



Community-based conservation for biodiversity and livelihoods in the context of climate change in DRC

Review PPG Request and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11590

Countries

Congo DR

Project Name

Community-based conservation for biodiversity and livelihoods in the context of climate change in DRC

Agencies

FAO

Date received by PM

4/24/2024

Review completed by PM

Program Manager

Jurgis Sapijanskas

Focal Area

Biodiversity
Project Type

GBFF

GEF-8 Project Preparation Grant request Review Sheet

1. General Project Information / Eligibility

- a) Does the project meet the criteria for eligibility for GBFF funding?
- b) Is the General Project Information table correctly populated?

Secretariat's Comments JS 5/6/2024 - Cleared.

Agency's Comments

II. Indicative Project Overview

- a) Is the project objective presented as a concise statement and clear?
- b) Are the components, outcomes and outputs sound, appropriate and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objective?

Secretariat's Comments

JS 5/6/2024 - Cleared.

JS 4/24/2024 - Thank you for this submission. In order for this submission to be considered in the selection round, please remove outputs 1.2.3 and output 2.3.3, which are minor elements of the project design that are not eligible as proposed (generic NBSAP monitoring and the establishment of generic local development funds are not included in the GBFF programming directions), and resubmit as soon as possible.

Agency's Comments Thank you for the clarifications on eligibility. These outputs have been removed and language throughout the document has been amended to reflect the change.

- c) Are the components adequately funded?
- d) Are the GEF Project Financing and Co-Financing contributions to PMC proportional (only for Multi-trust Funds PPGs with BD from the GEF Trust Fund)?

e) Is the PMC equal to or below 5% of the total GEF grant for projects of more than \$2 million or 10% for projects of less than \$2 million? If the requested PMC is above the caps, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?

Secretariat's Comments JS 5/6/2024 - Cleared.

Agency's Comments

III. Project Rationale

a. Does the project adequately describe the: (i) current situation/baseline conditions within the project geographic area or project thematic area; (ii) problem(s) that the project will address; (iii) goal and objectives of the project; and (iv) justification for the project intervention; and (v) expected results including the Global Environmental Benefits and an estimate of the project's contributions to the relevant biodiversity core indicators.

Secretariat's Comments JS 5/6/2024 - Cleared.

Agency's Comments

IV. Project Description

a) Is there a concise theory of change that describes the project logic, including how the project design elements will contribute to the objective, the expected causal pathways, and the key assumptions underlying these?

b) Are the project components and activities identified in the theory of change adequately described.

c) Is a list of stakeholders that will be involved in the project and their roles in the design and implementation of the project provided?

d) Are the Specific Action Area(s) that the project is aligned with identified and an explanation provided on and how the project will support the achievement of the specific Action Area objective(s).

Secretariat's Comments JS 5/6/2024 - Cleared.

Agency's Comments

V. Does the proposal adequately describe how the project meets the following criteria:

a) Potential to generate global environmental benefits (GEBs) (include a description of the GEBs the project will generate per the GEF-8 Core Indicators for biodiversity);

- b) Alignment with the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and/or National Biodiversity Finance Plans or similar instruments to identify national and/or regional priorities;**
- c) The level of policy coherence and coordination across multiple ministries, agencies, the private sector, and civil society that the project aims to support;**
- d) Whether the project will mobilize the resources of the private sector and philanthropies';
and**
- e) Whether and how the project will engage with and provide support to IPLCs.**

Secretariat's Comments JS 5/6/2024 - Cleared.

Agency's Comments

VI. Project results indicators

Is the table correctly populated and consistent with the Project Description?

Secretariat's Comments JS 5/6/2024 - Cleared.

Agency's Comments

VII. Project Financing Tables

- a) Are all the tables correctly populated?**
- b) Are the indicative expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines (only for projects with GEF TF components)?**

Secretariat's Comments JS 5/6/2024 - Cleared.

Agency's Comments

VIII. Project Endorsement

- a) Has the project been endorsed by the country's(ies) OFP and has the OFP at the time of PPG request submission name and position been checked against the GEF database?**
- b) Are the OFP endorsement letters uploaded to the GEF Portal (compiled as a single document, if applicable)?**

c) Do the letters follow the correct format and are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in the Portal?

Secretariat's Comments

JS 5/6/2024 - Cleared.

JS 4/24/2024 - Thank you for this submission. In order for this submission to be considered in the selection round, please address the comments included in this review sheet and resubmit as soon as possible.

Agency's Comments

IX. GEFSEC Decision

a. Is the PPG recommended for technical clearance?

b. Additional comments to be considered by the Agency during project preparation

Secretariat's Comments

JS 5/6/2024 - This PPG request is recommended for technical clearance.

During PPG, please:

- carry out a thorough baseline analysis and ensure that the project design avoids duplication, builds on on-going effort and incorporates lessons learnt of past projects both at the national level and in the targeted landscapes. This includes the following:

Please notably ensure the lessons learnt from GEFID 5547 Community-Based Miombo Forest Management in South-East Katanga and GEF ID 9515 Improved management and restoration of Agro-Sylvo Pastoral Resources in the Pilot Province of South Kivu are integrated in the design of the project

Given the geographic overlap, please coordinate closely with GEF ID 10242 - the Kabobo Luama Protected Area Landscape Management (UNDP) under the Global Wildlife program (GWP) and GEFID 10388 "Biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management and enhanced water security in Lake Tanganyika basin" (UNEP).

While there is no geographic overlap, please also explore coordination with the The GEF7 Congo IP (GEF ID 10314) and the Inclusive Conservation Initiative's (GEF ID 10404) projects in DRC. Some key partners will likely be the same as in this GBFF intervention.

Please also ensure complementarity and avoid any duplication with the work supported by the Umbrella Programme to Support Development of Biodiversity Finance Plans (GEF ID 11054, UNDP) and by GEF ID 9926 "Effective National Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol and Valorization of Botanical Plants (Medicinal, Cosmetic and Nutraceutical) in the Democratic Republic of Congo" (UNEP). We indeed note that the PPG requests includes plans to support a "comprehensive study of the financial landscape related to biodiversity in the DRC to identify and mitigate harmful subsidies, while boosting financial resources dedicated to biodiversity conservation" and a "national plan to finance biodiversity conservation and sustainable use". The same activities are to be carried by 11054, upon which the biodiversity finance interventions of component 2 should build. The PPG request also includes unspecified activities related to benefit sharing that may be duplicative of 9926.

- Given the project's objectives, please carry out extensive consultations, ensure a participatory and gender-responsive approach to project preparation and plan for a participatory approach in project implementation, focusing on IPLC empowerment.

- Please consider streamlining the project design, which currently includes 8 outcomes and a wide ranging set of 24 outputs (with several interventions mentioned in the project description that are not reflected in the log-frame, e.g., "comprehensive study of the financial landscape"). To this end, please develop a comprehensive theory of change (see STAP guidance: https://stapgef.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Theory%20of%20Change%20Primer_web_updated%206.6.2022.pdf), which will help, through PPG consultations and stakeholder engagement, in confirming whether the project's proposed causal pathways are likely to be valid, necessary and sufficient in the targeted context.

- Component 1: If PPG confirms the need to develop new regulations or update regulations, please make sure the CEO endorsement request is specific on the laws and regulation to be targeted.

- Benefit sharing: Please ensure the CEO endorsement request clarifies what "equitable benefit sharing from biodiversity for IPLCs" (output 1.1.4, Output 2.3.1) means in the context of this project, and how it relates to the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and baseline project GEF ID 9926.

-component 2: Please ensure the CEO endorsement requests explains how the GBFF-supported restoration activities have been designed to specifically generate benefits for biodiversity of globally significance.

- reconsider the budget allocations across components. The project currently devotes close to \$1.3 million for the enabling environment and \$1 million to KM. The budget of the KM component should most notably be scaled down. To that effect, the project should

consider building on the significant resources GEF has already allocated to KM under the Global Wildlife Program global coordination project(s) and that of the GEF-7 Congo Forest IP.

- Please ensure the CEO endorsement requests explains how the GBFF-supported restoration activities have been designed to specifically generate benefits for biodiversity of globally significance and functional connectivity in this project focused on biodiversity corridors.

- Please consolidate targets on GEF core indicators. Targets are currently not commensurate with the GBFF funding request and anticipated co-financing. Please make also every effort to capture project co-benefits, including climate mitigation co-benefits on Core indicator 6, following the Guidelines on the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework (https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-09/Results_Framework_Guidelines_2022_06_30.pdf)

- confirm the amount of GBFF project financing dedicated to support actions by IPLC for the conservation, restoration, sustainable use and management of biodiversity. Please make sure that the CEO endorsement request document includes a justification with cross-reference to relevant project components and/or outputs that clarifies who will benefit and describes their role in the project.

•

Agency's Comments

Review Dates

	PPG Request Review	Agency Response
First Review	4/24/2024	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/7/2024	
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

**PPG Request
Review**

**Agency
Response**

**Additional Review (as
necessary)**