and contributions are documented and promoted for replication. The project's gender approach not only addresses existing inequalities but positions women as key agents in sustaining ecosystems and enhancing climate resilience across the Ruvuma River Basin.

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

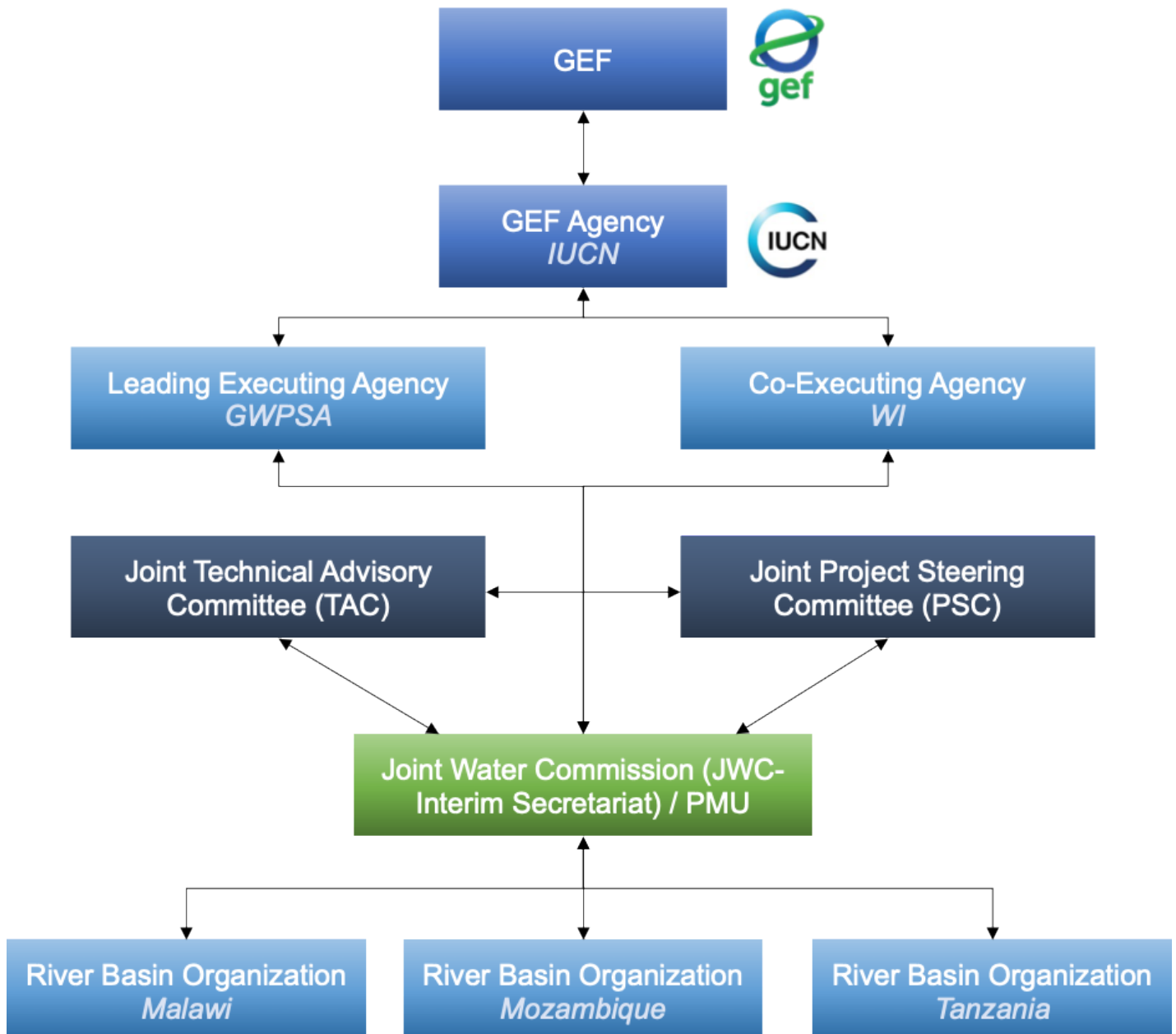
Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this project, including financial management and procurement. If possible, please summarize the flow of funds (diagram), accountabilities for project management and financial reporting (organogram), including audit, and staffing plans.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

The institutional arrangement for the Ruvuma Basin project reflects a **multi-layered governance structure** designed to address the complex challenges of transboundary water and biodiversity management. This framework incorporates global, regional, national, and local mechanisms to ensure accountability, equity, and effective resource management. The following organogram (FIGURE 2) presents the project's institutional arrangements:

FIGURE

2:

ORGANOGRAM



At the **global level**, the **Global Environment Facility (GEF)** provides strategic oversight, ensuring alignment with international commitments such as the SDGs, UNFCCC, and the Convention on Biological Diversity. As the **GEF Agency**, **IUCN** is responsible for project preparation, implementation, financial management, and procurement, ensuring compliance with funding requirements and integration with global frameworks.

At the **execution level**, **GWPSA** and **WI** serve as the leading and co-leading executing agencies, respectively. They oversee project coordination, resource management, and progress monitoring while ensuring compliance with environmental and social safeguards. They also facilitate stakeholder collaboration and reporting, working closely with IUCN to maintain alignment with GEF objectives.

Regionally, the **Joint Water Commission (JWC)**, established under the SADC Protocol on Shared Watercourses, provides strategic oversight and transboundary governance. Comprising representatives from Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania, the JWC ensures national policies align with regional objectives, integrates the project into frameworks like the SADC Water Policy and RSAP, and facilitates conflict resolution over water resources. The JWC Interim Secretariat, acting as the Project Management Unit (PMU), supports JWC decisions, coordinates initiatives, and ensures data-sharing among stakeholders.

At the national level, **River Basin Organisations (RBOs)** are responsible for operational implementation. They translate regional strategies into national policies, coordinate with local stakeholders, and report progress to the JWC. RBOs

also provide technical guidance to Local-Level Management Units (LLMUs), address challenges, and allocate resources efficiently.

Technical and operational support is provided by the **Joint Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** and the **Joint Project Steering Committee (PSC)**. The TAC offers technical assessments, monitoring tools, and capacity-building, while the PSC ensures strategic oversight and policy harmonization.

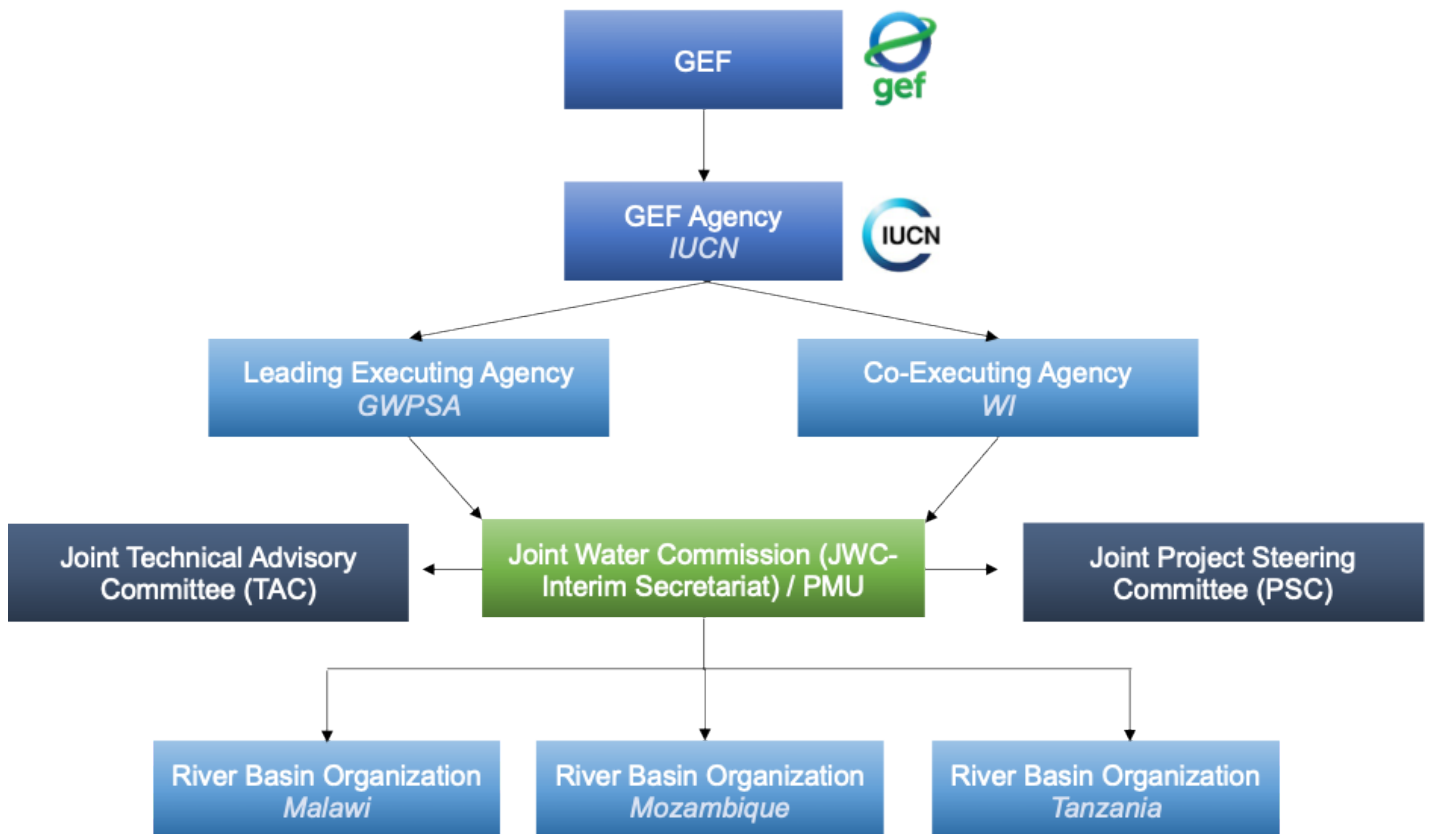
Locally, **LLMUs**, including water user associations and community groups, drive grassroots implementation. They promote participatory governance, sustainable resource management, and equitable resource use while fostering accountability and long-term sustainability.

The Ruvuma River Basin project's **Procurement Plan** ensures compliance with IUCN's procurement policies, prioritizing transparency, fair competition, value for money, and accountability. Procurement activities are categorized for efficiency, using methods such as International Competitive Bidding (ICB) for high-value equipment, National Competitive Bidding (NCB) for mid-sized procurements, and Requests for Proposals (RFP) for consultancy services and capacity-building programs. Key procurements include environmental monitoring systems, consultancy services for biodiversity and climate assessments, and infrastructure such as vehicles and field offices. A structured timeline aligns procurement with project phases, ensuring timely delivery. Regular audits and monitoring uphold accountability, supporting the project's long-term success.

A **project implementation agreement** will be signed between the IUCN HQ and the Executing Entities – GWP-SA and WI. GWP-SA and WI, as joint Executive Entities, will sign MoUs with the 3 River Basin Water Organisations (Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania) and Technical Service Providers. Basin Water Authorities will also sign agreements / contracts with contractors to deliver specific project related activities.

**Funds** will be transferred from GEF to IUCN according to the GEF Agreement and ProDoc. IUCN will transfer funds to the Lead Executing Entities and the Co-Executing Entity. IUCN will transfer funds to the Lead Executing Entity (GWPSA) and the Co-Executing Entity (WI). The Executing entities will transfer the funds to the Joint Water Commission (JWC-Interim Secretariat) who will disburse the funds to RBOs of Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania as well as Grantees / Technical Service Providers as per approved work plans and budgets. The flow of funds (FIGURE 3) is structured as follows:

**FIGURE 3: FLOW OF FUNDS**



The Executive Entities will be responsible for the **accounting and fiduciary management** of all funds disbursed to Basin Water Authorities and Service Providers. The PMU will prepare the project execution guideline/manual (including financial management, procurement, staff recruitment and auditing) in consultation with IUCN and for PSC approval. Executive Entities will submit the financial and accounting reports to IUCN for review, approval and on-ward transmission to GEF.

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

No

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

Not applicable. GEF IA, IUCN, will not play a role.

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

**The Ruvuma River Basin project aims to collaborate closely with ongoing national and regional initiatives to optimize synergies and prevent duplication.** By aligning with existing programs the project will leverage the experience and infrastructure of established initiatives.

At the regional level, the Ruvuma project will align with the SADC Water Governance Initiatives, which are central to transboundary water resource management. The SADC Protocol on Shared Watercourses has provided a strong framework for cooperation between Tanzania, Mozambique, and Malawi, and the Ruvuma project will utilize SADC’s expertise to harmonize water governance practices across these countries. This

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cooperation will ensure that the project benefits from existing legal and institutional structures, reinforcing effective and coordinated water management.

On a national scale, the Ruvuma project will collaborate with several ongoing conservation projects. For example, the Niassa-Selous Transfrontier Conservation Project, which operates across Mozambique and Tanzania, focuses on conserving biodiversity corridors and protecting large mammal species such as elephants and lions. Similarly, the Mnazi Bay-Quirimbas Marine Conservation Project works on protecting coastal and marine biodiversity in the region. The other important Project is the Bahari Yetu Project operating in Southern Tanzania focusing on terrestrial and marine ecosystem, partially mirroring the source-to-sea framework. The Ruvuma project will build on these conservation efforts, utilizing shared resources, staff, and technical expertise to create a unified source-to-sea approach that spans terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems. Additionally, the Ruvuma project will draw on the lessons learned from previous large-scale environmental projects such as the GEF-funded Ruvuma River Basin Strategic Action Programme and the World Bank's Zambezi River Basin Project.

The project will also align with the national development plans of the riparian countries—Tanzania, Mozambique, and Malawi—which prioritize sustainable land and water management, biodiversity conservation, and socio-economic development. By ensuring that the Ruvuma project complements these national policies, the initiative will help strengthen coherence across governance levels, facilitating the seamless implementation of transboundary goals within national frameworks.

Finally, strengthening climate resilience is a core objective of the Ruvuma project. The project will integrate lessons from ongoing regional and national climate adaptation strategies to enhance resilience to climate change impacts, such as floods, water scarcity, and ecosystem degradation. Collaborating with national and regional organizations will ensure a coordinated response to climate challenges, supporting sustainable management of shared resources across the basin. Through these collaborations, the Ruvuma project will not only avoid duplication but also foster effective and efficient resource management across multiple levels.

**Member States under the umbrella of the JWC, Executing entities through the PMU and RBOs through joint trans-boundary efforts will leverage opportunities for sharing staff and expertise during the project planning, execution and monitoring.**

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### **Inclusion of Gender and Marginalised Groups through cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects:**

The Ruvuma River Basin project will adopt an explicitly gender-sensitive and inclusive approach, recognising the disproportionate burdens faced by women, indigenous peoples, and marginalised rural communities across the basin. Women in particular are central to water collection, agriculture, and household resource management, yet they face structural inequalities in access to land, credit, and decision-making power. Environmental degradation has intensified their workload, exposing them to poverty cycles and reducing opportunities for education and income generation.

The project will work to ensure women's active participation in governance and planning processes, liaise with other projects/actors in the landscape, while promoting equitable access to land and water resources. This includes integrating gender-responsive targets into resource management, promoting alternative livelihoods for women, and strengthening legal protections related to land tenure and customary rights. Similarly, the project will engage pastoralist and indigenous communities, whose knowledge systems and customary practices are critical to ecosystem resilience. By embedding social justice into natural resource governance, the Ruvuma project aims to build a more equitable, resilient and sustainable basin.

## Mobilisation and Contribution of Investments to the Ruvuma Landscape through ongoing initiatives and projects:

Investments across Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania have been mobilised through a combination of GCF Readiness finance, regional SADC cooperation programmes, and direct government budget allocations, demonstrating a growing political and institutional commitment to transboundary water governance and climate-resilient infrastructure in the Ruvuma basin.

Both Malawi and Mozambique are benefiting from Global Water Partnership (GWP)-facilitated Green Climate Fund Readiness Projects, each allocating USD 75,000 to strengthen national capacities for climate-resilient water investment planning. These investments directly feed into transboundary dialogues and institutional strengthening, enabling future large-scale finance mobilisation. At the regional level, the SADC Transboundary Water Management Programme has provided USD 50,000 to scale the impact of stakeholder exchanges and research coordination relevant to the basin.

Tanzania has committed over USD 11.3 million in domestic financing through various water resource protection and infrastructure efforts in the southern districts adjacent to the Ruvuma River. This includes USD 552,450 for water source demarcation, USD 552,751.60 for conservation of key sub-catchments in Mtwara, and a major USD 10,230,000.76 investment in the Makonde Water Supply Project. These public investments enhance infrastructure, reduce ecosystem pressure, and support local communities, thus complementing basin-wide objectives.

**Together, these investments enhance climate resilience, strengthen transboundary coordination, improve access to water and land resources, and build the institutional backbone for long-term cooperation across the Ruvuma River Basin.**

## Core Indicators

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

### Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
200000	97637	0	0

### Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	8008	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
				4,183.00		
				3,825.00		

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
200000	89629	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
Niassa	555705344	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	100,000.00	69,395.00			55.00		
Selous Game Reserve	5005		100,000.00	17,299.00			57.00		
Zomba Malosa Forest Reserve	33331			2,935.00			50.00		

#### Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
700000	7500	0	0

#### Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

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

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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#### Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
700000	7500	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
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Mnazi Bay-Ruvuma Estuary	220235	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	700,000.00	7,500.00			40.00		
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### Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
100	88620	0	0

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

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Cropland		520.00		

### Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	7,100.00		

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

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
100.00	80,500.00		

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
2000	279899	0	0

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
2,000.00	276,899.00		

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

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

### Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

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

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

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

#### Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

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

Title

#### Indicator 7 Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Shared water Ecosystem	Ruvuma	Ruvuma		
Count	1	1	0	0

#### Indicator 7.1 Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Ruvuma	1	1		

#### Indicator 7.2 Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional management institution(s) (RMI) to support its implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Ruvuma	1	2		

#### Indicator 7.3 Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministeral Committees (IMC; scale 1 to 4; See Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Ruvuma	3	2		

**Indicator 7.4 Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products(scale 1 to 4; see Guidance)**

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Ruvuma	1	1		

**Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments**

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
<b>Female</b>	1,000	1,000		
<b>Male</b>	1,000	1,000		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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

The target levels for the Core and Sub-Indicators were determined through a participatory process involving regional and national consultations. A workshop in Dar es Salaam (October 2024) gathered 24 representatives from Malawi, Tanzania, and Mozambique to establish initial estimates. This was followed by stakeholder consultations in November 2024, including 18 key informant interviews and focus group discussions across the three countries. A validation workshop in Lilongwe (January 2025) refined and confirmed the indicators. This method ensured accuracy, stakeholder ownership, and alignment with local priorities, integrating inputs from all levels for realistic and representative targets.

The six GEF Core Indicators (1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 11) align with the project’s objectives and reflect the collaborative effort of IWRM in a Source-to-Sea approach. In Mozambique, 73,578 hectares of terrestrial protected areas were included, with 4,183 hectares newly created and 69,395 hectares under improved management, while 7,000 hectares of marine protected areas, such as the Mnazi-Quirimbas Marine Park, were included. Tanzania has identified 17,299 hectares of terrestrial protected areas from reserves like Matogoro and Nanyimbo, along with 7,500 hectares of marine protected areas, which included 500 hectares of restored mangroves. Malawi has specified 6,760 hectares of terrestrial protected areas, comprising 3,825 hectares newly created and 2,935 hectares under improved management, and 80,000 hectares of wetlands to be included in improved management, including in Chilwa and Chiuta. With regards to the indicators on restoration efforts spanned across the basin, with Mozambique focusing on 80,500 hectares of wetlands, Tanzania restoring 1,100 hectares of forest and 500 hectares of grasslands, and Malawi contributing 5,800 hectares of forest and 520 hectares of agricultural land. Landscapes under improved practices included 6,500 square kilometers in Mozambique’s Sanga District, 39,399 hectares in Tanzania, and 231,000 hectares in Malawi. Shared water ecosystems in Chilwa, Chiuta, and Ruvuma are identified to be managed collaboratively across all three countries, while 2,000 direct beneficiaries, evenly divided by gender are indicated under core indicator 11. These numbers collectively represent the integrated efforts to enhance conservation, improve livelihoods, and promote gender equality in the Ruvuma River Basin.

**Key Risks**

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		

Climate	Moderate	The Ruvuma River Basin faces significant climate risks, including rising temperatures, unpredictable rainfall, and extreme weather events such as cyclones, floods and droughts, which exacerbate water scarcity, agricultural losses, and environmental degradation. To mitigate these risks, the project will focus on building climate resilience through infrastructure improvements, the implementation of climate adaptation strategies, and the promotion of sustainable land and water management practices. Strengthening governance and developing early warning systems will also help communities better manage climate-induced challenges.
Environmental and Social	Moderate	Ensuring interstate security and preventing terrorism within the basin is crucial for the long-term success of conservation and development efforts. Safety issues can also be caused by wild animals. Furthermore, historical disputes over land and water resources have the potential to resurface, exacerbating existing tensions among user groups, particularly between large-scale agricultural enterprises and smallholder farmers. Unequal distribution of resources and power imbalances, particularly between local communities and commercial interests, create conflicts that threaten the sustainable management of the basin's resources, affecting the project's success. Some areas might be inaccessible during rainy season or might require additional precautions. To mitigate these risks, the project will promote dialogue and cooperation, establish equitable resource-sharing mechanisms, and support capacity-building initiatives to address power imbalances and foster trust among user groups, ensuring that conservation and development efforts are not undermined by disputes or security threats.
Political and Governance	Moderate	Political will to support conservation and development projects can often be limited, especially in regions where competing priorities demand attention. Additionally, political instability and differing national priorities among the three countries pose challenges to sustained coordinated action. Establishing and operationalising the Ruvuma River Basin Joint Commission will be essential to improving coordination and governance across the basin. Additionally, programs like IUCN's BRIDGE Program and Interstate MoUs were recommended to foster stronger cooperation between the basin countries.

#### INNOVATION

Institutional and Policy	Moderate	A significant risk is the lack of consistent policies and frameworks across Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania. The differing legal and policy environments create challenges for transboundary cooperation, potentially hindering effective conservation and water resource management efforts. This risk can be mitigated by developing a comprehensive SAP that harmonizes national and transboundary priorities, integrates cross-sectoral issues, and aligns water, forestry, marine, and wildlife management plans, ensuring coordinated action and fostering joint transboundary investments Promoting IWRM is a critical approach to managing water resources effectively across borders, ensuring that conservation efforts are comprehensive and inclusive.
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Technological	Moderate	Lack of reliable data and insufficient research, which hampers the implementation of evidence-based interventions. To mitigate this, the project will enhance research activities by leveraging innovative tools such as remote sensing technologies to address data gaps, strengthen monitoring systems, and improve decision-making processes.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	Risks may arise from potential inefficiencies in resource allocation, budget overruns, or misalignment between available funding and project needs. To mitigate these risks, the project will implement rigorous financial management systems that ensure funds are allocated efficiently and expenditures align with project objectives. The adoption of transparent tracking tools will facilitate real-time monitoring of financial transactions, minimizing the likelihood of mismanagement or fund misallocation.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Moderate	A significant risk to the project's effectiveness is the limited availability of resources, infrastructure and skilled professionals, which could impede the successful implementation of activities. To address this, the project should prioritize capacity-building efforts through targeted training programs, both locally and internationally, to develop the technical expertise required for sustainable management of the basin's resources.
Fiduciary	Low	There could be potential weaknesses in procurement processes, financial mismanagement, and non-compliance with funding regulations, which could impact project implementation. To address these risks, the project will strictly adhere to GEF financial guidelines and IUCN procurement policies, ensuring that all financial operations are transparent, well-documented, and audit-ready. Capacity-building for procurement and finance personnel will reinforce compliance with fiduciary standards, reducing the risk of financial irregularities. Furthermore, periodic reporting and stakeholder engagement will foster a culture of accountability, ensuring fiduciary responsibilities are met and safeguarding project resources against misuse or inefficiencies.
Stakeholder	Low	Limited participation of basin stakeholders, including women, youth, and other vulnerable groups, poses a significant obstacle in fostering successful stakeholder engagement across the basin. Potential misconceptions of the project among the communities can also hinder engagement of stakeholders. The project will activate participatory task teams under the Ruvuma-JC to ensure inclusive decision-making processes, and will also strengthen mechanisms for collaboration by establishing stakeholder platforms that promote dialogue and joint action, fostering inter-institutional and cross-sectoral cooperation.
Other		
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	The Ruvuma River Basin faces moderate risks from climate change, resource disputes, and operational challenges. Rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, and

extreme weather threaten water, agriculture, and ecosystems. Socio-political risks, including resource conflicts, power imbalances, and interstate security, require dialogue, equitable resource-sharing, and strengthened governance through the Ruvuma-JC. Operational risks from inconsistent policies and limited data will be addressed via harmonized frameworks, enhanced monitoring, and capacity building. Resource limitations will be mitigated by robust financial systems and stakeholder engagement, ensuring inclusivity. Mitigation strategies provide a strong foundation for resilience, sustainable management, and cooperation across the basin.

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

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

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

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

The project is fully aligned with the GEF 8 programming strategy for international waters, particularly under objective 3, which aims to enhance water security in shared freshwater ecosystems. A key focus of GEF 8 is the use of data for informed management and decision-making, which is integrated into the project design, especially in the development of the basin monitoring system, Water Information System (WIS), and Decision Support System (DSS). The conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water is another critical focus of GEF 8, and this is reflected in the project’s design, particularly in the interventions related to groundwater resources mapping.

The project includes several key elements that are emphasized in the GEF 8 programming directions, such as:

- The development of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and Strategic Action Programme (SAP).
- Support for policy and legal reform, including transboundary data exchange procedures, transboundary water agreements, and groundwater management strategies.
- Capacity building for management, including strengthening the Ruvuma Joint Commission (Ruvuma-JC), intersectoral management structures, and community-level management structures.
- Establishing a source-to-sea management approach.
- Promotion and application of nexus approaches through demonstration projects.
- De-risking innovation by piloting new technologies and approaches and engaging with the private sector to establish sustainable financing mechanisms.

Through its source-to-sea focus, the project also contributes to programming objective 1, which seeks to accelerate joint action to support a sustainable blue economy. This will be achieved by creating multi-stakeholder cooperation frameworks that include freshwater, marine, and other stakeholders. The project also aims to empower one of the newest River Basin Commissions in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to fulfill its mandate effectively. This approach is innovative, seeking regular institutionalized cooperation between Ruvuma-JC, the Nairobi Convention, and national basin and coastal management institutions. The project will build on regional lessons from organizations like ORASECOM, the BCLME, and emerging experiences from basins like Incomati/Maputo. Additionally, nature-based livelihood options will be explored through demonstration projects that focus on protecting and rehabilitating critical ecosystem services.

The project strengthens transboundary basin management, aligning with shared SADC regional objectives, such as the Revised SADC Protocol on Shared Watercourses, the SADC Regional Water Policy and Strategy, and the Regional

Strategic Action Plan (RSAP) 5. By improving Ruvuma-JC, enhancing basin monitoring, and facilitating data sharing, the project will support collaborative decision-making to address the environmental impacts of anticipated industrial and agricultural development in the basin.

The project also contributes to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and its global targets through a source-to-sea approach that maintains, enhances, or restores ecosystem integrity, connectivity, and resilience. Specifically, it contributes to the following GBF targets:

- Target 1: Participatory integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning addressing land and sea use change.
- Target 2: Effective restoration of at least 30% of degraded terrestrial, inland water, marine, and coastal ecosystems by 2030.
- Target 3: Supporting the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems.
- Target 7: Integrating climate change issues in transboundary water resources, reducing invasive species, and minimizing pollution risks by 2030.
- Target 10: Promoting livelihood projects with communities.
- Target 15: Strengthening private sector engagement in transboundary cooperation and water stewardship actions.

These contributions will be reported through the project's core indicators.

## D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

### Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

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

Yes

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

Yes

**Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.**

Yes

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

Yes

**Stakeholder Engagement**

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

Yes

**Select what role civil society will play in the Project**

Consulted only; No

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier; Yes

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain) Yes

**Private Sector**

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

**Environmental and Social Safeguards**

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

Yes

Please provide overall Project/Program Risk Classification

**Overall Project/Program Risk Classification**

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate	Medium/Moderate		

## E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

### Knowledge management

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

Yes

### Socio-economic Benefits

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

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

*Info relevant to Section D (above)*

The **Gender Assessment and Action Plan** has been uploaded, and referenced in the agency project document. The M&E plan, included in **Section 7** accounts for gender-based indicators.

The role **CSOs** will play in the project is a combination of consultant and executor. One of the objectives of this project is to foster active collaboration and engagement of stakeholders across all levels. Civil Society involvement will be crucial in implementing sustainable practices, driving the ownership of conservation initiatives, and leveraging local knowledge and community engagement skills.

The **Stakeholder Engagement and Participation** is described in **Section 6** of the Project Document.

Table 1: Stakeholder engagement strategy per category

Stakeholder Category	Engagement Strategy
<b>Regional and International Organizations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage regional bodies in cross-border management discussions.</li> <li>Leverage international funding and technical assistance.</li> <li>Develop regional strategies for integrated resource management.</li> <li>Coordinate regional workshops and conferences.</li> <li>Ensure international environmental protocols are incorporated into national frameworks.</li> </ul>
<b>Government Agencies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular consultation with ministries and agencies.</li> <li>Support capacity building to enhance enforcement and compliance.</li> <li>Encourage joint policy dialogue and cooperation on transboundary issues.</li> <li>Facilitate cross-border technical working groups for shared management of resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Academic and Research Institutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involve academic institutions in knowledge-sharing workshops.</li> <li>Collaborate on research initiatives related to sustainable development.</li> <li>Support student-led research and fieldwork on natural resource management</li> <li>Integrate academic findings into policymaking processes.</li> <li>Build partnerships between academia and other stakeholders for capacity building.</li> </ul>
<b>NGOs and CSOs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish formal partnerships with local NGOs and community groups.</li> <li>Support local capacity building initiatives.</li> <li>Act as intermediaries between communities and government bodies.</li> <li>Provide advocacy platforms for community issues in national dialogues.</li> <li>Involve NGOs in monitoring and evaluation frameworks.</li> </ul>
<b>Private Sector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage private sector through corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives.</li> <li>Promote green technology and investment opportunities.</li> <li>Establish private-public partnerships (PPPs) for resource conservation.</li> <li>Provide incentives for businesses to adopt sustainable practices.</li> <li>Involve the private sector in environmental impact assessments.</li> </ul>
<b>Local Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold community workshops and focus group discussions to gather input.</li> <li>Provide training on sustainable practices and resource management.</li> <li>Collaborate with local farmer and women's associations to ensure equitable resource management practices.</li> <li>Facilitate focus group discussions and participatory planning sessions.</li> <li>Engage women and marginalized groups in decision-making processes.</li> <li>Integrate indigenous knowledge into conservation and management plans.</li> <li>Community participatory monitoring</li> </ul>
<b>Women's Groups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate gender-specific training; lead reforestation and eco-enterprise projects; ensure representation in governance bodies.</li> </ul>
<b>Local Communities &amp; Traditional Structures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage through FPIC protocol; incorporate traditional knowledge; co-develop conservation and cultural heritage actions.</li> </ul>

Below is a clear summary of the NGOs, community-based organisations (CBOs), and local community groups participating in the Ruvuma River Basin project. It highlights their specific roles and contributions, along with the expected results of their efforts.

## Component 1 – Strengthening institutional frameworks

Outcome: Basin-wide management bodies and agreements in place

### i. IUCN & WWF

o Supporting in setting up and running the Joint Water Commission (JWC) Secretariat and Technical Committees, with an emphasis on ensuring gender-sensitive governance.

ii. Centre for Environmental Policy and Advocacy (CEPA) (Malawi) & Coordination Union for the Rehabilitation of the Environment (CURE) (Malawi)

o Leading nationwide capacity-building workshops for ministries of water and environment to strengthen enforcement of the upcoming Ruvuma Transboundary Water Agreement.

iii. Makonde Cultural Association, Yao Councils, Ngoni and Makuwa traditional authorities

o Co-leading the process to secure community consent (Free, Prior and Informed Consent - FPIC) for transboundary agreements, with the results directly informing the Steering Committee.

Component 2 – Science-based decision making

Outcome: A comprehensive Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and data-sharing system

i. Water and Environmental Sanitation Network (WESNET) (Malawi) & ProAzul (Mozambique)

o Conducting eDNA sampling and vulnerability mapping in source zones and coastal areas, then input the results into the system.

ii. Local Community-Based Natural Resources Management Committees (CBNRM CBOs)

o Collecting baseline data, such as water quality and forest cover, through participatory monitoring that incorporates local knowledge into the process.

Component 3 – Strategic investment planning & resource mobilisation

Outcome: SAP/NAPs and Investment Plan adopted

i. Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDI) & Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG)

o Collaboratively developing sustainable financing models with private-sector partners, such as AVIV Coffee Plantation and Olam International, including community revenue-sharing.

ii. Farmer Associations (e.g., macadamia and eucalyptus cooperatives in Mozambique & Malawi)

o Validating and piloting the eco-enterprise components of the Investment Plan to demonstrate their impact on smallholder income.

Component 4 – Community-based sustainable land & water management

Outcome: Restoration/conservation of 360,000 ha and livelihoods for 2,000 beneficiaries

i. World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) (Tanzania & Mozambique)

o Leading the design and implementation of community reforestation and mangrove restoration projects, aiming to restore a total of 52,000 hectares of habitat.

ii. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) such as MJUMITA (Tanzania) and LEAD (Malawi)

o Facilitating farmer field schools focused on conservation agriculture and gender-inclusive eco-enterprises, with an emphasis on ensuring equal participation of women.

iii. Beach Management Units (BMUs) & Water User Associations/CBWSOs (coastal Tanzania)

o Implementing sustainable fisheries management along with community-led monitoring of estuarine areas.

Component 5 – Project & knowledge management

Outcome: Knowledge platform, peer-to-peer learning, IW: LEARN participation

i. Wetlands International (WI) & UNEP IW: LEARN

o Hosting regional experience-sharing workshops and maintaining an online compendium of best practices.

ii. Local women’s groups and youth innovation hubs

o Facilitating exchanges between communities and documenting lessons through digital storytelling.

The project will shift from using generic strategies to implementing customised, results-oriented engagement. This will involve specific NGOs, CBOs, and community groups in clearly defined roles that align with each component and its objectives.

**All supporting documents have been uploaded to the Roadmap section of the submission portal.**

## ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
IUCN	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters: IW-3	Grant	6,122,018.00	550,982.00	6,673,000.00
IUCN	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters: IW-1	Grant	1,000,000.00	90,000.00	1,090,000.00
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>						<b>7,122,018.00</b>	<b>640,982.00</b>	<b>7,763,000.00</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

200000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

18000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
IUCN	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters: IW-3	171,918.00	15,473.00	187,391.00
IUCN	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters: IW-1	28,082.00	2,527.00	30,609.00
<b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b>					<b>200,000.00</b>	<b>18,000.00</b>	<b>218,000.00</b>

Please provide Justification

#### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>					<b>0.00</b>

#### Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
IW-3	GET	6,122,018.00	35440480
IW-1-1	GET	1,000,000.00	30000000
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>7,122,018.00</b>	<b>65,440,480.00</b>

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

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Government of Malawi	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	52000

Recipient Country Government	Government of Mozambique	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	48306761
GEF Agency	IUCN	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5000000
Others	GWP	Grant	Investment mobilized	200000
Others	Wetlands International	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	100000
Others	WaterNet	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	141125
Recipient Country Government	Government of Tanzania	Grant	Investment mobilized	11335202
Recipient Country Government	Government of Tanzania	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	305392
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				<b>65,440,480.00</b>

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

The investments across Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania have been mobilised through a combination of GCF Readiness finance, regional SADC cooperation programmes, and direct government budget allocations, reflecting a growing political and institutional commitment to transboundary water governance and climate-resilient infrastructure in the Ruvuma landscape.

#### GCF Readiness Projects – Malawi and Mozambique (USD 75,000 each)

Both Malawi and Mozambique are benefiting from Global Water Partnership (GWP)-facilitated GCF Readiness Projects, each allocating USD 75,000 under Components 2 and 3. These investments aim to strengthen national capacities for climate-resilient water investment planning and project preparation, with an emphasis on improving data systems, stakeholder engagement, and cross-sectoral coordination. These efforts directly feed into transboundary planning dialogues within the Ruvuma basin, enabling more coherent and bankable project pipelines that can access large-scale finance in the future.

#### SADC Transboundary Water Management Programme (USD 50,000)

An additional USD 50,000 under Component 5 has been allocated through the SADC Transboundary Water Management Programme, specifically to scale the impact of regional exchanges related to RBOs (River Basin Organisations), multi-stakeholder dialogues, and research coordination across member states. This funding supports platforms like the SADC RBOs Workshop and the SADC Water Research Agenda, enhancing knowledge exchange and institutional alignment within the Ruvuma river basin and beyond.

#### Government of Tanzania Investments (Over USD 11.3 million)

Tanzania has committed substantial domestic financing to improve water conservation and supply infrastructure in the southern regions adjoining the Ruvuma River:

USD 552,450 for the demarcation of critical water sources using beacons and sign boards to enhance protection and reduce encroachment.

USD 552,751.60 for the protection and conservation of key sub-catchments (Chiwambo, Nangololo, Nahinga, Nyangao, Mahuta, Mkunya) in the Mtwara Region—areas critical to maintaining the ecological integrity of the Ruvuma basin.

A major USD 10,230,000.76 investment in the Makonde Water Supply Project, which channels water from Mitema Wells to Newala, Tandahimba, and Mtwara districts, directly benefiting local communities while alleviating pressure on natural transboundary water resources.

Strategic Contribution to the Ruvuma Basin:

Together, these investments contribute to the Ruvuma landscape’s climate and water resilience by:

- Enhancing transboundary coordination through joint readiness and dialogue initiatives.

- Improving water resource protection and access in fragile ecosystems.

- Building the institutional and infrastructural backbone for future cross-border water cooperation and climate adaptation interventions, that will be leveraged also by this proposed Ruvuma IW project.

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	2/7/2025	Janie RIOUX		janie.rioux@iucn.org
Project Coordinator	2/7/2025	Debasmita BORAL ROLLAND		debasmita.rolland@iucn.org
Project Coordinator	2/7/2025	Doyi MAZENZELE		doyi.mazenzele@iucn.org

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

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

Name of GEF OFP	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Shamiso N. Banda	DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT	ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT	10/3/2023
Eduardo Baixo	HEAD OF DEPARTMENT AND GEF OFP	MINISTRY OF LAND AND ENVIRONMENT NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF CLIMATE CHANGE	7/20/2023

Kemilembe S. Mutasa	GEF- OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT	UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE	10/12/2023
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## ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

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

**The Results Framework can be found in Section 2 of the Agency Project Document.**

**The M&E plan is presented in Section 7 of the Agency Project Document.**

**Project Objective:** The project aims to promote multi-sector transboundary water cooperation through a source-to-sea framework aimed at ensuring that ecosystem health and social inclusion are integrated into planning, development, and management of the Ruvuma River Basin.

### Core Indicators:

- 1: Terrestrial protected areas created and under improved management. Target: 89,629 ha
- 2: Marine protected areas created or under improved management. Target: 7,500 ha
- 3: Area of land and ecosystems under restoration. Target: 88,620 ha
- 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas). Target: 279,899 ha
- 7: Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management. Target: 1
- 11: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment. Target: 2,000 (1,000 female; 1,000 male)

Component 1 – Strengthening institutional frameworks for transboundary basin and coastal zone management			
Outcome 1: Basin-wide management/transboundary agreement and institutional capacity established and developed by Member States			
Outputs	Baseline	Targets	Source of verification
Output 1.1: Inclusive and gender-responsive management bodies for transboundary source-to-sea and coastal zone management established and strengthened, ensuring equitable representation and participation of women within the Joint Water Commission (JWC) Secretariat and Technical Committees	The JWC exists but has little or no focus on transboundary source-to-sea and coastal zone management. No technical committees exist.	Create and operationalise the JWC Secretariat and the Technical Committee (i.e. the Regional Management Institution) by December 2026. At least three (3) inclusive forums established or strengthened at national level – Malawi (1), Mozambique (1), and Tanzania (1). At least one (1) inclusive basin-wide forum established (GEF indicator rating 4).  At least 50% representation of	Report detailing the composition of the JWC and the Technical committee. Reports on collaboration between committees and key institutions. Forum reports with documented decisions, outcomes, and action plans. Evidence of stakeholder feedback integrated into planning and decision-making.

		women in the JWC Secretariat and Technical Committees.	
Output 1.2: Ruvuma Transboundary Water Agreement signed by the Member States and engagement with SADC Secretariat supporting cooperation between shared watercourse institutions strengthened	Ruvuma Transboundary Water Agreement  SADC secretariat is currently engaged informally through regional actors and initiatives.	By 2028, the Ruvuma Transboundary Water Agreement is signed by Member States under the facilitation of the (JWC) supported by SADC.  At least two (2) formal mechanisms for engagement with the SADC Secretariat are in place. At least two (2) collaborative events between shared watercourse institutions and PAs are held annually.	Signed Transboundary Water Agreement, referencing international water law principles and the UN Watercourses Convention, documented and published. Reports on joint activities or initiatives facilitated by the engagement with SADC. Meeting minutes and communications between the SADC Secretariat and other institutions.
Output 1.3: Enhanced gender and environmental mainstreaming and mitigation of environmental and social risks and impacts at local, national, and Basin levels, building directly on the Gender Analysis and Environmental and Social Screening conducted during the PPG, including the development of gender-responsive regulations, instruments, and plans.	Gender Strategy and Action Plan not in place  Environmental and Social Mitigation Framework (ESMF) not in place	By December 2026, the Gender Strategy and Action Plan is prepared and adopted.  The Environmental and Social Mitigation Framework is in place by December 2026.	Using the Environmental and Social Mitigation Framework (ESMF), and the Gender Assessment and Gender Action Plan, as the starting point, the Gender Strategy and Action Plan is further refined to Project requirements.

Component 2 – Facilitating basin and coastal zone management through science-based decision making			
Outcome 2: Scientific baseline for source-to-sea-based management of the basin and coastal zones established, and transboundary data and information exchange in place			
Outputs	Baseline	Targets	Source of verification
Output 2.1: Inclusive water management system established and operationalised, consisting of:  (i) a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) incorporating a gender-sensitive source-to-sea framework (including eDNA analysis); and  (ii) a transboundary groundwater management strategy that accounts for differentiated water use patterns and equitable access.	TDA framework is not available and not currently included in the TFDD <sup>[1]</sup> . No groundwater hotspots identified. Groundwater management plans exist but at national level and not at basin level.	Comprehensive TDA, incorporating eDNA analysis and the source-to-sea framework, is completed and provides a common and shared vision of sustainable development in the Ruvuma River Basin. TDA framework officially included in the TFDD (GEF indicator rating 2). Identification of at least three (3) groundwater hotspots. Development of one (1) Basin groundwater management plan.	TDA developed, signed and widely disseminated. Evidence of inclusion of the TDA framework into the TFDD. Detailed groundwater hotspot map with identified priority areas. Published transboundary groundwater management strategy.
Output 2.2: Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database (TFDD) updated to reflect key project findings, such as gender-sensitive TDA results and inclusive governance	The TFDD exists as a global reference tool for transboundary freshwater cooperation but does not include	Project-relevant data (TDA findings, eDNA analysis results, groundwater management strategy, and	Signed service contract with Tufts University; TFDD platform showing updated entries reflecting project data;

<p>strategies, through formal collaboration with Tufts University, ensuring continuity, accessibility, and uptake of knowledge products.</p> <p>Output 2.3: Environmental, climate, gender, and social vulnerability mapping, and inclusive data exchange for the basin and coastal zone carried out, incorporating disaggregated data and reflecting differentiated risks, exposures, and adaptive capacities of women, youth, and marginalized groups.</p>	<p>project-specific findings, nor is there currently a mechanism or formal arrangement in place for integrating these results</p> <p>No basin or coastal zone environmental, climate and social vulnerability mapping exists.</p> <p>No procedures for data exchange are in place.</p>	<p>Compendium of Practice) integrated into the TFDD by Tufts University through a formal contract; updated TFDD entries publicly accessible and aligned with project outputs by 2028.</p> <p>At least one (1) basin and one (1) coastal zone environmental, climate gender and social vulnerability mapping conducted. Clear procedures for regular data exchange developed and operationalised.</p>	<p>final delivery report from Tufts confirming integration of TDA findings, eDNA results, groundwater strategy, and Compendium of Practice</p> <p>Published environmental, climate, gender and social vulnerability map with detailed analysis for the basin and coastal zone. Formal agreements or protocols outlining data exchange procedures.</p>
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[\[1\]](#) Transboundary Freshwater Diplomacy Database

Component 3 – Supporting strategic investment planning resource mobilisation for integrated basin and coastal management			
Outcome 3: National and transboundary priorities integrated into Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and endorsed by Member States			
Outputs	Baseline	Targets	Source of verification
<p>Output 3.1: SAP for the transboundary basin and coastal zones developed and endorsed by Member States, through an inclusive and gender-responsive participatory process. The SAP will integrate community resilience and water, energy, food, and ecosystem security (WEFE nexus), while explicitly addressing legal, institutional, and cultural barriers that affect women’s access, participation, and benefit-sharing in transboundary water governance.</p>	<p>No SAP for the transboundary basin and coastal zones currently co-developed.</p>	<p>One SAP for the transboundary basin and coastal zones that reflects inclusive participatory approaches and integrates community resilience and the WEFE nexus is developed and endorsed by the riparian countries (GEF Indicator Rating 3) by end of 2028.</p> <p>Ensuring that at least 50% of participants involved in developing the SAP are women.</p>	<p>Finalized and published SAP (on GEF IW and other platforms), detailing strategies, priorities, and actions for transboundary basin and coastal zone management, with annexes documenting the integration of community resilience and the WEFE nexus.</p> <p>Participation records, including demographic data.</p>
<p>Output 3.2: National Action Plans (NAPs) linking country priorities</p>	<p>There are no NAPs that link country priorities to regional priorities for</p>	<p>NAPs for each country (3) are developed through an inclusive participatory process, linking national priorities to</p>	<p>Finalized and published NAPs for each riparian country, demonstrating</p>

<p>to regional priorities developed through an inclusive participatory approach and taking into consideration enhancing regulation and enforcement that support transboundary governance and approved by Member States. The NAPs will include gender-responsive actions and enforcement measures, ensuring that the roles, priorities, and rights of women and marginalized groups are recognized and supported in national-level planning and implementation.</p>	<p>enhanced transboundary governance in the three riparian countries.</p>	<p>regional transboundary governance objectives. NAPs are approved at national level and incorporate strategies for enhancing regulation and enforcement to support effective transboundary governance (GEF indicator rating 3).</p> <p>At least 50% of participants involved in the development of the NAPs are women.</p>	<p>alignment with regional priorities and transboundary governance objectives. Government approval records, such as resolutions, decrees, or signed endorsements from national governments.</p> <p>Participation records, including demographic data.</p>
<p>Output 3.3: Upscaled sustainable financing models, co-developed by the private sector and local communities, developed, integrated into a comprehensive Investment Plan for implementing the SAP and NAPs, and adopted by Member States to support long-term, coordinated transboundary basin and coastal zone management. These financing models will integrate gender-responsive and socially inclusive mechanisms to ensure that women and community groups are actively engaged in co-development processes, benefit equitably from investments, and are included in long-term financial planning and decision-making.</p>	<p>No sustainable financing models, co-developed by the private sector and local communities, that support long-term, coordinated transboundary management have been developed or adopted by the three governments. Currently no Investment Plans exist for implementing the SAP and NAPs. Sustainable financing models are not integrated in Investment Plans for implementing the SAP and NAPs.</p>	<p>Sustainable financing models, co-developed by the private sector (e.g. with AVIV Coffee Plantation, Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative, Green Resources, Olam International, and Lugenda Wildlife Reserve) and local communities, that support long-term, coordinated transboundary management developed and adopted by Member States. One investment Plans for implementing the SAP and NAPs prepared and adopted by Member States (GEF indicator rating 4) by 2029. Sustainable financing models integrated into Investment Plans for implementing the SAP and NAPs prepared and endorsed by Member States (GEF indicator rating 3) by 2028.</p> <p>At least 50% of financial models co-developed including women and vulnerable groups.</p>	<p>Finalized and published Investment Plan, including detailed financing models and mechanisms detailing private sector and community roles. Official adoption records, government statements, resolutions, or agreements demonstrating formal adoption by all three governments.</p> <p>Participation records, including demographic data.</p>

Outputs	Baseline	Targets	Source of verification
<p>Output 4.1: Promoting inclusive community involvement, with a strong focus on gender equality and the active participation of women, in identifying, conserving and developing key transboundary water source protection areas across the river basin, to implement sustainable land and water practices including the implementation of Environmental and Social Safeguards.</p>	<p>Communities, particularly women and youth, are not adequately involved in conservation of key transboundary water source protection areas across the river basin. These key areas are not adequately mapped, conserved, and protected. There is limited presence of community-based projects that implement sustainable land and water practices.</p>	<p>Key transboundary water source protection areas across the river basin are identified, conserved, and protected with active involvement of communities, including women and youth. At least three (3) community-based projects that promote sustainable land and water practices are implemented. At least 52000ha of forest; natural grass and woodlands and wetlands (including estuaries and mangroves) are restored, conserved or protected (including Machinga; Mangochi and Zomba districts). 75% of the affected communities engaged by year 2027.</p>	<p>Documentation of community-based projects, including objectives, outcomes, and participant demographics (with specific data on women and youth involvement).</p>
<p>Output 4.2: Strengthening cooperation with private sector to reduce ecosystem degradation (incl. deforestation) through upscaling sustainable inclusive community initiatives, with particular emphasis on empowering women and promoting gender-responsive approaches</p>	<p>There is weak cooperation with private sector in the riparian countries to reduce deforestation through upscaling sustainable inclusive community initiatives. There are limited sustainable inclusive community initiatives that have been upscaled to reduce deforestation of protected areas and forest reserves. Gender is not systematically integrated into conservation work.</p>	<p>By 2028 have at least 3 formal agreements or memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with protected areas and forest reserve authorities to support deforestation reduction activities. This would include the establishment of resource policies and laws and the development and implementation of forest and wetland management plans. At least 50000ha under improved management effectiveness. Sustainable forestry programs implemented in Malawi (Chilwa, Chiuta), Mozambique (Sanga), and Tanzania (Songea, Tunduru, Nanyumbu, Masasi, Mtwara); Environmentally friendly livelihood alternatives promoted in Lago, Mandimba, Mecula, Lichinga (Mozambique) and Songea, Tunduru, Masasi (Tanzania); Vocational and entrepreneurship support in Lago-Kobwe (Mozambique) and Chilwa (Malawi), targeting women, youth, and disabled persons – ensuring a participation of at least 50% women and vulnerable groups.</p>	<p>Detailed reports and documentation on community initiatives, including objectives, methodologies, and outcomes, with specific examples such as indigenous tree nurseries. Formal agreements or memorandums of understanding with protected areas and forest reserve authorities to support deforestation reduction activities.</p>

<p>Output 4.3: Assess and harmonise regulations and enforcement in the different parts of the basin and develop a capacity building plan to respond.</p>	<p>Regulations at country level exist, but these are not harmonised amongst the three countries. There is weak enforcement of regulations across the three countries. There is no capacity building plan currently in place.</p>	<p>Relevant regulations on water, natural resources, mining and conservation are harmonised amongst the three riparian countries. Effective enforcement of regulations, particularly on water, natural resources and mining, across the three countries following rights-based approaches exists - particularly improved in Lago (Mozambique), Songea and Tunduru (Tanzania). Forest and wetland management plans implemented for: Mwambesi and Matogoto B Forests (Tanzania); Chikala Hills, Zomba Forest, wetlands (Chilwa/Chiuta) (Malawi); Niassa Reserve (Mozambique). By 2027, three capacity building plans are created to support national institutions in harmonising and enforcing regulations.</p>	<p>Official publications or agreements demonstrating harmonisation of regulations across the three riparian countries. Implementing and Executive Agencies to ensure enforcement of regulations exists and aligns with rights-based principles. Approved and published capacity building plan.</p>
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Component 5 – Project and knowledge management			
Outcome 5: Effective knowledge generation and sharing mechanism, including lessons learned and best practices, established			
Outputs	Baseline	Targets	Source of verification
<p>Output 5.1: Mechanisms established for knowledge and experience sharing at local, national, regional and international levels targeting various stakeholder groups</p>	<p>JWC has not attended any knowledge /experience sharing events at regional and international level. There is weak knowledge transfer through peer-to-peer learning, exchange visits, and experience-sharing between regional organizations, RBOs, and local stakeholder communities.</p> <p>No compendium of practices currently developed or disseminated.</p> <p>No scoping study has been conducted to document lessons learned from the Project and past interventions, aimed at avoiding resource loss and improve the effectiveness of environmental management strategies.</p> <p>A Source-to-Sea guide is currently being developed,</p>	<p>By the end of 2025 JWC actively participates in at least two (2) regional SADC knowledge-sharing events and two (2) international level events to share experiences and strengthen regional and global engagement. Participation includes initiatives to enhance the role of women in water diplomacy. At least four (4) peer-to-peer learning and exchange visits conducted between regional organizations, RBOs, and local stakeholder communities for knowledge transfer on source-to-sea management. (GEF Indicator</p>	<p>Reports, presentations, or case studies shared by the JWC at regional SADC events and at international events, such as IW:LEARN platform. Documentation of peer-to-peer learning initiatives.</p> <p>Case studies, presentations, or reports produced as a result of exchange visits and experience-sharing activities.</p> <p>A report detailing the finalised and published compendium of practices detailing project activities regarding source to sea management approaches, with sections highlighting gender and social inclusion integration.</p>

	<p>led by UNECE with contributions from several GEF partners. By the end of 2025, IW: LEARN will provide practical guidance on how to integrate Source-to-Sea management into the TDA and SAP frameworks and process.</p>	<p>rating 2: Website in line with IW:LEARN guidance active). Ensure minimum 50% of women participation.</p> <p>A comprehensive compendium of practices on addressing project activities regarding source to sea management approaches is developed. The compendium includes at least five (5) practices that integrate gender and social inclusion. (GEF indicator rating 4). Linking to TFDD in Output 2.1.</p> <p>One scoping study conducted on lessons learned from the Project and past interventions focusing on avoiding resource loss and improving the effectiveness of environmental management strategies.</p>	<p>One scoping study conducted on lessons learned from the Project and past interventions focusing on avoiding resource loss and improving the effectiveness of environmental management strategies.</p>
<p>Output 5.2: Gender-sensitive knowledge management and communication systems in place that support knowledge transfer and sharing of information at national, regional and international level.</p>	<p>Basin-wide gender-sensitive communication strategy and Knowledge Management (KM) plan not in place. Adequate and appropriate knowledge and communication materials/ products on water-and natural resources management not systematically packed and widely disseminated to various audiences at different levels and events</p> <p>There is inadequate community sensitisation and awareness-raising campaigns to promote sustainable management of water and natural resources using the source to sea framework.</p>	<p>A basin-wide gender-sensitive communication strategy is prepared and adopted by December 2026.</p> <p>A basin-wide gender-sensitive Knowledge Management (KM) plan is prepared and adopted by December 2026.</p> <p>Adequate and appropriate knowledge and communication materials/ products on water-and natural resources management are systematically packaged and widely disseminated to various audiences at different levels and events by December 2029.</p> <p>Tailored community sensitisation and awareness-raising campaigns that promote sustainable management of water and natural resources using the source to sea framework organised / conducted by December 2028. At least 50% of participants in awareness-raising campaigns are women or members from community groups. At least 40% of contributors to knowledge products and communication materials will be women, and at least 50% of those reached through dissemination channels and knowledge-sharing</p>	<p>A basin-wide gender-sensitive communication strategy A basin-wide gender-sensitive Knowledge Management (KM) plan</p> <p>Knowledge and communication materials/ products on water-and natural resources management</p> <p>Community sensitisation and awareness-raising campaigns that promote sustainable management of water and natural resources using the source to sea framework</p>

		events will be women or members of vulnerable groups.	

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

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

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
Travel - In country consultation - Malawi	15,000.00	14,771.00	0.00
Travel - In country consultation - Mozambique	15,000.00	15,500.00	
Travel - Regional Validation Workshop - Lilongwe	20,000.00	19,993.00	0.00
Meetings - Regional Inception Workshop – Dar es Salaam	3,500.00	3,500.00	
Meetings - In-country consultation - Tanzania	3,000.00	2,489.00	0.00
Meetings - In country consultation - Mozambique	3,000.00	2,991.00	0.00
Meetings - In country consultation - Malawi	3,000.00	3,638.00	
Meetings - Regional Validation Workshop - Lilongwe	3,500.00	3,598.00	
PPG Consulting Firm (International + National)	93,000.00	82,350.00	10,924.00
ESMS Consulting Firm	7,000.00	7,000.00	
Travel - Regional Inception Workshop – Dar es Salaam	19,000.00	18,739.00	0.00
Travel - In-country consultation - Tanzania	15,000.00	14,507.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>200,000.00</b>	<b>189,076.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

#### ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES

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

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mangochi	-14.4805084	35.2606129	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Lake Chiuta	-14.7094227	35.8014216	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Phalombe	-15.8065570	35.6480673	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mecula	-12.1167524	37.6674686	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mueda	-11.6633684	39.5563107	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mandimba	-14.3547967	35.6514803	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Lichinga	-13.2999118	35.2458642	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Palma	-10.7758093	40.4673261	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mtwara	-10.2838146	40.1789136	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Songea	-10.6787282	35.6483576	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

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

**Please refer to the roadmap documentation submitted for further information (maps are too heavy for portal entry).**

## ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

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

Title

GEF Ruvuma\_Gender Assessment and Action Plan\_final\_2025-08-01

GEF Ruvuma ESMP- final\_2025-07-24

## ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

### Appendix A: Indicative Project Budget Template

**Strengthening integrated transboundary source-to-sea management of the Ruvuma River Basin and its coastal zones to ensure ecosystem health and livelihood security**

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)								Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency) <sup>1</sup>
		Component 1	Component 2	Component 3	Component 4	Component 5	Sub-Total	M&E	PMC		
		Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3	Outcome 4	Outcome 5					
Works	Field work	-	320,000	250,000	1,550,000	-	2,120,000	-	-	2,120,000	
	Construction of Water quality monitoring stations		320,000				320,000			320,000	GW P-SA
	Construction of irrigation Schemes /dams/Water reservoirs				360,000		360,000			360,000	GW P-SA
	Construction of Flood control				500,000		500,000			500,000	GW P-SA

	infrastruct ure (Dykes)										
	Drilling Boreholes				90,000		90,000			90,000	GW P- SA
	Constructio n of Cattle troughs				45,000		45,000			45,000	GW P- SA
	Line irrigation channels				150,000		150,000			150,000	GW P- SA
	Constructio n of cattle dips				20,000		20,000			20,000	GW P- SA
	Reforestati on activities				100,000		100,000			100,000	WI
	Livelihood diversificati on			150,000			150,000			150,000	WI
	Plastic Pollution Control			100,000			100,000			100,000	WI
	Climate smart Land use planning				135,000		135,000			135,000	WI
	Forest Manageme nt plans				150,000		150,000			150,000	WI
Good s		-	350,000	125,000	-	-	475,000	-	51,000	526,000	-
	Water Monitoring Equipment( water quality sensors, hydrologica l stations,)		100,000				100,000			100,000	GW P- SA
	Biodiversity Monitoring Tools(Came ra traps, GPS systems for species tracking)		100,000				100,000			100,000	WI
	Early Warning Systems for Climate Resilience( procument of		150,000				150,000			150,000	GW P- SA

	equipment and software for climate resilience)										
	Renewable Energy for Project Sites(Solar installations for field offices and community projects)			100,000			100,000			100,000	WI
	Field Equipment and Supplies(Includes radios, tents, and other field gear)			25,000			25,000			25,000	WI
	Office Furniture						-		15,000	15,000	GW P- SA/ WI
	Office Rent and maintenance						-		20,000	20,000	GW P- SA/ WI
	Staff Laptop						-		16,000	16,000	GW P- SA/ WI
<b>Vehicles</b>		85,000	-	-	-	-	85,000	-	-	85,000	
	Project Vehicles(PMU) for project Monitoring	85,000					85,000			85,000	WI
<b>Grants/ Sub-grants</b>		-	470,000	600,000	150,000	-	1,220,000	-	-	1,220,000	-
	EcoToursim			150,000			150,000			150,000	WI
	Pollution Control for Mining activities				150,000		150,000			150,000	WI
	Fishing farming			150,000			150,000			150,000	WI

	Bee keeping			150,000			150,000			150,000	WI
	Livestock keeping			150,000			150,000			150,000	WI
	Groundwater Strategy		70,000				70,000			70,000	GW P-SA
	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)		200,000				200,000			200,000	GW P-SA
	Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database (TFDD)		200,000				200,000			200,000	GW P-SA
Contr actual Services – Individual		33,500	127,500	166,875	161,125	7,000	496,000	-	-	496,000	-
	Biodiversity Expert		27,600	27,600	27,600		82,800			82,800	WI
	Enterprise and Livelihood Specialist			39,375	39,375		78,750			78,750	WI
	Coastal and Marine Expert		24,400	24,400	24,400		73,200			73,200	WI
	Governance and Social Expert	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,750		26,250			26,250	GW P-SA
	Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000		80,000			80,000	GW P-SA
	Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist		15,000	15,000	10,000		40,000			40,000	WI
	Gender Specialist	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	35,000			35,000	GW P-SA
	IWRM Expert		27,000	27,000	26,000		80,000			80,000	GW P-SA

Contr actual Service s – Compa ny		-	61,300	-	-	-	61,300	145,000	30,000	236,300	-
	Baseline Assessment		61,300				61,300			61,300	GW P- SA/ WI
	Mid-term evaluation						-	65,000		65,000	GW P- SA
	Final evaluation						-	80,000		80,000	GW P- SA
	Audit						-		30,000	30,000	GW P- SA/ WI
Inter nationa l Consult ants		-	125,000	140,000	-	-	265,000	-	-	265,000	-
	Transbound ary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)		50,000				50,000			50,000	GW P- SA
	eDNA analysis		75,000				75,000			75,000	GW P- SA
	Strategic Action Programme (SAP)			50,000			50,000			50,000	GW P- SA
	National Action Plans (NAPs) linking country priorities to regional priorities			90,000			90,000			90,000	GW P- SA
Local Consult ants		70,000	160,000	40,000	204,000	96,353	570,353	35,165	-	605,518	-
	Capacity needs assessment and capacity building plan	30,000					30,000			30,000	GW P- SA/ WI

	Climate change vulnerability assessment		90,000				90,000			90,000	WI
	Water quality management strategy				44,000		44,000			44,000	GW P-SA
	Environmental Impact Assessment				120,000		120,000			120,000	WI
	Capacity building	20,000		20,000	20,000		60,000			60,000	GW P-SA/WI
	Designing Monitoring systems and Data collection tools		50,000				50,000	35,165		85,165	GW P-SA
	Knowledge management and communication plans and products					76,353	76,353			76,353	GW P-SA/WI
	Gender and Governance related studies and assessments	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	100,000			100,000	WI
Salary and benefits		107,000	107,000	107,000	99,500	93,500	514,000	55,000	238,000	807,000	-
	Project Coordinator	87,000	87,000	87,000	87,000	41,000	389,000		46,000	435,000	GW P-SA
	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Officer						-	55,000		55,000	WI
	Communications Officer					40,000	40,000		4,000	44,000	GW P-SA
	Finance and Procurement - Officer (GWP-SA)						-		55,000	55,000	GW P-SA

	Finance and Procurement Officer (WI)						-		55,000	55,000	WI
	Admin Assistant (Government)						-		60,000	60,000	WI
	Driver	20,000	20,000	20,000	12,500	12,500	85,000		18,000	103,000	WI
	Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	90,000	30,000	105,000	105,000	135,000	465,000	-	-	465,000	
	Inception and Capacity Development Workshop(s)	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	150,000			150,000	GW P-SA/WI
	Meetings (e.g. SADC and PA etc.)	60,000					60,000			60,000	GW P-SA/WI
	Community Engagement/Meetings			75,000	75,000	75,000	225,000			225,000	GW P-SA/WI
	Knowledge management, communication and Experience sharing					30,000	30,000			30,000	GW P-SA/WI
	Travel and Transportation	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	112,200	276,200	-	-	276,200	-
	International Travel	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	25,000			25,000	GW P-SA/WI
	Regional Travel	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	50,000			50,000	GW P-SA/WI
	Local Travel	26,000	26,000	26,000	26,000	26,000	130,000			130,000	GW P-SA/WI

	International travel for participation of IW:LEARN workshops and conferences					71,200	71,200			71,200	GW P-SA/WI
Office Supplies		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000	20,000	-
	Office Utilities						-		10,000	10,000	GW P-SA/WI
	Office Supplies and Consumables						-		10,000	10,000	GW P-SA/WI
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>426,500</b>	<b>1,791,800</b>	<b>1,574,875</b>	<b>2,310,625</b>	<b>444,053</b>	<b>6,783,018</b>	<b>235,165</b>	<b>339,000</b>	<b>7,122,018</b>	<b>-</b>

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

Please refer to the roadmap documentation submitted for Budget in spreadsheet format, along with cost analysis for vehicles and contractual services as appendices.

## ANNEX I: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS

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

Please refer to the roadmap documentation submitted for further information on Annex I.

**(8/11/2025)** We confirm that FPIC will be a key component of the inception report, PIRs, MTR, and TE for this project. This is in line with IUCN's established practice, as FPIC is embedded within our Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) standards and applied systematically across all relevant projects. Accordingly, consultations with IPLCs and the participatory implementation of the FPIC procedure will be documented and reported throughout the project cycle, and the participatory process of engagement will be specifically reviewed during the MTR and TE.

