

GEF-8 WORLD BANK PCN STAGE/GEF DATA SHEET

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION	3
Project Summary	4
Indicative Project Overview	6
Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project	9
Core Indicators	10
A. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES.....	15
B. POLICY REQUIREMENTS	21
Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment:.....	21
Stakeholder Engagement	21
Private Sector	25
Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks	25
C. OTHER REQUIREMENTS	25
Knowledge management	25
ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES	25
GEF Financing Table	25
Project Preparation Grant (PPG)	26
Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation.....	26
Indicative Focal Area Elements	26
Indicative Co-financing	27
ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS	27
GEF Agency(ies) Certification	27
Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):.....	27
ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION	28
ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING	29
ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS.....	29
ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET	29

General Project Information

Project Title

Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Miombo Ecoregions of Zambia

Region	GEF Project ID
Zambia	11396
Country(ies)	Type of Project
Zambia	FSP
GEF Agency(ies):	GEF Agency ID
World Bank	P501987
Executing Partner	Executing Partner Type
Ministry of Green Economy and Environment	Government
GEF Focal Area (s)	Submission Date
Multi Focal Area	10/18/2023

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Least Developed Countries, Biodiversity, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Private Sector, Local Communities, Beneficiaries, Civil Society, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender results areas, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Exchange, Learning, Knowledge Generation, Sustainable Livelihoods, Climate resilience, Community-based adaptation, Livelihoods, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Terrestrial Protected Areas

Type of Trust Fund	Project Duration (Months)
MTF	60
GEF Project Grant: (a)	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)
10,227,621.00	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)
920,485.00	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Total Co-financing
11,148,106.00	87,200,000.00
PPG Amount: (e)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)
147,491.00	13,274.00
PPG total amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)

160,765.00

11,308,871.00

Project Tags

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

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. The explanation and justification of the project should be in section B “project description”. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

The main objective of the proposed project is to strengthen the climate resilience of the miombo forest and forest-dependent communities in the Copperbelt, Central and Muchinga Provinces of Zambia. This will be achieved through the integration of adaptation considerations in land use planning, implementation of sustainable management practices and the promotion of community-based adaptation. The project includes three interrelated components: i) strengthening the policy and institutional environment for, land rehabilitation, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation in the Kabwe District; ii) promoting an integrated landscape approach in support of sustainable ecosystem management practices and biodiversity conservation in the project area; iii) enhancing climate change adaptation through community-based natural resource management; and iv) knowledge management

The Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Miombo Ecoregions of Zambia (SMEMZ) project is conceived to restore degraded production landscapes, enhance biodiversity conservation, and increase the adaptive capacity of the vulnerable population to cope with climate risks within the Zambian miombo ecoregion using an integrated natural resources management approach. A multi-trust fund (MTF) approach is needed because the project intervention area is facing multiple threats that require multi focal approaches to deploy holistic and systematic actions. Land degradation accelerates biodiversity loss, diminishing ecosystems' ability to adapt to climate change. Deforestation, unsustainable agriculture, and overgrazing contribute to soil erosion and habitat destruction, reducing biodiversity. The loss of diverse flora and fauna weakens the resilience of ecosystems to climate-induced stresses. Addressing land degradation through sustainable land management practices becomes crucial for safeguarding biodiversity, enhancing ecosystem resilience, and facilitating effective climate change adaptation strategies in Zambia. Thus, there is a feedback loop among land degradation, biodiversity and the impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable population (Figure 2)[\[1\]](#). As a multifocal area project, SMEMZ is an opportunity to address the challenges of climate change, land degradation and biodiversity loss in Muchinga, Copperbelt and Central provinces. In addition, the MTF approach will allow to deliver four Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs): (i) conservation of globally significant biodiversity; (ii) Sustainable use of the components of globally significant biodiversity; (iii) Improved provision of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem goods and services; (iv) Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in productive landscapes.

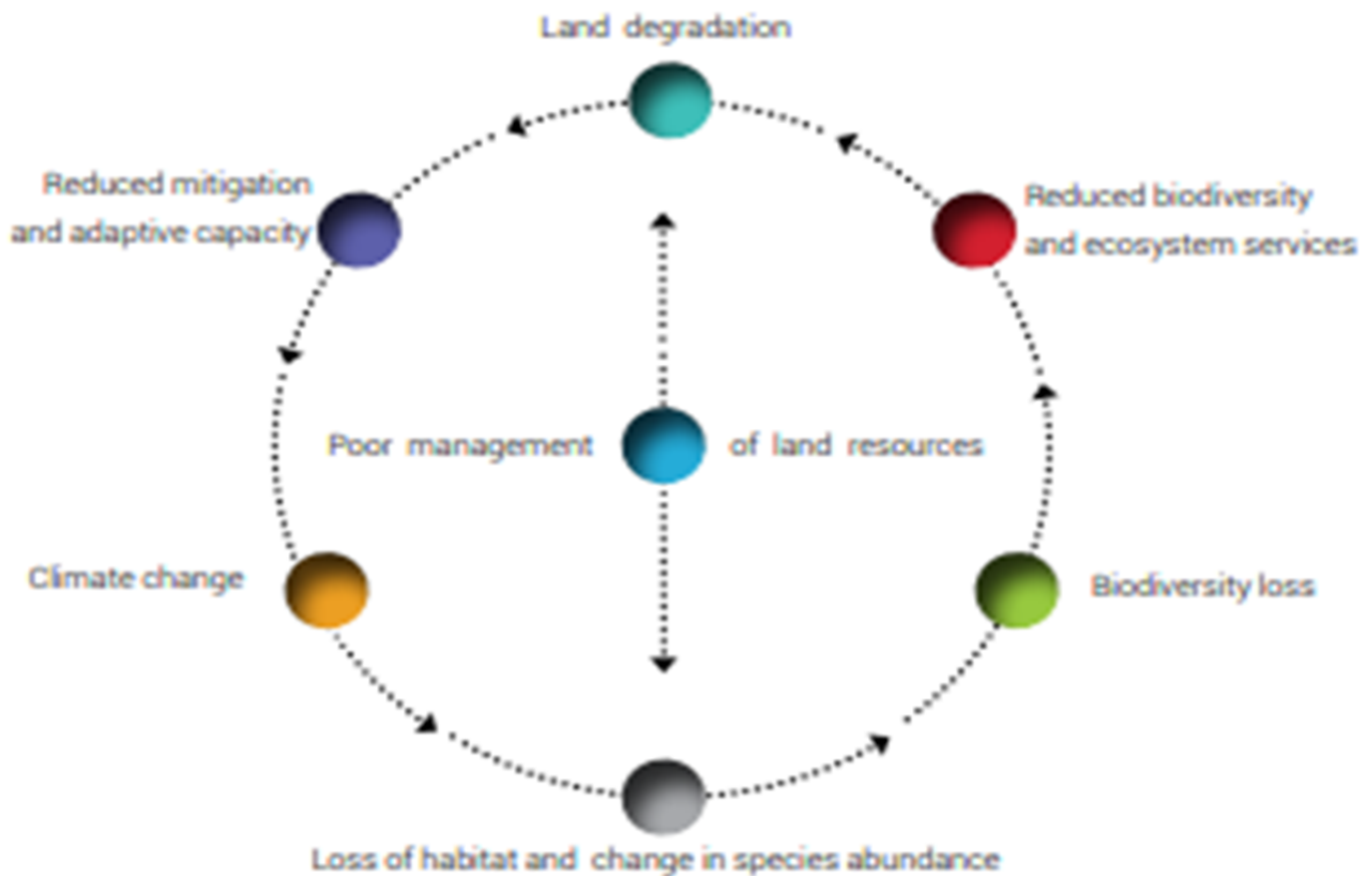


Figure 2. Feedback loops linking land degradation, biodiversity and climate change together as envisaged in the project.

Under component one, the project aims to create a solid legal framework for land use planning, restoration and sustainable management of the miombo forest ecosystems. This component will allow appropriate implementation and buy in at all levels of the overall project. Components two, three, and four aim to address the triple challenge described above. Climate change adaptation is addressed through component 3 and output 4.1.1 (4,000 stakeholders participate in awareness-raising on: i) impacts of climate change and extreme weather events; and ii) land and forest ecosystem degradation on the socioecological system in priority provinces, respectively); elements of land degradation are addressed through component 1 and output 4.1.2 (Communication toolkits and radio programs developed to facilitate the adoption of sustainable forest management practices and Sustainable Land Management (SLM) for restoration and rehabilitation of degraded production landscapes in priority provinces); and elements of biodiversity are addressed through component 2. SMEMZ is proposed to strategically and simultaneously respond to the three challenges (land degradation, biodiversity loss and the impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable population) in the target provinces – acknowledging that interventions in support of SLM will have a positive feedback loop on biodiversity and climate change adaptation.

[1] UNCCD (2015). Climate change and land degradation: Bridging knowledge and stakeholders 9-12 March 2015, Cancún, Mexico Outcomes from the [UNCCD](#) 3rd Scientific Conference

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

To sustainably restore and manage the miombo forest ecosystems and agro-pastoral landscapes, strengthen the climate resilience of the miombo forest and forest-dependent communities through the integration of adaptation considerations in land use planning, sustainable management of natural resources and community-based adaptation practices.

Project Components

Component 1(a): Strengthening the policy and institutional environment for, land rehabilitation, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation in Kabwe District

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
480,000.00	5,116,977.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1.1: Established National and sub-regional legal framework for land use planning for Kabwe and miombo ecoregion.

Output:

1.1.1 Developed climate responsive implementation action plans (for the short and medium term) for Muchinga and Copperbelt provinces

1.1.2. Established forums at the national, provincial and village-level for conducting consultations, disseminating, and endorsing the climate-responsive implementation action plans and promoting integrated land use planning and sustainable management of natural resources in the project area.

Output 1.1.3: Community Forest management structures strengthened through Institutional and technical capacity, including enabling national and sub-regional policies for land rehabilitation, landscape restoration, and biodiversity conservation in the project area.

Output 1.1.4: Designed and implemented stakeholder engagement, awareness and communication strategy to strengthen integrated and sustainable natural resources management, adoption of NBS, and biodiversity conservation in Muchinga, Central, and Copperbelt provinces of Zambia.

Component 1(b): Strengthening the policy and institutional environment for, land rehabilitation, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation in Kabwe District

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
650,000.00	6,315,804.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1.2: Formulated and presented the Kabwe district land development plan to Parliament for adoption

Output:

Output 1.2.1: An in-depth technical and feasibility study for the identification of priority areas for i) land recovery; and ii) biodiversity conservation and connectivity within Kabwe district conducted and presented to parliament.

1.2.2 A comprehensive Land Development Plan (LDP) for Kabwe district to inform urban resilience building and development processes and natural resources management adopted by parliament

Component 2(a): Promoting an integrated landscape approach in support of sustainable ecosystem management practices and biodiversity conservation in the project area

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,512,507.00	21,273,850.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2.1. Critical degraded miombo forest ecosystems and agro-pastoral landscapes restored and sustainably managed to enhance biodiversity conservation, local livelihoods, and the adaptive capacity of the vulnerable population

Output:

2.1.1 Agro-ecological methods and approaches including conservation agriculture, agroforestry, and agro-silvo-pastoral practices on 3,000 ha.

2.1.2 Enhanced management of conservation areas (Game Management Areas and National Parks) in Copperbelt and Muchinga Provinces Improving rangeland management and sustainable pastoralism on 629,400 ha

Component 2(b): Promoting an integrated landscape approach in support of sustainable ecosystem management practices and biodiversity conservation in the project area

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,795,751.00	14,881,173.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2.1. Critical degraded miombo forest ecosystems and agro-pastoral landscapes restored and sustainably managed to enhance biodiversity conservation, local livelihoods, and the adaptive capacity of the vulnerable population

Output:

2.1.3 Strengthening equitable community-based NRM conducted, including context-responsive recognition and strengthening of land and forest-based resource and tenure rights on 2,500 ha

2.1.4 Integrated water and land management technologies and practices to improve hydrological functions and services for agro-ecosystem productivity on 1,000 ha

Component 3: Enhancing climate change adaptation through community-based natural resource management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
3,734,363.00	29,940,773.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3.1 Community-based natural resource management and resilient livelihoods enhance community adaptation to climate change

Output:

3.1.1 Alternative diversified and climate resilient Income Generating Activities to contribute to land restoration identified and implemented with local communities to reduce threats to miombo forest ecosystems (benefiting 8,500 households, 50% being female headed).

3.1.2 Agro-ecological zoning and climate resilience actions integrated into local planning processes (provincial, district, ward and community levels).

Output 3.1.3: Development and deployment of insurance products in target provinces to insure smallholders' crops (e.g. maize, millet and rice) against floods and droughts.

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
568,000.00	5,519,043.00

Outcome:

Outcome 4.1 The implementation of project activities facilitate the achievement of project objectives

Output:

4.1.1 4,000 stakeholders participate in awareness-raising on: i) impacts of climate change and extreme weather events; and ii) land and forest ecosystem degradation on the socioecological system in priority provinces.

4.1.2 Communication toolkits and radio programs developed to facilitate the adoption of sustainable forest management practices and SLM for restoration and rehabilitation of degraded production landscapes in priority provinces.

4.1.3 Dissemination of knowledge products and lessons learned targeting decision makers and local communities

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)

Component 1(a): Strengthening the policy and institutional environment for, land rehabilitation, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation in Kabwe District	480,000.00	5,116,977.00
Component 1(b): Strengthening the policy and institutional environment for, land rehabilitation, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation in Kabwe District	650,000.00	6,315,804.00
Component 2(a): Promoting an integrated landscape approach in support of sustainable ecosystem management practices and biodiversity conservation in the project area	2,512,507.00	21,273,850.00
Component 2(b): Promoting an integrated landscape approach in support of sustainable ecosystem management practices and biodiversity conservation in the project area	1,795,751.00	14,881,173.00
Component 3: Enhancing climate change adaptation through community-based natural resource management	3,734,363.00	29,940,773.00
M&E	568,000.00	5,519,043.00
Subtotal	9,740,621.00	83,047,620.00
Project Management Cost	487,000.00	4,152,380.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	10,227,621.00	87,200,000.00

Please provide justification

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project

Does the GEF Agency expect to play an execution role on this project?

If so, please describe that role here. 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

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Projects

SMEMZ is a multi-trust Fund and multifocal area project that seeks to simultaneously address environmental and socioeconomic challenges in an integrated fashion. In this regard, SMEMZ is a strategic opportunity for Zambia to work across sectors at landscape level within the country's miombo ecoregion to contribute to the nation's NDC mitigation (particularly sustainable forest management; and sustainable agriculture) and adaptation actions (particularly strategic productive systems in terms of agriculture and wildlife, and enhanced capacity building and finance for adaptation).^[1] The project will also contribute to biodiversity conservation, building resilience and adaptive capacities in the face of climate change while mitigating GHG emissions through sequestration thanks to efforts to restore degraded ecosystems.

SMEMZ is conceptually similar to the *Resilient Communities, Land Restoration and Sustainable Ecosystem Management (RECLASEM)* project that has just been approved and will be implemented by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). However, there are differences at the level of implementation, and therefore, SMEMZ will complement and synergize with RECLASEM as follows:

- (i) **Entry points:** RECLASEM’s rationale in Central Province^[2] is based on forest ecosystems that play important roles in the livelihoods and climate resilience of the local communities. SMEMZ’s rationale is to support the government’s agenda for specifically Kabwe district to establish a coherent cross-sectoral land rehabilitation and development policy and institutional framework. This framework will be taken to Parliament to be legislated so that future development interventions in the district are guided by a coherent cross-sectoral policy guideline.
- (ii) **Depth and scale:** Through output 1.1.1, RECLASEM focuses on capacity development at local level (enhancing capacity for law enforcement, fire, forest and rangeland, soil, and water resources management, using climate information and vulnerability and risk assessments). Additionally, through output 1.1.3, RECLASEM focuses on policy dialogues at district level for NRM. The government’s land rehabilitation and development policy and institutional priorities through SMEMZ for Kabwe district is broader than what RECLASEM is proposing. As noted above, SMEMZ will seek to establish a policy and institutional environment to be adopted by Parliament and decreed into law – to guide rehabilitating degraded production landscapes within the district and transitioning it into a green, resilient and sustainable urban district over time through: land use zoning and planning; urban reforestation and biodiversity restoration; green energy adoption and efficiency measures; community engagement and environmental education; and waste management and recycling infrastructure, among others.

SMEMZ will establish a policy context within which the enabling environment orientation of RECLASEM will be realized. SMEMZ will therefore, compliment and synergize with RECLASEM in Central Province. In other target provinces of SMEMZ (Muchinga and Copperbelt), there are no ‘geographical overlaps’ (see Figure). However, the two projects will complement and synergize with each other in terms of lessons and knowledge through knowledge exchange visits, particularly for activities related to resilience building using agroecological systems.^[3]in addition, they will both be implemented by the same Ministry (the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment), thus will have a lot of synergies.

Acknowledging gendered roles in communities is important because it helps to devise deliberate mechanisms to equitably involve both men and women as key stewards of resources, not simply as beneficiaries. This acknowledgement has to be done with a recognition of gender dynamics between men and women so that project activities do not become a source of conflicts in households between couples. SMEMZ will ensure a calculated balance to ensure the activities are sufficiently gender-responsive, and the representation of women in project activities contributes to narrowing the gender gaps rather than perpetuating gender stereotypes

[1] Government of Zambia. (2022). Updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

[2] It is important to note that RECLASEM will intervene in Central Province, but not specifically in Kabwe districts – at this is not explicit in the PIF. Mentioned districts are Mumbwa, Nangoma, Shibuyunji, Chibombo and Kapiri Mposhi.

[3] Central Province is in the agroecological zone II, while Muchinga Province is both I and II. Copperbelt Province lies entirely in agroecological zone III. Similarities in terms of agroecological zones will be an opportunity for cross-learning.

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
629400	0	0	0

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

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

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)
629400	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A 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)
Lavushi Manda National Park	1094	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	158,200.00						
North Luangwa National Park	1088	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	471,200.00						

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
5000	0	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	5,000.00			

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)

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)
---------------------	----------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------	---------------------

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

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
11475	0	0	0

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

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

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)
11,475.00			

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 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	1209104	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	1,209,104			
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2026			
Duration of accounting	20			

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

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

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

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

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

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	50,000			
Male	50,000			
Total	100,000	0	0	0

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

- The 629,400 ha refer to the size of area of National Parks that will be brought under improved management (Lavushimanda (158,200 ha) and North Luangwa (471,200 ha) National Parks in Muchinga Province). The number of ha will be confirmed at PPG once the activities that will constitute improving management are clarified. At PIF, planned activities are related to community-based anti-poaching patrols, promoting sustainable wildlife tourism, habitat restoration through tree planting, and training local residents in wildlife conservation.

- The 5,000 ha reflect the project’s ambition to invest in land restoration activities, focusing on socioeconomically viable tree species that are also suitable and adapted to the target area. The proposed target is on the basis of estimated cost of the envisaged land restoration activities.
- The 11,475 ha reflect the number of beneficiaries and their average size of land for agricultural activities, estimated at 3 ha per household among smallholders in Zambia. The adoption rate of improved production practices in Zambia is quite low, estimated at 45%. Therefore, the 11,475 ha refer to 8,500 beneficiary households, cultivating 3 ha, and only 45% adopt improved production systems.
- The -1,209,104 metric tons of CO₂e (see output on the next page) refers to the amount of GHG emissions that will be avoided thanks to the restoration and improved management activities and practices on 5,000 ha and 11,475 ha, respectively. The estimates are based on the Nationally Determined Contribution Expert Tool (NEXT) is a greenhouse gas accounting tool developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to support annual environmental impact assessment for the agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) sector. See the NEXT output on the next page.
- A total of 20,000 households (with an estimated 5 people per household). This leads to an estimated of 100,000 beneficiaries (from which 50,000 women and 50,000 men).

META INFORMATION – LDCF

LDCF true	SCCF-B (Window B) on technology transfer false	SCCF-A (Window-A) on climate Change adaptation false
Is this project LDCF SCCF challenge program? false		
This Project involves at least one small island developing State(SIDS). false		
This Project involves at least one fragile and conflict affected state. false		
This Project will provide direct adaptation benefits to the private sector. false		
This Project is explicitly related to the formulation and/or implementation of national adaptation plans (NAPs). false		
This project will collaborate with activities begin supported by other adaptation funds. If yes, please select below		
Green Climate Fund false	Adaptation Fund false	Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) false
This Project has an urban focus. false		
This project will directly engage local communities in project design and implementation true		
This project will support South-South knowledge exchange false		
This Project covers the following sector(s)[the total should be 100%]: *		
Agriculture	10.00%	
Nature-based management	70.00%	
Climate information services	20.00%	
Coastal zone management	0.00%	
Water resources management	0.00%	

Disaster risk management	0.00%
Other infrastructure	0.00%
Tourism	0.00%
Health	0.00%
Other (Please specify comments)	0.00%
Total	100.00%

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

Sea level rise false	Change in mean temperature true	Increased climatic variability true	Natural hazards true
Land degradation true	Coastal and/or Coral reef degradation false	Groundwater quality/quantity true	

CORE INDICATORS – LDCF

	Total	Male	Female	% for Women
CORE INDICATOR 1				50.00%
Total number of direct beneficiaries	100,000	50,000.00	50,000.00	
CORE INDICATOR 2				
(a) Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)	629,400.00			
(b) Coastal and marine area managed for climate resilience (ha)	0.00			
CORE INDICATOR 3				
Number of policies/plans/ frameworks/institutions for to strengthen climate adaptation	5.00			
CORE INDICATOR 4				50.00%
Number of people trained or with awareness raised	200	100.00	100.00	
CORE INDICATOR 5				
Number of private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience action	0.00			

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

Describe 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.

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

The proposed project is aligned with Gef-8 Focal Area Objectives **BD-1-1: To improve conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of natural ecosystems, BD-1-3: Ecosystem restoration, and BD-1-4: Biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors.** All project components will contribute to these objectives. The Miombo Woodlands are among the top five global biodiversity hotspots, hosting a diverse range of plant and animal species. The woodlands provide critical habitats for numerous species, including several endemic and

endangered ones.[1]¹ Component one will help strengthen the legal regulatory framework and coordination to mainstream sustainable natural resources management (land, forests, and water), NBS, and optimal landscape restoration options that will contribute to biodiversity conservation, improved livelihoods, and urban resilience in the Miombo Woodlands located in the project area. Components two and three will identify and deploy NBS and landscape restoration options to enhance biodiversity conservation, local livelihoods, and the adaptive capacity of the vulnerable population in the project area. The project will foster: i) forest landscape and ecosystem restoration work at the local level; ii) regenerative production practices, and iii) restoration for healthy and resilient ecosystems to support people; and land- use planning to ensure that the land resource use is appropriately situated to optimize production without undermining or degrading biodiversity, which are Gef-8 approaches on Ecosystem Restoration and Biodiversity Mainstreaming in priority sectors such as agriculture and forestry. Component four is transversal to the whole project and will facilitate project implementation, as well as increase awareness of the multiple benefits of sustainable management of natural resources, biodiversity conservation, and adoption of NBS. Table 2.1 below provide information on the expected NBS that could be implemented in the project area and the potential benefits for the biodiversity of global significance in the Miombo Woodlands, water, and soil.[2]²

Moreover, the project aligns with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by actively contributing to targets aimed at ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, and sustainable management of natural resources (land, forests, and water). **The project is aligned with the Global Biodiversity Framework as follows:**

- Target 1: Ensure that all areas are under participatory, integrated and biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land-use change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030.
- Target 2: Have restoration completed or underway on at least 30% of degraded terrestrial, inland waters, and coastal and marine ecosystems.
- Goal A.1: The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored by 2050.
- Goal B: Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued, maintained and enhanced, by 2050.
- Target 8: Minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and increase its resilience through mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction actions.
- Target 10: Ensure that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably.
- Target 11: Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services.
- Target 14: Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies.

The project is fully aligned with Objectives of the GEF-8 Land Degradation Focal Area (LDFA) Strategy and Associated Programming **LD-1: Avoid and reduce land degradation through sustainable land management (SLM), and LD-2: Reverse land degradation through landscape restoration.** Through component two, the

project will leverage suitable NBS and optimal landscape restoration options to sustainably manage the miombo ecoregion in Zambia's Muchinga and Copperbelt provinces. Component 2 aims to conserve and restore ecosystems through activities such as improving GMA management, promoting agro-ecological farming on 3,000 hectares, community forest management on 1,000 hectares, and implementing integrated water and land management practices on 2,500 hectares. This aligns with GEF-8 Biodiversity Mainstreaming in Priority Sectors by improving and changing production practices to be more biodiversity-positive and to promote sustainable use of biodiversity on sectors that have significant biodiversity impacts on agriculture and forestry.

The project will contribute to Objective CCA 1.1: Supporting implementation of Climate change adaptation solutions in priority themes. Under component three, the project will promote alternative diversified and climate resilient Income Generating Activities to contribute to land restoration identified and implemented with local communities to reduce threats to miombo forest ecosystems and biodiversity (benefiting 20,000 households, 50% being female headed, improve livelihoods, and empower female-headed households by offering sustainable income sources and fostering resilience in the face of environmental challenges.

Climate Change Focal Area - Alignment with the Koronivia process (established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): Through interventions in ecosystem restoration (including community-based natural resource management), resilient livelihoods, land use planning, among others, the project's design demonstrates and emphasizes a holistic approach, recognizing the symbiotic relationship between agriculture and climate, striving for sustainability, adaptation, and mitigation in the face of extreme weather events. The project will ensure efficient land use planning, soil carbon sequestration, and reforestation contribute to mitigation efforts –embracing an integrated approach that considers the interlinkages between agriculture, biodiversity, and climate resilience as crucial for a healthy environment for healthy communities. Through support towards implementing climate-smart agricultural practices, improved water management, drought-resistant crops and resilient livestock breeds, and enhancing food security, the project is designed to be consistent with the Koronivia process outcomes – thus, consistent with GEF-8 Climate Change Focal Objective 1.4: Promote Nature-based Solutions with high mitigation potential.

The project design recognizes the link between rural communities, the health of production landscapes and the critical role of an enabling environment to address environmental threats driven by human activities and climate change-related phenomena such as extreme weather events. It is therefore fully aligned with Objective one of the GEF-8 LDCF Strategy, particularly as articulated under the following Strategy themes:

- *Theme 1: Agriculture, Food Security, and Health:* Under component 2, the project will be deliberate about a thought-through and balanced approach to ensure agroecological transformation by restoring critically degraded miombo forest ecosystems and agro-pastoral landscapes; sustainably managing them to enhance biodiversity conservation, local livelihoods, and the adaptive capacity of the vulnerable population. The project will foster sustainable natural resource management and biodiversity conservation. Interventions in climate-resilient farming practices such as drought-resistant crops, soil conservation methods to enhance agricultural productivity, and strengthened extension services, among others will contribute to this LDCF strategic theme.
- *Theme 2: Water:* Under component two, the project will deploy integrated water and land management technologies and practices to improve hydrological functions and services for agro-ecosystem productivity on 1,000 ha. By integrating these technologies, the project will contribute to improving water-use efficiency, enhance soil fertility, and boost agricultural productivity, contributing to sustainable water and land management and increased resilience in the target areas.

- *Theme 3: Nature-Based Solutions:* Through component two, the project will leverage suitable NBS and optimal landscape restoration options to sustainably manage the miombo ecoregion in Zambia's Muchinga and Copperbelt provinces. Component 2 aims to conserve and restore ecosystems through activities such as improving GMA management, promoting agro-ecological farming on 3,000 hectares, community forest management on 1,000 hectares, and implementing integrated water and land management practices on 2,500 hectares. It should be noted that this also aligns with GEF-8 Biodiversity Mainstreaming in Priority Sectors by improving and changing production practices to be more biodiversity-positive and to promote sustainable use of biodiversity on sectors that have significant biodiversity impacts on agriculture and forestry. Table 2.1 below provide detailed information on the expected NBS that could be implemented in the selected restoration areas and potential benefits on biodiversity, water, and soil.

Table 2.1 benefits of NBS on biodiversity, water, and soil

NBS	Benefits on biodiversity	Benefits on water	Benefits on soil
Avoided Forest conversion	Irreplaceable value of continuous primary forests for conserving biodiversity (Sakai and Umetsu, 2014).	Improved availability of water for crop irrigation, drought mitigation; avoided sedimentation (Ferraro et al., 2012)	Water retention and flow regulation (Jankowska-Huflejt, 2006). Maintains soil biological and physical properties ensuring health and productivity of forests (Jurgensen et al., 1997).
Reforestation	Tree plantings can create wildlife corridors and buffer areas that enhance biological conservation (Harrison, Wardell-Johnson and McAlpine, 2003).	Improved availability of water for crop irrigation, drought mitigation; avoided sedimentation (Ferraro et al., 2012)	Measured increase in soil fauna in reforested sites.
Natural Forest Management	Species richness of invertebrates, amphibians, and mammals decreases as logging intensity increases (Burivalova, Şekercioglu and Koh, 2014).	Harvesting that removes large proportions of biomass increases water flows and flooding thereby altering freshwater ecosystem integrity (Burton, 1997).	Timber harvesting that removes large amounts of woody debris reduces soil biological and physical properties thereby reducing health and productivity (Jurgensen et al., 1997).
Fire Management	Fire management that mimics natural historic fire regimes can improve forest biodiversity (Bengtsson et al., 2000).	Forests that survive fires (i.e. reduced catastrophic wild fires) contain more organic matter, improved soil properties, and lower recovery times enhance water infiltration and retention (Imeson et al., 1992).	Forests that survive fires (i.e. reduced catastrophic wild fires) contain more organic matter, improved soil properties, and lower recovery times enhance water infiltration and retention (Nyman et al. 2015).

NBS	Benefits on biodiversity	Benefits on water	Benefits on soil
Avoided woodfuel harvest	Woodfuel collection reduces saproxylic material used as food and habitat for forest organisms and fauna (Bouget, Lassauce and Jonsell, 2012).	Limiting soil compaction during woodfuel harvest reduces runoff and increases forest water retention (Bouget, Lassauce and Jonsell, 2012).	Fuel wood harvest causes soil compaction and disturbance that can change soil chemical properties (Bouget, Lassauce and Jonsell, 2012)
Cropland nutrient management		Benefits associated with improved drinking water quality, increased opportunities for recreation, and health benefits (Smith et al., 2013).	Better nutrient management maintains soil fertility (Smith et al., 2013)
Conservation agriculture	Agroforestry provides habitat for species and supports connectivity (Derpsch et al., 2010).	Reduces agricultural water demands with appropriate cover crops (Derpsch et al., 2010).	Reduces soil erosion and redistribution maintaining soil depth and water retention (Keeler et al., 2012; Breitburg et al., 2009).
Trees in croplands		Erosion control and water recharge (Jose, 2009; Patanayak and Mercer, 1998).	Decreased soil erosion (Jose, 2009; Patanayak and Mercer, 1998).
Grazing optimal intensity	Reduces overall disturbance to plant-insect interactions (Kruess and Tschardtke, 2002).	Managed grazing practices can reduce water use on managed pastures (Rotz et al., 2015).	Over grazing can reduce the soils ability to trap contaminants and cause a release of these and other suspended sediments (Keeler et al., 2012; Breitburg et al., 2009).
Wetland restoration	Maintains the provision of structure, nutrients and primary productivity and nurseries for commercial fish (Toze, 2006; Duke et al., 2007; Heumann, 2011).	Flood control and water filtration benefits of mangroves (166) and other coastal wetlands (Duke et al., 2007).	

Source: FAO and TNC 2021. Nature-based solutions in agriculture Sustainable management and conservation of land, water, and biodiversity.

- *Theme 4: Early Warning and Climate Information Systems:* Under component 3, the project will build on baseline efforts of TRALARD to catalyze early warning systems in Muchinga and Copperbelt provinces support sub-national and community level preparedness and the implementation of community-based adaptation strategies.

Alignment with Country Priorities

Recognizing the pressure on the land, forest resources, biodiversity and other ecosystem services the government of Zambia has taken strategic actions at two distinct levels. First, as a signatory to several multilateral environmental agreements, Zambia is committed to international efforts to combat desertification, protect biodiversity, and address climate change. Notable agreements include the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), where the country has established its LDN national targets; the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), with the submission of its NBSAP II (2015-2025); and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, featuring the submission of its updated NDC (2015-2023) in 2021. The country has also adopted the Global Strategic Plan on Biodiversity (2011-2020) as well as the Kunming-Montreal Global biodiversity framework.

At the domestic level, Zambia has crafted a framework of policies and laws aligned with sustainable environmental management and climate change response. These encompass the Zambia National Forest Policy (2014), the Forests Act (2015), the 8th National Development Plan (2022-2026), the National Energy Policy (2019), the Second National Agriculture Policy (2012-2030), and various strategies, including the Zambia National Adaptation Program of Action (2007), National Climate Change Response Strategy (2010), National Policy on Climate Change (2016), National Land Policy (2017), National Policy on Environment (2009), and National REDD+ Strategy (2015). The project is fully align with Zambia’s NDC Programme 1: Adaptation of strategic productive systems (agriculture, wildlife, water), ensuring food security through the diversification and promotion of climate-smart agricultural practices; Programme 2: Strengthening strategic infrastructure, which includes the institutionalization of integrated land use planning compatible with the sustainable management of natural resources and infrastructure development; and Programme 3: Advancing capacity building, research, technology transfer, and financial support for adaptation. This includes capacity building in climate-smart agriculture, sustainable forest management, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, renewable energy technologies, as well as expertise in change management and climate change planning. These national policies and legal framework reflect Zambia's commitment to addressing environmental and climate challenges at both national and international levels. The implementation of SMEMZ will draw on lessons from planned, ongoing or recently completed initiatives in the country. In this regard, the project will seek complementarity and synergies to avoid duplication of efforts but also to build on achievements to scale up and out best practices in natural resources management and building resilience in the face of extreme weather events. Table 2.2 below presents the projects with potential synergies and complementarities.

Table 2.2: Potential cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects

Ongoing initiative/project	Project Description
Transforming Landscapes for Resilience and Development in Zambia (TRALARD)	A \$87.2 million project to be implemented between 2019 and 2025 in Luapula, Muchinga and Northern provinces. Its PDO is to improve natural resource management in select districts in Zambia to support sustainable livelihoods, and in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency, to provide immediate and effective response to the eligible crisis or emergency. It is designed around the following components: i) Promoting Diversified, Resilient, Sustainable Livelihoods; ii) Management of Community Forests and Protected Areas; iii) Project Management, Coordination, and Monitoring; and Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC, Standardized).
Green, Resilient and Transformational Tourism Development Project (GREAT-TDP)	This is a \$100 million project to be implemented by the World Bank between 2023 and 2029 in Northern, Northwestern and Western provinces. GREAT-TDP seeks to develop a competitive, sustainable and inclusive tourism sector contributing to employment opportunities, economic growth and transition to green economy by focusing on improving tourism infrastructure (such as roads, bridges, pontoon, airstrips) and strengthen national policy and enhance capacity for national tourism development and management.

Ongoing initiative/project	Project Description
Climate Change Adaptation of Livelihoods through Rural Finance (CALRF).	This is a \$10 million project which is under preparation with IFAD to be funded by the Adaptation Fund. It targets Western, Southern, Central and Luapula provinces. It is designed around three components: i) building and promoting equitable diversified, resilient and sustainable community livelihood options; ii) innovative local financing systems to build community adaptive capacities in climate sensitive sectors; and iii) enhance district-level planning and awareness-raising for evidence-based resilience and adaptive capacity building.
Resilient communities, land restoration and sustainable ecosystem management (RECLASEM).	the project's objective is to enhance climate change adaptation in local communities, reduce land degradation and enhance biodiversity conservation through an integrated climate-resilient landscape management approach in the Central and Southern Provinces of Zambia.

[1] Gumbo, D.J., et al. 2018. Sustainable management of Miombo woodlands – Food security, nutrition and wood energy. FAO.

[2] FAO and TNC 2021. Nature-based solutions in agriculture Sustainable management and conservation of land, water, and biodiversity.

B. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities:

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector: Yes

Provide a brief summary and list of names and dates of consultations

The Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Zambia (SMEMZ) initiative is being developed in a specific context. The Zambian government is keen on implementing a comprehensive cross-sectoral strategy for the revitalization of Kabwe in the central province. This effort aligns with the government's commitment to advancing its green agenda. SMEMZ, supported by the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment, is a strategic and catalytic effort to promote and institutionalize green development throughout the country. This initiative aims to build upon the successes of the TRALARD project and collaborate with ongoing projects,

notably the Resilient communities, land restoration, and sustainable ecosystem management project (RECLASEM), implemented by FAO. Its focus is on the southern and central provinces of Zambia. The primary motivation behind SMEMZ is to address pressing environmental and climate change challenges that are affecting the livelihoods and socioeconomic development efforts in Zambia.

The development of SMEMZ reflects the aspirations of various stakeholders, including government agencies, development partners, civil society organizations, women's groups, researchers, and local communities. Key discussions during consultations have highlighted several important issues: Rural-Urban Migration: Urban centers are experiencing increased population due to rural-urban migration. The lack of economic opportunities in rural areas is driving young people away, depriving these regions of a capable workforce. However, urban centers like Lusaka are struggling to provide adequate services. Gender-Responsive Interventions: Women are less likely to migrate compared to men. Thus, they require gender-sensitive interventions that empower them with leadership skills, sustainable income-generating activities, and access to information for effective decision-making, especially in the face of climate change impacts. Community Involvement: Communities often hear about development plans from external organizations but are not adequately involved in the decision-making process.

There is a need for SMEMZ to conduct socio-cultural diagnoses, involve communities in prioritizing activities, and ensure the projects are context-responsive. Additionally, traditional knowledge can play a critical role in facilitating community buy-in and long-term sustainability. Collaboration and Avoiding Duplication: To maximize impact, projects must work together and avoid duplicating efforts. Development partners should appreciate the value of cooperation to reach more beneficiaries while sustaining the achievements of ongoing initiatives.

The development of SMEMZ involved extensive consultations with various stakeholders, including those with experience in the TRALARD project. These consultations took place at national and community levels, with bilateral discussions involving organizations such as FAO and the World Bank. The alignment of SMEMZ with the government's green growth agenda and the 8th National Development Plan was a key focus during these consultations. In summary, SMEMZ is a forward-looking initiative driven by the Zambian government's commitment to green development. It seeks to address pressing environmental and climate challenges while engaging multiple stakeholders, promoting gender equality, community involvement, and collaboration among projects to achieve greater socioeconomic and environmental impact.

Consultations have been had with different stakeholders, and some of the issues that have been discussed include the following:

- Urban centres are becoming more and more populated due to rural-urban migration. Many young people are forced to leave rural areas because there is practically nothing for them to do. So rural areas are being deprived of the able labour force to engage in sustainable use of natural resources. Urban centres, particularly Lusaka, are over stretched and service delivery is hardly making a difference;

- Women (young and adult) migrate less compared to their male counterparts. In this regard, they need gender-responsive interventions that build their capacities for leaderships in cooperatives, alternative income generating activities that make business sense (beyond hand to mouth piecemeal interventions), access to information to enable them make informed decisions vis-à-vis coping strategies in the face of impacts of climate change and extreme weather events. For example, there are cases where the husband has migrated to an urban centre, and the wife and children remain in the rural areas. In the face of extreme weather events, there are cases where women have to wait for their spouses to decide what to do.
- Communities ‘hear’ about what organizations and institutions intend to do in their communities. These intentions are announced to them by development players, however, they are not duly involved in the identification and prioritisation of activities that are meant for them. Certain activities are ‘too top down’ and beyond their socio-cultural context. This is particularly the case when technological interventions are proposed without community input or capacity to manage them. These tend to be white elephants. Moving forward, three things will be extremely critical: i) SMEMZ needs to do a diagnosis to identify socioeconomic and adaptation challenges which should inform both interventions but also the selection of beneficiaries, taking into account socio-cultural power dynamics in communities; ii) SMEMZ needs to embrace an inclusive participatory approach in the prioritisation of community activities – putting communities at the centre of adaptation-related activities; iii) SMEMZ will need to be context-responsive in its prioritisation of project activities to avoid ‘technological shock’ among community members; iv) SMEMZ will benefit by building on traditional knowledge regarding how communities adaptation and coping strategies have evolved over time. This will help to facilitate community buy-in which is critical for sustainability and avoidance of the ‘white elephant syndrome’ of socioeconomic development and environmental interventions in communities.
- Projects need to strengthen ‘working together’ so that there is less duplication of efforts, but more of complementing each other for greater impact because no single project can deliver on all socioeconomic and environmental aspects. In this regard, development partners need to appreciate the importance of working together to reach more beneficiaries while sustaining achievements of other projects.

Thus, the development of this concept note took advantage of views from different stakeholders, some of whom have directly been involved in the TRALARD project at national subnational and community levels. Consultation meetings have been held at both national levels and within communities in the target provinces, including bilateral meetings that did not involve a broad spectrum of stakeholders. For example, a bilateral meeting was held with FAO to discuss areas of complementarity and synergy between SMEMZ and RECLASEM. Also, several meetings were held between the World Bank team and the GEF technical team that has been constituted to support GEF-funded projects at the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment. The meetings served to identify project areas and to strengthen the alignment of the project with the government’s priorities for a green growth agenda as well as environmental and natural resources management aspirations as detailed in the Zambia 8th National Development Plan.

At community level, several meetings were held in different communities in the target provinces (refer to Figure 1, Pictures A and B).

At the national level, a stakeholder consultation was held at the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment on September 22, 2023.

List of participants at consultation hosted by the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment

Name	Organisation	Position
Hon. Collins Nzovu	MGEE	Minister
Douty Chibamba	MGEE	Permanent Secretary
George Sibanyama	World Bank	Consultant
Theresa Musongo	World Bank	Environmental Engineer
Chulu	World Bank	Consultant
Lewis Tumbama	World Bank	Consultant
Baison Banda	World Bank	Financial Management Specialist
Joy Chisompola Lubinda	World Bank	Social Development Specialist
Tuubba Castein	World Bank	Sr. Forestry Specialist
Ngao Mubanga	World Bank	Environmental Specialist
Edson Nkonde	MGEE	Director
Davies Makasa Chimfwembe	MGEE	Director Policy and Planning.
Agalasia Mary-Ann Chisenga	MGEE	Principal Legal Counsel
John Banda	MGEE NPCU	Acting National Coordinator.
Jean Mukumwa	MGEE NPCU	M&E Specialist
Kasanda Banda	MGEE	PCCOA
Anne K.M.Mufaya	MGEE	Senior Planner
Inutu Sinjaambi	MGEE	Planner

It is acknowledged that though the stakeholder consultations conducted hitherto have been important in the conception of the current proposal, the process of engaging in participatory process to inform the further development of the proposal at CEO endorsement will continue. Community continuous engagement, for example, will remain key to build capacities for sustainability. Thus, at PPG an elaborate stakeholder engagement will be done to identify key stakeholders and their respective roles in the project. In sum, stakeholder consultations and engagement will continue through this project, including during project development, identification of activities and the implementation, project monitoring and evaluation.

The stakeholder engagement plan will be developed during project preparation.

(Please upload to the portal documents tab any stakeholder engagement plan or assessments that have been done during the PIF development phase.)

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

We confirm that we have provided indicative information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program and any measures to address such risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex D).

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

C. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described in the Project Description (Section B)

Yes

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
World Bank	GET	Zambia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	1,903,881.00	171,349.00	2,075,230.00
World Bank	GET	Zambia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-1	Grant	522,541.00	47,028.00	569,569.00
World Bank	LDCF	Zambia	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	7,235,114.00	651,160.00	7,886,274.00
World Bank	GET	Zambia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-2	Grant	566,085.00	50,948.00	617,033.00

Total GEF Resources (\$)		10,227,621.00	920,485.00	11,148,106.00
---------------------------------	--	----------------------	-------------------	----------------------

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

147491

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

13274

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
World Bank	GET	Zambia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	27,456.00	2,471.00	29,927.00
World Bank	GET	Zambia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-1	Grant	7,500.00	675.00	8,175.00
World Bank	LDCF	Zambia	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	104,336.00	9,390.00	113,726.00
World Bank	GET	Zambia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-2	Grant	8,199.00	738.00	8,937.00
Total PPG Amount						147,491.00	13,274.00	160,765.00

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
World Bank	GET	Zambia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	2,105,157.00
World Bank	GET	Zambia	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	1,203,714.00
Total GEF Resources					3,308,871.00

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CCA-1-1	LDCF	7,235,114.00	60809173
BD-1-1	GET	723,475.00	6080613
LD-1	GET	522,541.00	4391810
LD-2	GET	566,085.00	4757794
BD-1-3	GET	856,746.00	7200717
BD-1-4	GET	323,660.00	3959893
Total Project Cost		10,227,621.00	87,200,000.00

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	20200000
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	67000000
Total Co-financing				87,200,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

SMEMZ will receive co-financing from the Transforming Landscapes for Resilience and Development (TRALARD) Project, which amounts to \$87.2million and operates in Luapula, Northern, and Muchinga provinces. The TRALARD project is expected to contribute 20.2 million in co-financing. TRALARD's main goal is to enhance natural resource management, promote diversified and sustainable livelihoods, and support community forest and protected area management. SMEMZ is strategically designed to build on TRALARD's achievements, catalyzing investments and scaling up transformative approaches to integrated natural resource management. It will be implemented in the miombo woodland ecoregion of Muchinga, Copperbelt, and Central provinces, aiming for a seamless, landscape-level intervention that transcends administrative boundaries, enhancing the contiguous miombo landscape in these provinces.

The World Bank is currently negotiating for a TRALARD II project which is expected to bring in an additional 67 million in cofinancing to the project and operate in the same time-period.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Angela Armstrong	10/17/2023	Ngao Mubanga		aarmstrong@worldbank.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Godwin F. Gondwe	Director - Environment Management Department	Ministry of Green Economy and the Environment	5/5/2023

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

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

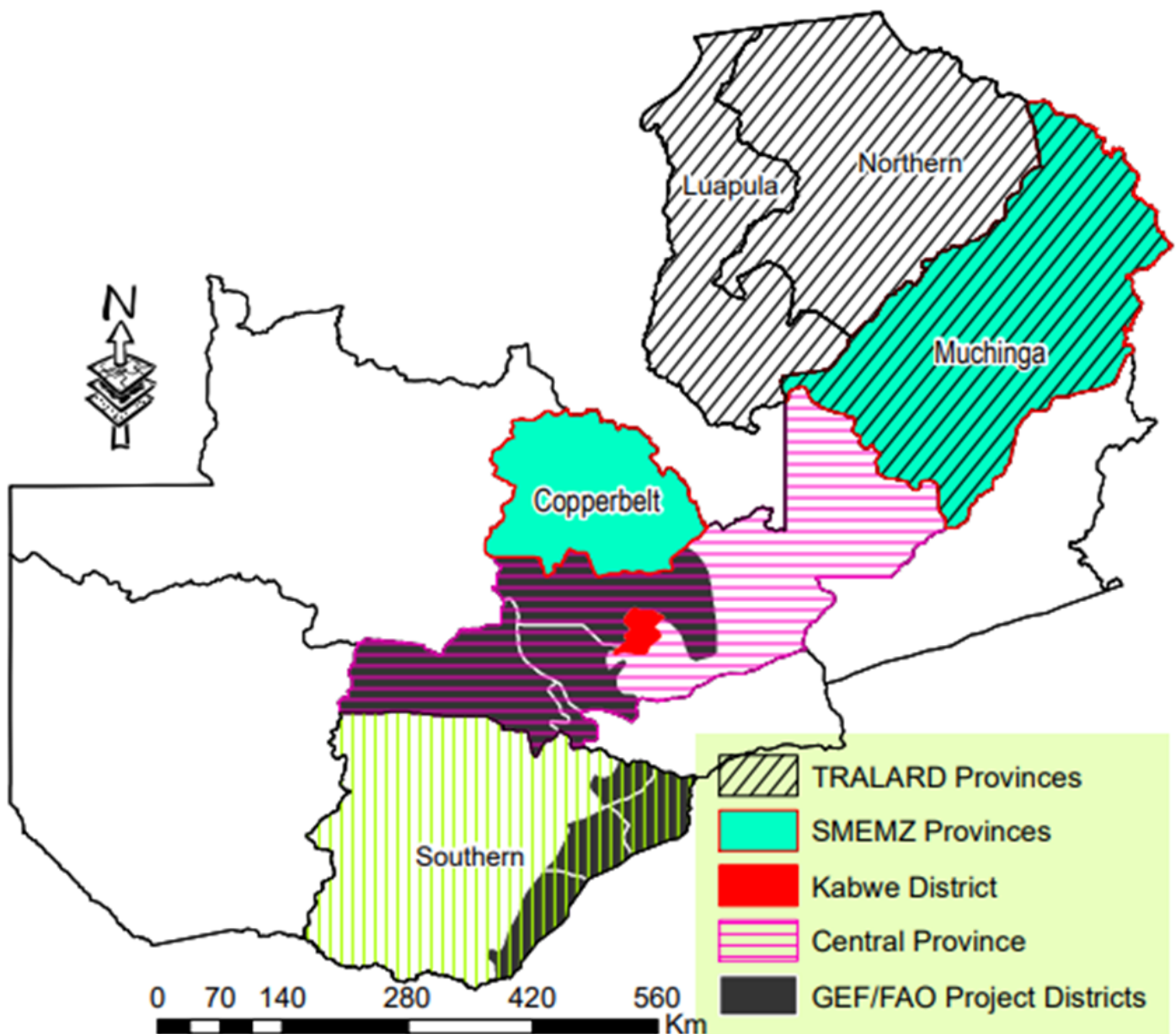


Figure 1: Map showing SMEMZ and RECLASEM’s target areas, and TRALARD as source of cofinancing

ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

(PIF level) Attach agency safeguard screen form including rating of risk types and overall risk rating.

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

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

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Influencing Models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transform policy and regulatory environment Strengthen institutional capacity/decision making 		
Stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local communities Private sector Knowledge and learning Civil Society Stakeholder engagement 		
Capacity, Knowledge and Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity development Knowledge generation and sharing Learning 		
Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender mainstreaming Gender results areas 		
Focal Area/Theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity Forest Land degradation Climate Change Adaptation 		