

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10179

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT **No**

NGI **No**

Project Title

Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management (SLM) for Large-Scale Impact in the Grazing Lands of Limpopo and Northern Cape provinces in South Africa

Countries

South Africa

Agency(ies)

IUCN

Other Executing Partner(s)

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) in conjunction with Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) and IUCN

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Land Degradation

Sector

AFOLU

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Stakeholders, Private Sector, SMEs, Local Communities, Gender Equality, Participation and leadership, Gender results areas, Gender Mainstreaming, Beneficiaries, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Enabling Activities, Knowledge Generation, Learning, Capacity Development

Rio Markers**Climate Change Mitigation**

Significant Objective 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Significant Objective 1

Biodiversity

Significant Objective 1

Land Degradation

Principal Objective 2

Submission Date

4/5/2019

Expected Implementation Start

10/1/2021

Expected Completion Date

10/31/2026

Duration

60In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

326,683.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
LD-1-1	Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain food production and livelihoods through Sustainable Land Management (SLM)	GET	3,629,816.00	27,783,860.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			3,629,816.00	27,783,860.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

To scale up and mainstream sustainable land management for large-scale impact in the grazing lands of target sites in Limpopo and Northern Cape of South Africa

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Informed Decision Making and Action for SLM	Technical Assistance	Decisions on sustainable land management, landscape restoration and adaptive planning for drought resilience are informed by improved, dryland adapted assessment data at local and national level.	<p>Output 1: Relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators and SLM good practices are validated and monitored against a set baseline to report on progress and impact for selected SDG indicators</p> <p>Output 2: Tools, guideline and training materials developed</p> <p>Output 3: Diverse stakeholders have capacity to implement sustainable land management and landscape management</p>	GET	390,000.00	3,554,807.00
Component 2: Governance and Institutions	Technical Assistance	Government and customary land management institutions are strengthened to equitably coordinate natural resource management and	Output 1: Mechanism for landscape planning and prioritisation of actions established	GET	1,555,000.00	10,758,207.00

improve response to
recurrent drought
emergencies

Output 2: LDN targets
and investment
priorities are validated

Output 3: Land users'
resource rights are
strengthened in target
areas through
application of
appropriate
governance
mechanisms;

Output 4:
Organisational and
governance capacity
of community groups
is strengthened;

Output 5: Provincial
landscape
management
mechanisms are
strengthened for
informed and
consultative planning
of land and water
resources

Output 6: Priority
community-based
rangeland restoration
actions (from
component 2)
supported

Component 3: Markets
and Finance for Scale-up

Investment

Financial support to
scale up validated
SLM practices and

Output 1: Innovative
financial mechanisms
are developed for

GET

1,171,745.00

9,570,634.00

market links for
priority value chains
created;

restoration and SLM,
including community
SLM funds,
microfinance, and
land restoration trust
funds;

Output 2: Investments
are made in
community validated
priority value chains

Output 3: Investment
partnerships are
developed between
small and medium
sized enterprises,
national finance
institutions, and local
land users;

Output 4: Investment
proposals and
business plans are
developed for scale
up of innovative
finance in SLM

Component 4: Learning and Policy Dialogue	Technical Assistance	Sustainable land management is mainstreamed at the local, national and regional level.	<p>Output 1: Policies and practices that support LDN attainment are validated at the national level</p> <p>Output 2: Policy recommendations are developed through</p>	GET	320,223.00	2,461,020.00
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discourse and outreach at different levels;

Output 3: Project lessons are captured, evaluated and shared;

Output 4: Multi-stakeholder learning forums held at provincial and national levels.

	Sub Total (\$)	3,436,968.00	26,344,668.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)			
	GET	192,848.00	1,439,192.00
	Sub Total(\$)	192,848.00	1,439,192.00
	Total Project Cost(\$)	3,629,816.00	27,783,860.00

Please provide justification

The PMC for this project (5.6%) is a bit higher than the normative threshold of 5.2% for the following reasons: The project is being implemented in two sites that are at least 800 miles apart, creating a need for an expanded PMU team that can sufficiently monitor implementation in both sites. In addition, the project targets remote landscapes in some of the poorest regions in South Africa, with limited capacities of project partners and institutions. The increased PMC will be used to cover the additional costs of working in these locations.

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	IUCN	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	50,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Dept Of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4,120,930.00
Recipient Country Government	Limpopo Dept of Agriculture and Rural Development	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	3,723,907.00
Recipient Country Government	SANBI	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,159,606.00
Recipient Country Government	DFFE	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	13,634,936.00
Recipient Country Government	DFFE	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4,094,481.00
			Total Co-Financing(\$)	27,783,860.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Not Applicable

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
IUCN	GET	South Africa	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	3,629,816	326,683	3,956,499.00
Total Grant Resources(\$)					3,629,816.00	326,683.00	3,956,499.00

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)
PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount (\$)				PPG Agency Fee (\$)			
150,000				13,500			
Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
IUCN	GET	South Africa	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	150,000	13,500	163,500.00
Total Project Costs(\$)					150,000.00	13,500.00	163,500.00

Core Indicators

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
157000.00	130000.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	157,000.00	130,000.00		

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)
875000.00	670000.00	0.00	0.00

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

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

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

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
875,000.00	670,000.00		

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

Title	Submitted
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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	677,138	430,584		
Male	500,000	373,742		
Total	1177138	804326	0	0

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

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

There are three significant changes from the PIF to the current document:

- 1. **Changes to Core Indicators:** The primary indicators have been revised as to represent the site conditions more accurately. The area under improved SLM governance (800 000 ha) remains the same. Area under restoration through SLM in production systems has been changed from 150 000 -130 000 ha. This new target takes into consideration a refined total amount of grazing land in both Provinces i.e., 30 000 ha in Limpopo and 100 000 ha in the Northern Cape. This was calculated by revisiting the spatial data. For the direct beneficiaries, the total population amount has been reduced from 1,177,138 to 804 326. The new number represents the population of both Municipalities according to the latest census data (StatsSA 2011). This number differs as it takes into account a change in Municipal boundaries.*
 - 2. **Restructuring of Outputs:** In the PIF, Output 4: Priority community-based rangeland restoration actions (from Component 2) is placed in Component 1. This Output has now been moved to Component 2 and renumbered as Output 2.6. This was done as Component 2 contains Outputs which are aimed at developing SLM actions as well as strengthening community structures. The primary reason for placing this Output in Component 2, is that it provides more continuity in the Component as it combines the planning and the implementation. This can then be subcontracted as a complete package to a single service provider. Another reason for the move is that Component 1 deals mainly with the development of a Knowledge Management Platform (KMP) and training of stakeholders and is different from implementation of SLM actions.*
 - 3. **Changes in Budget:** The budget has been changed significantly from the PIF document (see table below). This is due to a number of factors:*
 - The budget of Component 1 has been reduced and shifted to Component 2 as described in Point 1 above.*
 - The budget of Component 4 has been reduced and reallocated to other Components.*
 - Budgets have been adjusted to account for the Project Management Unit i.e. the Project Manager and the Technical Administration Officer.*
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Component	PIF Budget	% of Budget	Actual Figures	% Budget
<i>Component 1</i>	<i>671 256</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>390 000</i>	<i>11%</i>
<i>Component 2</i>	<i>1 006 884</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>1 475 919</i>	<i>43%</i>
<i>Component 3</i>	<i>1 258 605</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>1 172 184</i>	<i>33%</i>
<i>Component 4</i>	<i>520 223</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>275 223</i>	<i>8%</i>
<i>PMC</i>	<i>172 848</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>246 191</i>	<i>5%</i>
Grand Total	3 629 816	100%	3 629 816	100%

A. 1A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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

Land degradation is a natural or human-induced process that negatively affects the land to function effectively within an environmental system and can be defined as a process of degrading land from a former state (Zorn and Komac 2013). Land degradation is closely related to sensitivity, resilience, and carrying capacity of land, as well as to vulnerability of people living on and from these lands. It may be defined as the loss of utility or potential utility, or reduction, loss, or change of features or organisms which cannot be replaced (Barrow, 1991).

The loss of function is derived through the degradation of both soil and vegetation to provide former services and benefits to beneficiaries. The condition and physical structure of vegetation plays a key role in maintaining the stability of rangeland ecosystems (Peters et al 2006, Havstad et al 2007). The complex interaction of grasses, shrubs and woody plants provides resilience to natural and many human induced impacts. Through improper management of land, the disturbance, alteration or removal of vegetation impacts on its condition and therefore results in negative consequences for the entire system. Land degradation is closely linked to food security, poverty, urbanization, climate change, and biodiversity loss it is among the most critical environmental issues in South Africa.

Approximately 18% of South Africa's land mass is estimated to be affected by land degradation, including the impacts of inappropriate farming practices, mining, forestry and urban development (NAP, 2018). Garland et al. (2000) estimate a much larger, 70% of South Africa is affected by varying intensities of soil erosion. Arid ecosystems specifically, although complex, are fragile systems. The limited water availability, reduced nutrients in soils, sandy sediments and reduced vegetative cover makes them highly vulnerable to disturbances. 91% of South Africa falls into the drylands category, making it highly susceptible to desertification (DEA, 2016). Land Degradation assessments can be highly sensitive to different definitions and indicators, which explains the lack of consensus.

As a measure to safeguard the subsistence agricultural livelihoods of communities in South Africa there is a crucial need for mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management (SLM). South Africa, as a signatory to the UNCCD, has committed to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) by 2030, by establishing enabling conditions for scaling up good SLM practices. This project represents a key component towards achieving these targets.

The project has identified two sites in the Olifants catchment in Limpopo and in the Mier region in Northern cape where actions will be focused to identify innovative models for use in scale up of SLM. The primary rural livelihood in both of these provinces is livestock keeping, with the leading driver of land degradation having been categorised into six key barriers which are associated with the uptake of SLM in the target areas.

1. Lack of data, or poor access to data, *limits the effective targeting of land degradation interventions and monitoring of the impact of policies and investments. Information on land management is vital to understanding, assessing and evaluating the success of objectives. In the target landscape the information feedback and management process is limited due to gaps in the data collection processes available in the landscape. The monitoring*

mechanisms that are implemented in these landscapes do not cater for lower level participation (communal level) and likewise do not directly benefit decisions at a community scale. Furthermore, due to the lack of resolution, established monitoring mechanisms do not measure indicators that are valuable for evaluation of SLM goals at a community, local, regional and even national level, including indicators of equality. Knowledge and understanding of SLM principles and techniques is furthermore vital to ensuring appropriate implementation of improved SLM. A crucial gap to the scaling up of SLM in the target regions is the lack of knowledge and use between land users, extension services (government and private) and local decision makers and existing SLM tools, guidelines and materials. The capacity for SLM in the region is highly limited of which drives ongoing degradation and improper land management.

2. **Limited capacity:** *Communities, extension agents, government are often ill-equipped with the required skills for effective support, including participatory and negotiating skills. Training to farmers can be highly prescriptive and seldom builds on farmers' perceptions of their problems and opportunities. There is a tendency to look for costly material solutions rather than exploring softer options, such as changes in cropping patterns and livestock management. In rural areas, there can be challenges of insufficient education, which can limit the capacity for innovation and may affect the trust between farmers and extension agents. This barrier can be addressed through stronger emphasis on participation to foster a culture of trust and collaboration and to encourage innovation through participatory research and action.*

3. **Inefficient sectoral coordination and policies.** *Land management has implications beyond the boundaries of the land under management, but the wider impact on ecosystems and landscapes is frequently overlooked. Sustainable land management safeguards a range of ecosystem services and functions, including food production, water supply, biodiversity conservation and carbon sequestration. This confronts public institutions with a challenge, since their mandates often align with only one or other of these services. In South Africa, there are good policies, but they don't enable equitable outcomes. South Africa has few functioning cross-sectoral mechanisms to facilitate integrated ecosystem management, particularly for adopting common goals between ministries. Mechanisms may be found at the local level, but these may lack capabilities for integrated land management. Municipalities, for example, are responsible for land planning, food markets, water supply, recreation and tourism, all of which are connected to land management. However, most municipalities lack the experience or technical capacity to integrate planning and management across these sectors. President, Cyril Ramaphosa in the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) indicated that it is time for government to break away from the silo mentality of working and went on to introduce a new approach called the District Development Model (DDM). The DDM was subsequently adopted by cabinet on the 21st of August 2019. The District Development Model (DDM) is an operational model for improving Cooperative Governance aimed at building a capable, ethical Developmental State. It embodies an approach by which the three spheres of government and state entities work in unison in an impact-oriented way, and where there is higher performance and accountability for coherent service delivery and development outcomes. It is a method of government operating in unison focusing on the municipal district and metropolitan spaces as the impact areas of joint planning, budgeting and implementation.*

4. **Ineffective coordination and management.** *The target landscapes are limited in efficiency due to vital gaps in governance mechanisms with regard to the sustainable management of rangelands in the areas. The key limitation is in the coordination of governance structures within these regions. Misalignment, miscommunication and a lack of transparency of objectives at multiple levels is counterproductive. Mandates between players in the landscape is not clear even within organisations. The SLM capacity in terms of holistic landscape planning, within government institutions, is furthermore not as it should be at specific levels of governance. There is no central mechanism for aligning the approach and objectives of multiple landscape players. There is no clear pathway for informing SLM action and priorities for rangelands at a regional scale.*

5. **Weak land tenure and land management roles, rights and responsibilities.** *Land tenure is complex and evolving in South Africa and at least two forms of communal land management can be identified: commonage, which has relatively undefined use rights, and Land Reform, where rights are assigned to small groups of users. These combined with significant areas of private land create a mosaic of land tenure types. The misalignment of objectives is furthermore evident among land users who often share the land, or rangeland borders, with one another. A lack of regulatory environment pertaining to the use of this land removes consequence as a regulatory mechanism and in turn drives conflicts as well as misuse of land. Weak land tenure arrangements drive a lack of accountability and therefore drives unsustainable land uses. There is a lack of rangeland specific communal level action plans which guide the sustainable use of the land and centralise SLM objectives among land users.*

6. **Limited access to finance and markets.** This limits the sustainability and scalability of SLM progress. Economic development in a highly rural landscape has a powerful influence on behaviour to drive the scale-up of sustainable land management. Economic development within the target landscape however are highly restricted due to major limitations in access to financial and market resources. The limited access to these resources is due to numerous socio-economic, institutional, and geographic drivers. Limited financial capacity of stakeholders to develop and navigate markets and financial institutions has resulted in a lack of scaling up and an under-developed local market for products arising from rangeland use. Communities have been seen to have little participation in the value chains of products arising from rangeland use and have little support to penetrate along the value chain. Under-developed informal markets and limited capacity and resources (financial and infrastructural) drives uncertainty of supply (quantity and quality) which reduces penetration ability into formal markets. Capacity gaps and limited acumen further limits opportunity for partnerships with established enterprises. Distance from markets (especially in NC) exacerbates market isolation. The small-scale nature and unpredictability of products reduces confidence in feasibility and therefore lack of interest by financial institutions. On top of all this, limited opportunities for livelihoods alternative (to that of livestock production) results in a stale mate for economic development in these regions.

2) The baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects;

A significant body of national and regional actions and projects have been and are currently being conducted. A summary of current and past actions and projects is given below.

Action / Project	Focus	Scale	Budget	Timeline
'Working For' Programmes- EPIP	Land Restoration	National		Ongoing government programme
Drylands Conservation Programme - EWT	Sustainable Land Management - Community Support - Capacity building - Proclamation of BSA's	Loxton, Beaufort West, Victoria West and Carnarvon, Northern Cape	-	Ongoing
Eksteen Raison Incubator- Jobs Fund	Enterprise development	400 Ha in Eksteenskudil with 55 Farms in Northern Cape	Grant - R18.25 mil Co-Fin - R24.81 mil	2013-2016
Essential Oil Distillation Plant- CSIR	Infrastructure development- bioprospecting industry	Onseepkans and Pellisa, Northern Cape		
LandCare Projects	Land Restoration - Bush and alien species removal - Rehabilitation	Northern Cape	\$365 000	2016-ongoing
LandCare Projects	Land Restoration - Bush and alien species removal - Rehabilitation - Capacity building - Drought resilience infrastructure development (livestock management)	Limpopo	\$683 000	2016-ongoing
Meat Naturally	Incentive Mechanism for Sustainable Cattle Farming - Capacity Building - Market Access - Ecological restoration - Sustainable Land Management	Umzimvubu (Eastern Cape and KZN); Namakwa region (NC); K2C (Mpumalanga and Limpopo)	-	Ongoing
KLK Co-operation	Market access - Periodic Auctions - Market Access Facilities	Northern Cape- Rietfontein, Noenieput Philandersbron, Loubos		Ongoing
Afrivet	Enterprise Development - PAHC Training programme	KZN		Ongoing
Medicinal Plants Project - CSIR	Value proposition- bioprospecting in industry	Nourivier in the Nama Karoo, Northern Cape		
RESILIM-O -AWARD	Improved transboundary governance and management	Regional- Olifants catchment-Limpopo	\$10.7 mil	2014-2019

<i>Witdraai Project - CSIR</i>	<i>Value proposition- bioprospecting in industry</i>	<i>Northern Cape</i>		
<i>GEF 4 – Biodiversity-</i>	<i>Kalahari-Namib Project: Enhancing Decision-making through Interactive Environmental Learning and Action in Molopo-Nossob River Basin in Botswana, Namibia and South Africa</i>	<i>Northern Cape; Botswana, Namibia</i>	<i>\$2,175,000 \$7,300,000</i>	<i>2008-2018 Closed</i>
<i>GEF 5 - Land Degradation (2015)</i>	<i>Securing Multiple Ecosystems Benefit Through SLM in the Productive but Degraded Landscapes of South Africa (Limpopo (Mphahama); Eastern Cape; Northern Cape (Loxton))</i>	<i>(Limpopo (Mphahama); Eastern Cape; Northern Cape (Loxton))</i>	<i>\$4,237,900 \$40,521,790</i>	<i>2014 – 2020 Active</i>
<i>GEF 3 - Biodiversity</i>	<i>Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA) (National)</i>	<i>South Africa</i>	<i>\$725,000 \$7,980,000</i>	<i>Closed</i>
<i>GEF 5 – Biodiversity (2014)</i>	<i>Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Land Use Regulation and Management at the Municipal Scale</i>	<i>South Africa</i>	<i>\$8,177,730 \$50,653,616</i>	<i>Active</i>

Refer to section 3.5 of the project document for a detailed description of the baseline actions and projects.

A significant body of national and regional actions and projects have been and are currently being conducted. A summary of current and past actions and projects is given below.

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KLK Co-operation	Market access - Periodic Auctions - Market Access Facilities	Northern Cape- Rietfontein, Noenieput Philandersbron, Loubos		Ongoing
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RESILIM-O -AWARD	Improved transboundary governance and management	Regional- Olifants catchment-Limpopo	\$10.7 mil	2014-2019

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Refer to section 3.5 of the project document for a detailed description of the baseline actions and projects.

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

*The principle goal of the project is to assist South Africa to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) by 2030, by establishing enabling conditions for scaling up good SLM practices. **The project objective:** is to scale-up and mainstream sustainable land management for large-scale impact in the grazing lands of target sites in Limpopo and Northern Cape of South Africa. The project will be implemented through 4 components:*

Component 1: Informed decision making and action for SLM

The component will generate information required for shaping decisions on priority community-based rangeland restoration actions on the ground. This component will provide appropriate tools, guidelines and skills required to enhance landscape planning and SLM action by land-users and advisors.

Component 1, through implementation at target sites in Limpopo and Northern Cape, aims to develop a platform by which the scale up of improved information management and knowledge and capacity development, as it pertains to SLM, can be implemented at a larger scale.

Outcome 1.1: Decisions on sustainable land management, landscape restoration and adaptive planning for drought resilience are informed by improved, dryland adapted assessment data at local and national level.

The management of information will be approached through the establishment of a central Knowledge Management Platform of which will be accessible by a range of beneficiaries of which will provide scale specific benefits and indicators. At the communal level, land users and communal management structures will extract data necessary for effective management of rangelands and community grazing organisations. At a regional, provincial and national level, information outlining trajectories on objectives and goals will be provided which will allow for effective adaptive management, improved response mechanisms and sustainability reporting.

The Knowledge Management Platform will be maintained through the establishment of a participatory monitoring mechanism which will provide inputs of data at a communal level. The monitoring mechanism will ensure key indicators are included that will allow for access and therefore benefits at multiple scales. Effective SLM requires that the range of economic, social and environmental parameters be met and therefore equality and gender sensitive indicators will be included in this mechanism. Indicators will be evaluated at a national level against national strategies and goals to assess progress.

Regionally specific training modules will be developed in response to skills audits that will focus on rangeland specific requirements and approaches to SLM. Firstly, interested community members and stakeholders (land users, extension services, local government) will be trained in developed training modules. Secondly, provision will be made to train interested stakeholders (Land users, extension services, local government) to be communal facilitators that will operate a supporting function to regional land users. The facilitator training will act as an opportunity for empowerment through supporting ongoing improved SLM.

The successful implementation of the component as well as long term sustainability rests largely on the ongoing participation of communal level stakeholders. As a result, the approach intervention design and implementation on the following principles:

- Support the development of trust between and within land users and intermediaries;*
- Identify willing participants who have an appetite for SLM to maximise probability of success and ensure adoption of SLM best practices at scale*
- Support and strengthen the role of intermediaries towards ensuring their role is effective towards implementing long-term community self-management on a sustainable basis*
- Preference be made on leveraging off existing and previously completed initiatives and design to ensure continuity and maximise trust with the community*

- *Identify and work towards overcoming hurdles or barriers preventing land users from utilising land in a sustainable way*
- *Focus be made on ensuring sustainability of interventions in the long-term ensuring continuation after project closure*

This outcome will be achieved through three outputs:

1. *Output 1.1.1: Relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 15.3) indicators and SLM good practices are validated and monitored*
2. *Output 1.1.2: Tools, guideline and training materials developed;*
3. *Output 1.1.3: Diverse stakeholders have capacity to implement sustainable land management and landscape management;*

Component 2: Governance and institutions

Component 2 aims to improve the functionality, coordination, effectiveness and transparency of regional SLM approaches and align objectives of government, communal governance structures and land users through the development of a variety of formalised mechanisms.

The Component will establish mechanisms for landscape level planning and prioritization of actions, including identification of institutional capacity for sustainable land management and LDN targets and investment priorities. This component will contribute in addressing the barriers of weak capabilities and inadequate governance institutions. Strengthened skills of women on SLM management will be necessary to improve their roles as users and managers of land.

Component 2 supports participatory planning and decision-making and will generate resource use agreements to use as the basis for strengthening land rights and more transparent and cooperative governance. Community action is central to Component 1 and the project will strengthen the organizational capacity of community institutions to coordinate governance of natural resources more effectively. Local-level actions on SLM will be supported under Component 2 in order to strengthen the motivation and oversight role of community governance structures.

Outcome 2.1: Government and customary land management institutions are strengthened to equitably coordinate natural resource management and improve response to recurrent drought emergencies.

The alignment, clarification and cooperation of approaches and objectives between and within governance structures and communities will be facilitated through the participative development of three mechanisms.

The first mechanism is a Participatory Rangeland Management Plan (PRMP). The PRMP will operate as a landscape scale land management action plan. The PRMP will be developed through the direct participation of the land user, of whom belongs to a land users organisation that share a common constitution towards improved SLM. The project will then provide stakeholders with support to implement SLM through developed PRMP's in target regions.

The second mechanism is a Rangeland or Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (R/BSA) which operates to formalise the intentions of land users to implement SLM on rangelands. The R/BSA will operate as a framework, including code of conduct, conditions and incentives, from where regulation of land use on commonage or communal land may be implemented.

The third mechanism is a Sustainable Land Management Plan (SLMP). The SLMP, will operate as a regional mechanism for prioritising rangeland action as well as align the regional SLM objectives between governance structures. The SLMP will provide the basis from where protocols for intersectoral cooperation will be strengthened and government SLM capacity will be expanded.

The successful implementation of the component as well as long term sustainability rests largely on the trust, and therefore collaboration, between communal members, governance structures and government institutions. Focus must therefore be made to develop and maximise respect by communities and land users of landscape management mechanisms and implementing authorities. This requires extensive participation of

communities and associated land users. Respect is defined here as land users approving landscape management mechanisms as a result of demonstrated impacts and potential achievements and process of development (participative and inclusive).

This outcome will be achieved through six outputs:

- 1. Output 2.1.1: Mechanism for landscape planning and prioritisation of actions established;*
- 2. Output 2.1.2: LDN targets and investment priorities are validated;*
- 3. Output 2.1.3: Land users' resource rights are strengthened in target areas through application of appropriate governance mechanisms;*
- 4. Output 2.1.4: Organisational and governance capacity of community groups is strengthened;*
- 5. Output 2.1.5: Provincial landscape management mechanisms are strengthened for informed and consultative planning of land and water resources.*
- 6. Output 2.1.6: Priority community-based rangeland restoration actions (from component 2) supported.*

Component 3: Markets and finance for scale up

Component 3 will deliver inclusive and sustainable financial investments required to address barriers related to low investments in rangelands and low access to markets in drylands regions.

This will contribute to climate change resilient livelihoods for vulnerable groups, including women and men, by mapping value chains of key products (including the potential players and potential off takers at different stages of the value chain) and channelling investment into priority value chains that have been validated and prioritized by local communities through Components 1 and 2. The project will use inclusive and innovative financing mechanisms aimed at building climate resilience and sustaining farmers' livelihoods.

Outcome 3.1: Financial support to scale up validated SLM practices and market links for priority value chains created

Component 3 aims to provide markets and finance for scale up through a three-part approach.

Part one will be to validate a suite of integrated innovative finance solutions towards establishment into the two landscapes.

Part two will be to make investments into validated priority value chains through targeted investment and establishment of mechanism that incentivises ongoing SLM through market access and unlocking opportunities towards developing financial capacity and partnerships.

Part three will be to provide opportunities for microfinance through small grants programmes and financial capacity training and business case development towards submitting investment proposals to established financial institutions.

The activities will ensure that investment opportunities are guided by principles of inclusivity and sustainability to ensure women have equal access to investment and market opportunities. It is vital that interventions build on existing mechanisms to ensure maximisation of co-financing opportunities and land user "self-co-financing" and move away from dependencies on government.

This outcome will be achieved through four outputs:

- 1. Output 3.1.1: Innovative financial mechanisms are developed for restoration and SLM, including community SLM funds, microfinance, and land restoration trust funds;*
- 2. Output 3.1.2: Investments are made in community validated priority value chains;*

3. *Output 3.1.3: Investment partnerships are developed between small and medium sized enterprises, national finance institutions, and local land users;*
4. *Output 3.1.4: Investment proposals and business plans are developed for scale up of innovative finance in SLM.*

Component 4: Learning and policy dialogue

Component 4 focuses on learning and policy discourses for scale-up and long-term sustainability.

The component aims to inform SLM related national policies and processes based on the results and best practices from the implementation of the project actions under the first, second and third components. Component 4 supports dialogue with key stakeholder groups at national and local levels to develop consensus over good practices and policies. The component will also document and communicate lessons on investment opportunities and will use these lessons to convene investor groups in dialogue towards investment in sustainable land management and supply chains. Component 4 will include project monitoring and evaluation to ensure effective, adaptive management.

Outcome 4.1: Sustainable land management is mainstreamed at the local, national and regional level.

Activities under this outcome will strengthen governance foundation to provide long-term support for SLM programming. Improved governance will be informed by the results of on-going and completed on-the-ground project interventions. The project will facilitate the sharing of SLM approaches and investments conducted in component 1, 2 and 3 at a national level. The outputs will support the development of an integrated SLM policy brief that supports the integration of existing SLM policies as well as inform additional policies. Lessons learnt through this project will be captured, evaluated and shared through formal knowledge dissemination platforms at a national and international level.

This outcome will be achieved through four outputs:

1. *Output 4.1.1: Policies and practices that support LDN attainment are validated at the national level;*
2. *Output 4.1.2: Policy recommendations are developed through discourse and outreach at different levels;*
3. *Output 4.1.3: Project lessons are captured, evaluated and shared;*
4. *Output 4.1.4: Multi-stakeholder learning forums held at provincial and national levels.*

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

The project aligns with the overall goals of the GEF7 Land Degradation (LD) Focal Area by promoting progress towards Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the implementation of the UNCCD 2018-2030 strategy. The project contributes to the achievement of the SDG target 15.3. Target 15.3 reads as "By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods and strive to achieve a land degradation neutral world." The project addresses all four of the focal area investments:

1. *Integrated land management and restoration of degraded production landscapes;*
2. *Sustainable management of dryland landscapes;*
3. *Diversification of crop and livestock systems; and*
4. *Creating and enabling environment to support LDN target implementation.*

In line with the LD Focal Area, the project will support improved assessment of land degradation, establishment of the landscape approach for integrated ecosystem management and scaling up of innovative approaches. The project will build on South Africa's LDN target setting work and use LDN indicators to guide progress. Strengthening access to finance and technical assistance for farmers and small, micro and medium-sized enterprises

(SMMEs) to promote innovative agriculture and improved livestock production systems will be supported. The project potentially contributes to both LDN objectives:

- 1. Objective 1: Support on the ground implementation of SLM to achieve LDN. The project will strengthen governance and mobilise finance to support scaling-up of validated good SLM practices in communal lands.*
- 2. Objective 2: Creating an enabling environment to support voluntary LDN target implementation. The project will strengthen local government institutions to enable management of communal lands and will develop knowledge and build capacities for informed planning and action on the ground.*

The project forms part of IUCN's Global Drylands Initiative (GDI). The main goal of the GDI is to restore, sustainably manage and protect dryland ecosystems for multiple environmental, economic and social benefits. The GDI is aligned with Goal 2 of the overall Ecosystems Management Programme: Adapting ecosystem management for threatened and neglected ecosystems. The GDI has three strategic priority areas:

- 3. Result Area 1: Evidence-based targeting of dryland restoration and sustainable management.*
- 4. Result Area 2: Improved governance for sustainable land management.*
- 5. Result Area 3: Scaling up dryland restoration through policy and investment.*

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

South Africa has a number of strong SLM initiatives with considerable experience, capacity and good experiences that can be made available to communal lands and other marginal areas. Good practices in SLM have been successfully tested, but they have not been sufficiently adapted to the unique conditions of communal lands. Often, the adoption of these SLM practices on communal lands is hampered by tenure security, local governance and capacity among land managers. When localised initiatives have been successful in strengthening community level planning and coordination, they remain scattered and are unable to be scaled up.

While good SLM practices and governance are key to success, a key component often missing is the lack of access to finance. Generally, farmers in the project areas have depressed agricultural productivity, limited access to markets and agricultural finance. Innovative finance mechanisms are available in South Africa, but the current conditions in communal lands do not present an attractive investment proposal. Access to finance are important for the scaling up of SLM, strengthening of value chains and improving incomes from sustainable natural resource management. In addition, access to financial services can be an important incentive for the mobilisation of communities to strengthen local governance institutions that can act as an intermediary for accessing financial services to strengthen prioritised value chains.

Without the GEF investment land degradation processes will continue to affect the communal lands an land degradation trends will continue due to the following challenges: 1) weak community governance and tenure, 2) poor institutional coordination, 3) low capacities, resources and awareness for SLM, 4) weak penetration of financial services, 5) inadequate policies, 6) under-developed value chains for multiple ecosystem services and 6) insufficient data and access to data. Under these conditions, South Africa is unlikely to reverse land degradation and will most likely not meet its LDN targets. The country will continue to see land degradation which will contribute to food and water insecurity, biodiversity loss, loss of ecosystem functionality and subsequent loss of ecosystem services, and exposure to climate change vulnerability through the release of greenhouse gases. The combination of these factors will impact negatively on rural livelihoods and economic development of the target areas as well as wider societal and environmental global benefits.

In order to move from the baseline scenario to the proposed alternative scenario, the project will need to overcome the main barriers: lack of data, capacity gaps, access to finance, coordination and institutional weaknesses, natural resource governance failures and land tenure challenges.

With the GEF investment, SLM will be adopted and mainstreamed on communal lands, capacities and institutions will be strengthened, land managers and their supporters i.e. extension officers will have stronger capacity to implement SLM based on access training and area specific guidelines and communities will be able to implement restoration and SLM actions to localise existing good practices. A knowledge based online SLM good practice

framework will be developed to facilitate the transfer of knowledge to communities and government officials. The framework will build upon the current baseline to assist land-users to better understand the implications and options regarding SLM practices. Monitoring efforts will assist stakeholders to better understand the positive and negative effects of specific land use decisions.

Strengthening governance mechanisms at different levels is key to the success of the project. At municipal and provincial level, mechanisms will be established and strengthened for landscape planning, embedding participatory approaches into planning to improve the prioritisation of actions. This will be achieved in part by the development of an Sustainable Land Management Plan (SLMP) developed at a local level. At a community level, the capacity for natural resource governance will be built through organisational support to land management groups and through the application of appropriate governance tools such as community resource agreements. At either a traditional authority (in Limpopo) or commonage scale (in the Northern Cape), Participatory Rangeland Management Plan (PRMP) will be developed to improve capacity and declare objectives, of land management groups.

The GEF incremental investment will allow for the development of innovative financing options such as incentive based sustainable management of rangelands and community SLM funds. These mechanisms will stimulate and diversify livelihood options in the communal lands. Emphasis will be placed on the development of local livestock value chains and investment of SMMEs. Furthermore, secondary goods and environmental services such as medicinal plants and protection of water cycles will be incentivised to diversify rural income streams. The development of sustainable business plans will lead to increased partnerships and investment between the private sector and communal enterprises. Component 3 of the project will focus on linking farmers to markets through development of prioritised value chains (based primarily on livestock) to increase opportunities for livelihood adaptations in drylands. The project will forge a platform from where SLM can be scaled up to a local and regional level. Component 1 and 2 will provide an enabling environment and Component 3 will facilitate the operation of incentive pathways that provide opportunity for investments and ongoing implementation long after project closure.

The results of the innovative funding at the target sites will be shared with other regional initiatives through the GEF incremental funding. Existing financing programmes and activities such as the Sub-Regional Action Programme to Combat Desertification in Southern Africa (SRAP) will benefit from the innovative financing mechanisms developed in this project.

As noted in the baseline discussion, South Africa does have a strong policy framework for the promotion of SLM practices, but these don't adequately enable equitable outcomes. The GEF incremental investment will address this gap through mainstreaming SLM at a regional level based on validated national policies and practices. This will support the attainment of LDN targets. The GEF funding will promote scaling up of good practices in SLM and effective management of dryland ecosystems at the suitable geographic scale.

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

The project will contribute to restoring land and ecosystem functionality, rehabilitating hydrological cycles, generating benefits to local livelihoods and strengthening community resilience to droughts. 130 000 ha of degraded landscapes will be targeted with improved governance and other enabling conditions for restoration which will have a significant impact on the wider ecosystem. Interventions will include community rangelands management, natural and assisted regeneration of pasture as well as the control of alien invasive and bush encroachment species. The introduction of agroecology approaches such as conservation agriculture, appropriate water harvesting and water saving techniques will also be promoted. The outcomes will lead to improved land productivity from increased soil organic carbon (SOC) and soil moisture resulting in increased agricultural production and sustainable conditions for stocking rates of livestock. Improved SOC will contribute to climate change adaptation and an increase in soil moisture will increase drought resilience.

Further co-benefits of the project will include the conservation of biodiversity, improved hydrological cycles and mitigation of climate change. The restoration of 130 000 ha and improved governance of 800 000 ha of degraded land will include the restoration of components of the grassland and savanna biomes. This coupled with improved rangeland management will increase available habitat as well as improve soil biodiversity. The resultant

*improved soil and above ground biodiversity will contribute significantly to the infiltration of water thereby decreasing the amount of water lost through runoff as well as reducing sedimentation of aquatic systems. Removal of alien invasive and bush encroachment species will also have an impact on improving biodiversity and available water. However, livelihoods dependent on invasive species such as *Prosopis* spp. will need to be taken into account.*

7) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Innovativeness

The principles of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) have been extensively studied and developed towards defining key actions, interventions and approaches to achieving it. The required actions including management or rather understanding key requirements across a suite of scales, institutions and beneficiaries. including scales such as:

- 6. Site level interventions focussing on land users and land management techniques and interventions;*
- 7. Local level interventions concentrating on local management and communal representatives focussing on broader community relations and land management protocols;*
- 8. Regional level interventions focussing on resource management (both natural and financial) and institutional coordination;*
- 9. National level interventions focussing on strategic resource management and socio-economic development of the country.*

Although what is required to achieve SLM within a landscape is clear and well understood, there has been little effort to synchronise management across scales and institutions. Interventions are often isolated within a landscape or a scale and do not translate into actions within adjacent scales or institutions. Through the development of scale specific yet laterally compatible mechanisms the project aims to facilitate linkages between scales and institutions. These linkages, as described above, provide an innovative pathway for repeating, scaling-up and mainstreaming the SLM principles and progress that has been made to date across the typical barriers presented by scale and institutions.

Financial Sustainability

Financial sustainability is often a risk for a project of this scale. This is especially a risk within a country that is often faced with budgetary constraints in marginalised areas with weak economic wellbeing, such as the targeted study areas. The project aims to maximise the potential for financial sustainability through the approach to project design in numerous ways.

Firstly, the project has been designed to align with the needs and desires of government agencies. Project interventions have furthermore been designed within the lines of existing institutional processes and have, where possible, incorporated existing legislative mechanisms. The project will therefore act as a catalyst for getting the ball rolling when mainstreaming SLM across South Africa, to be absorbed by the appropriate agencies after project closure. Secondly, as identified in the risk assessment, responsible parties have been prioritised based on their long-term goals and interests in participating in project implementation. Where possible, where a RP has longer term interests to remain in the landscape supporting SLM after project, these have been proposed as key to project financial and economic sustainability. Thirdly, Component 3 focusses on establishing key financial mechanisms that are not limited by project duration, but rather will provide scalable long-term investment support/incentives/opportunities to enterprises that are driven or that benefit from improved land condition through SLM. Land users will be empowered through unlocking financial enablers to continue long term investment into land resources thus maintaining SLM in both target regions.

The project has been designed to maximise the maintenance of SLM through investment activities following project end. A fundamental contribution the project will make to this financial sustainability is the establishment of the following:

- 10. Financial mechanisms that drive continued investment into SLM, including those potentially provided by project partners such as Wilderness Foundation (Innovative SLM Finance Mechanism).*
- 11. Investments made into validated priority value chains through targeted investment and establishment of mechanism that incentivize ongoing SLM through market access (Meat Naturally) and unlocking opportunities towards developing financial capacity and partnerships (Potential local partners including KLK, Commercial Farmers Unions and Afrivet).*

12. *Provide opportunities for microfinance through small-grants programs (Potential partners including EWT, CSA, MeatNaturally) and financial capacity training and business case development towards submitting investment proposals to established financial institutions (Such as NERPO and LandBank).*

The approach is specifically designed to remain scalable ensuring efforts to mainstream the mechanisms to larger regional landscapes are realised.

Institutional sustainability

Strengthening and supporting the ability of governance systems to sustainably support the long-term mainstreaming of SLM in South Africa is a priority of the project. Likewise, the project provides communities with scalable management and financial mechanisms, training and tools required for sustainable continuity after project closure.

Through designed interventions, the project will positively affect institutions on the national, provincial and local levels. Institutions will be provided assistance to build their capacities regarding policy, planning, and financial approaches towards SLM. This is one of the fundamental aspects of the project's design. By project close, best practices will be fully integrated within relevant agencies. Furthermore, targeted capacity building will strengthen national, provincial and municipal policy frameworks to alleviate current institutional inconsistencies and gaps.

Direct capacity building of communities, extension services and various support structures will take place through training programmes during project implementation and carried forward post-project by strengthened institutions. Indirect capacity building will result from the implementation of various project activities. Project efforts focus largely upon providing institutions with the tools required for long-term integrity and coordinated efforts.

Replication

The replicability of this project is vitally important when mainstreaming the outcomes of such a project. The components have been designed to allow for scaling up and use across a variety of landscapes and communities in line with SLM principles. Through the four components of this project a clear flow of activities is laid out which can be used to guide future interventions.

Component one and two will lay the groundwork for developing models towards improving SLM in the regions. These models have been designed to ensure compatibility with typical institutions at local, regional and national levels. The focus is on compatibility in a South African context however the principles are replicable and scalable across SADC. The models specifically focus on building capacity (across sectors) and the creation of structures and mechanisms which aid in the gathering and sharing of information and facilitating a SLM governance framework that is conducive to SLM replication and scale-up. Component three will establish a suite of financial mechanisms that ensure the ongoing maintenance of outcomes, and by design, is scalable and therefore replicable throughout the greater region. Component three will achieve this through developing the following:

13. *An innovative finance mechanism (Wilderness Foundation) focusing on grazing lands that facilitates investment flow into improved SLM. This may initially be specific to Northern Cape and Limpopo, however efforts will be made to ensure the mechanism can be applied to larger contexts;*
14. *An incentive-based market access mechanism (Meat Naturally) that has been tested and proved to operate across a variety of landscapes across SADC;*
15. *An SLM specific small-grants mechanism;*
16. *Working partnership models between the target communities (land users, community members, commonage land users and emerging farmers) and private sector role players (Such as local co-operations, commercial farmers unions, Afrivet). Locally developed partnership models risk replicability however lessons learnt will be shared to ensure flow of knowledge into regional initiatives.*
17. *Develop financial capacity and business case development towards submitting investment proposals to established financial institutions. This will be done through local (Meat Naturally) but also national institutions (LandBank and Nerpo) to ensure the impacts remain scalable.*

Component four is specifically aimed at scaling up lessons learnt. The component shares outcomes and lessons learnt at the local scale into governance and non-government structures at provincial and national scales towards maximising impacts of the project and progress towards mainstreaming SLM.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

Two regions were identified in the PIF as key pilot areas for implementation. These include: The Fetakgomo-Thubatse Local Municipality in Limpopo and communities in Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province (Figure 1 Appendix E).

Two communities were identified in the PIF as key to project implementation. These include:

1. Mphanama Village in Limpopo (Figure 2 Appendix E); and
2. Rietfontein within Northern Cape (Figure 3 Appendix E)

Mphanama village lies on the eastern side of the greater Fetakgomo-Thubatse Local Municipality, which itself is centrally located in the south-western Sekhuhune District Municipality of Limpopo Province (Figure 2 Appendix E).

The town of Rietfontein is located on the border of South Africa and Namibia in the northern portion of the Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province (Figure 3 Appendix E). The selection of target sites (As guided by logic in the PIF) was based on land degradation, land degradation hotspots, and poverty nodes; all of which indicate vulnerability of communities and ecosystems to continued land degradation.

1c. Child Project?

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

N/A

2. Stakeholders

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

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Key stakeholders and stakeholder engagement methods are summarized in the table below. It is expected that consultations will be in the format of structured meetings (public and formal), interviews (face-to-face) correspondence (email, phone, message boards) and workshops throughout the project. Stakeholder engagement will be implemented in conjunction with the Gender Action Plan (GAP), ensuring that gender equity is maintained throughout project interactions with stakeholders. The table below provides a stakeholder mapping and the different stakeholders' roles and responsibilities in the project. A more detailed stakeholder analysis is provided in Section 3.4 of the project document.

Civil society organisations have been extensively consulted throughout the PPG phase of the project and as such are envisioned to play a significant role in project execution (Please see institutional arrangements section for additional details).

Stakeholder (S H) / Role-player	Potential influence of the SH on the project	How to engage in project
Government Agencies (National, Regional, Local)		
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	<p>DFFE is the lead Government Executing agency for the GEF Project (Chair of Project Steering Committee) and a key participant in, and beneficiary of, project outcomes and outputs.</p> <p>DFFE will play a key role in the facilitation and implementation of the project. Influence will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inputs from GEF Focal Point - Development and implementation of environmental policy and legislation - National LDN Targets - Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) - Socio-economic drivers and facilitation - Job creation through government initiatives - Environmental Protection and Infrastructure Programme (Working for programmes) 	DFFE is the principal national agency and contact point for the project and will be engaged periodically during steering committee meetings and receive feedback during review periods
Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)	<p>DALRRD is the partner Government Executing agency (Member of the Project Steering Committee).</p> <p>DALRRD will play a key role in the facilitation and implementation of the project. Influence will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LandCare Program Expertise (WaterCare, VeldCare, SoilCare) - Extension services for CBNRM - Networking Partnerships - Area-Wide Planning (AWP) - Explore various SoilCare projects in Northern Cape - Land Reform Programmes 	DALRRD is the partner national agency and contact point for the project and will be engaged periodically during steering committee meetings and receive feedback during review periods
Greater Tshwane Local Municipality and Makhuduthamaga LM	<p>As the local level governance structure in the target sites, the municipalities will provide a valuable enabling partner in terms of implementation, regulation, monitoring and reporting of activities at a site level. The municipality is additionally a key participant in, and beneficiary of, project outcomes and outputs. The municipality will play a role in Component 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the project. Key participants in the project and they will be recipients of the capacity building and institutional strengthening activities under Component 2.</p>	<p>Municipalities will be invited to contribute at all project technical meetings</p> <p>Municipalities will receive capacity building and institutional strengthening activities in component 2.</p>
Dawid Kruiper LM		
Northern Cape Department of Agriculture and Land Reform (NC DALR)	<p>As the provincial level governance structure in the target sites the departments will play a key role in providing support to facilitation and implementation of the project. As a key participant in, and beneficiary of, project outcomes and outputs, these provincial departments will be fundamental in its success at the chosen target sites. Would play a</p>	<p>As the provincial level governance structures the provincial departments will be engaged at various points of the project including: Technic</p>
Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC)		

Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (LDARD)	role in Component 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the project. Key participants in the project and they will be recipients of the capacity building and institutional strengthening activities under Component 2.	al meetings, capacity building and institutional strengthening
Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET)		
Greater Tzaneen/ Fetakgomo LM and Makhuduthamaga LM	As the local level governance structure in the target sites, the municipalities will provide a valuable enabling partner in terms of implementation, regulation, monitoring and reporting of activities at a site level. The municipality is additionally a key participant in, and beneficiary of, project outcomes and outputs. The municipality will play a role in Component 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the project. Key participants in the project and they will be recipients of the capacity building and institutional strengthening activities under Component 2.	As the local level governance structure municipalities will be engaged at various points of the project including: Technical meetings, capacity building and institutional strengthening
Dawid Kruiper LM		
Research Institutions		
Council for scientific and industrial Research (CSIR)	The CSIR can provide research outputs into SLM mainstreaming in the country and can be consulted for additional resources, data and inputs. The Council has experience in similar landscapes and projects (GEF5) and therefore would provide a valuable partner. The CSIR could play a role in Component 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the project.	During the project inception period, the IUCN, DFFE and DALRRD will coordinate with relevant civil societies to identify and allocate project activities and modalities for project developmental approaches. Research institutions will be engaged where their expertise is required in the implementation of activities. This is likely to occur for any research requirements, data collection or monitoring.
University of North West (UNW)	Universities would be consulted for additional resources, data and inputs. These universities have footprints within the local target landscapes and therefore will provide key operational advantages. The universities could be included to play roles in all components of the project.	
Sol Plaatje University		
University of Limpopo		
Private and Civil Society Organisations		
Conservation South Africa (CSA)	Project components share objectives with the work done by CSA and therefore the project may have opportunities to leverage off services and offerings through partnerships and cooperative approaches. Similarly, CSA have relevant regional and appropriate technical experience at study sites and therefore provide continuity. CSA furthermore provides matched funding mechanisms which would improve financial feasibility of project activities. CSA could play a key role in the implementation of Components 1, 2 and 3.	
Meat Naturally (MN)	MN have through implementation at various sites throughout SA, designed a model for incentivizing SLM in grazing lands. MN are eager for implementers to utilise the existing model to scale up SLM at grazing lands throughout SA. The incentive model represents a valuable asset to the project making MN key potential partners in the project. MN would specifically play a role in Component 3 of the project.	
Land and Agricultural Development Bank	Land Bank provides opportunities to streamline finance and development of required i	

Natural Development Bank of South Africa (Land Bank)	Land Bank provides opportunities to streamline finance and development of required infrastructure to achieve SLM and LDN goals. Land Bank would play a key role in Component 3 of the project.	During the project inception period, the IUCN (as the implementing and executing agency) will coordinate with relevant civil societies to identify and allocate project activities and modalities for project developmental approaches. This will consider the relevant expertise, financial requirements, operational footprint and potential co-benefits prior to allocation.
National Emergent Red Meat Producers Organisation (NERPO)	NERPO promotes access to markets and financial upscaling which will directly support component 3 both in technical and institutional support. NERPO would play a role in Component 3 of the project.	
Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	EWT has proven capacity to support community-based natural resource management work within the target landscapes and therefore provide a significant resource for project implementation. EWT have relevant regional and appropriate technical experience at study sites and therefore provide continuity. The organisational objectives similarly align with project objectives therefore offering long term sustainability of outcomes. EWT would play a role in Component 1, 2 and 3 of the project.	
Wilderness Foundation	Financial Innovation within Wilderness Foundation Africa aims at developing and implementing new and innovative financial solutions for sustainable landscapes in South Africa. This links directly with the objectives of component 3 and provides a valuable potential partner.	
Association for Water and Rural Development (AWARD)	AWARD have relevant regional and appropriate technical experience at the Limpopo site and therefore provides some continuity. The organisational objectives similarly align with project objectives therefore offering potential long-term sustainability of outcomes. AWARD would likely add value as partners in Components 1, 2 and 3 of the project.	
KLK- Cooperation	The direct, and crucial, linkage that KLK has with land users in the NC region is invaluable to project success. KLK represents a key, landscape level partner that will strengthen initiatives implemented on the ground. Can play a role in Component 1 and 3 of the project.	Parties responsible for key activities within components will coordinate on a periodic basis with the private sector, where appropriate, for strengthening sustainability of project outcomes. This will likely take the form of direct correspondence or structured workshops and forums.
Afrivet	Afrivet provides training services focussing on developing the small-scale and communal livestock sector. In addition to this, Afrivet provide products, professional knowledge solutions, support services which can be provided through direct collaboration with the project initiatives. Can play a role in Component 1 and 3 of the project.	
Commercial Farmers Union- Noenieput and Askam	As the current and established players in the markets, the commercial farmers unions would provide opportunities for the development of informal markets through partnerships, business development incubators, capacity building and mentoring programmes. Their participation would be most valuable in component 3.	
Other Development Programs		
UNDP	The UNDP are currently implementing a very similar GEF 5 project: Securing multiple ecosystems benefit through SLM in the productive but degraded landscapes of South Africa. The project objectives run in parallel to the current project and therefore key insights can be gained through opening lines of communication. UNDP could play a valuable role in all components of the project.	The PMU and Responsible Parties will coordinate at regular intervals with other development programs underway in the regions.
Local communities, community institutions, indigenous people and vulnerable groups		
Local communities, community institutions, indigenous people and vulnerable groups		

<p>institutions, indigenous people and vulnerable groups</p> <p>Key stakeholder groups include:</p> <p>Community representatives; elders; vulnerable groups; farmers; local business; women</p>	<p>Men, women and youth in targeted local communities, community institutions, indigenous people and vulnerable groups will be consulted during project development and actively engaged during project implementation particularly during the rangeland assessment and community environmental action planning.</p> <p>These groups therefore have a large influence on the direction and specific outcomes of the project. Local communities will be recipients of benefits realised through components 1, 2, 3 and 4.</p>	<p>As the local communities are influenced by activities and outcomes of the project, the project will respect the need for open, fair and transparent participation of Interested and Affected Parties (IAP's).</p> <p>All communities involved in the project will be engaged either through correspondence or community meetings to discuss their inputs, risks, comments and grievances and to share project interventions, risks and progress.</p> <p>The project will engage communities through a stakeholder engagement plan (as per IUCN E SMS Standards) for stakeholder engagement during implementation phase. The plan will include a grievance redress mechanisms and ensuring access to information and full disclosure to IAP's.</p>
<p>Nchabaleng Traditional Authority (NTA) and community land users in the Limpopo target site</p>	<p>The NTA represents a large proportion of the community land users in the region and therefore participation is key to the success of the project</p>	
<p>Land Users on Commonage land and emergent farmers unions in the Northern Cape</p>	<p>The buy in and willingness to participate in the project will directly influence the success of outcomes.</p>	

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain)

Civil Society consultations and involvement in project implementation is critical to the success of this project. Civil society has been consulted extensively during project preparation and will be involved in decision making during implementation through a participatory and inclusive process.

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

The project includes gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps and promote gender equality and women's empowerment

The project is expected to contribute to gender equality in the following results areas:

1. Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;
2. Improving women's participation and decision making; and or
3. Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

The project logical framework includes gender-sensitive indicators.

South Africa continues to make significant efforts to address gender mainstreaming and ensure that women are included in key decision-making processes. South Africa's National Gender Policy Framework established a national goal, proposed central objectives, defined key indicators for attaining the goal and objectives, and identified expectations of key national structures that are mandated to implement the framework. While the National Gender Policy Framework was not prescriptive, it did set standards and norms for a national gender programme.

The ideals of a democratic society are to ensure a state of "being equal" for all groups within that society. This includes attaining different kinds of equality, like racial equality, gender equality, or equality of opportunity between rich and poor, etc. The communities researched within this study – Rietfontein (Northern Cape) and Mphanama (Limpopo) consist of marginalised groups, where inequality is evident. Marginalised communities in the study are defined in the context of sustainable land management, where groups within the study area are often relegated to the fringes due to lack of access to rights, resources, and opportunities on the land. Members of these communities typically at risk of marginalisation traditionally have limited equality to common resources and indicators of wellbeing include women and youth, the elderly, unemployed and uneducated members. However, the research indicates that women are the most vulnerable in all these areas.

For this reason, the emphasis of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) is on women in line with a range of indicators such as education and employment. The focus of this study is the identification of a range of desired gender-responsive results, integral to land management in Rietfontein in the Northern Cape and Mphanama village in Limpopo, which focus appropriate attention on women's rights, women's empowerment, and gender equality.

Actions	Potential Indicators
<p>Component 1: Informed decision making and action for SLM</p> <p>This component address inclusivity in all decisions to be taken during the implementation of this study, to ensure sustainable land management, land restoration and adaptive planning for drought resilience.</p> <p>The following gender related risks under Component 1 have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representation of women in the process of participating and stakeholder engagement and gender sensitivity should be taken into consideration Women roles in the society should be considered such as child minding services; The venue and time of meetings should consider women safety Women must be exposed to the tools and guidelines and materials by means of having training manuals user friendly and translated in their native language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of women involved in overall land management activities # of women represented in stakeholder meetings and represented as beneficiaries of the community action plan Reporting of the venue and time for all meetings Reporting of women that need child minding services and evidence on how these services were provided M&E feedback with regard user friendliness of training manuals
<p>Component 2: Governance and Institutions</p> <p>This component address government and customary land institution must be inclusive by ensuring women have equal opportunity to benefits of the strategies.</p> <p>The following gender related risks under Component 2 have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representation of women in government and customary institution such as community environment action plan; and establishment of cross sectional coordination mechanisms Women champions to be appointed in each government structure Women land user's resource rights strengthened in target areas through application of appropriate governance mechanism Any LDN targets and investment priorities must be inclusive of women beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of women represented in and actively participated in any Rangeland/ Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement and decision making meetings # of women in structures, with formal roles & responsibilities # of women stakeholders benefitting from LDN targets & investments
<p>Component 3: Markets and Finance for Scale-up</p> <p>The intent is to deliver inclusive and sustainable financial investments required to address barriers related to low investments in rangelands and low access to markets in drylands regions. This will contribute to climate change resilient livelihoods for vulnerable groups, including women and men, by mapping value chains of key products (including the potential players and potential off takers at different stages of the value chain) and channelling investment into priority value chains that have been validated and prioritized by local communities through Components 1 and 2. In s</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of funding spent on women (Preferential spending) % of women farming enterprises identified vs all enterprises 4. % of women trained for business initiatives

<p>summary, the project will use inclusive and innovative financing mechanisms aimed at building climate resilience and sustaining farmers' livelihoods.</p> <p>The following gender related risks under component 3 have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Women must be beneficiaries of any funding mechanisms established · Funding mechanisms must include activities that women are typically interested in to support their sustainable farming enterprise. · Women beneficiaries must be considered in any funding partnerships · Women beneficiaries must be included in investment proposals and business plans 	<p>atives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · % of women initiatives included in investment proposals and business plans
<p>Component 4: Learning and Policy Dialogue</p> <p>This component focuses on learning and policy discourses for scale-up and long-term sustainability. In particular to inform SLM related national policies and processes based on the results and best practices from the implementation of the project actions under components 1,2 and 3. This component supports dialogue with key stakeholder groups at national and local levels to develop consensus over good practices and policies. The component will also document and communicate lessons on investment opportunities and will use these lessons to convene investor groups in dialogue towards investment in sustainable land management and supply chains. It will include project monitoring and evaluation to ensure effective, adaptive management.</p> <p>The following gender related risks under Component 4 have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Policies/guidelines put in place must be practical, remove constraints, and include the necessary conditions to ensure gender equality and compliance. · Policy recommendations include necessary conditions to ensure gender equality · There must be a M&E component to oversee compliance. · Any policy or practice developed must include principles of gender equality · Lessons learned, captured, and evaluated must include improvements identified for women in those communities · Women are represented and actively participate in learning forums identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 100% of all policies/ guidelines developed must include principles of gender equality · M&E evidence of necessary conditions put in place to implement recommendations · M&E evidence of improvements for women 5. · Indicators used in component 1 – would also be applicable here

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

Yes

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

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

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

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

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

Private sector stakeholders were identified to provide key potential partnerships in the project. This is due to their established footprint within the landscape. The project was discussed with the following private sector stakeholders of which were interested and eager to be involved during project implementation:

- Afrivet
- KLK Co-operation
- Commercial Farmers Unions (Noenieput and Askam)

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

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

Project risks have been identified throughout the course of the project design process. The table below includes risks that are related to the key assumptions that could impact on successful implementation of project activities, together with approaches to mitigation to be applied (Scores 0-None; 1-Low; 2-Medium; 3-High).

Risk	Level	Possible Mitigation Measure
<p>ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Current management structures lack mechanism for adaptive management. As project level insights are gained there will likely be a requirement to adapt project activities. A lack of flexibility of prescribed activities (presented in ProDoc) to adaptive management will result in inappropriate or diluted impacts to objectives.</p> <p>The high interdependence of components introduces risks through miscommunication between RP's or component owners. A single party may alter their approach due to communal level limitations, but this may influence the compatibility of combined outputs.</p> <p>The lack of implementer presence within the landscape risks continual visibility to communities. Although this may result in higher costs, the presence of a landscape level implementer is necessary to pull all the project components together.</p> <p>Continuity of project staff and key champion(s) of LDN cannot be fully guaranteed</p>	Med	<p>When describing activities, ensure the approach and considerations are clear and concise in the description however the activity wording should remain open ended and not fully prescriptive. Establish adaptive management mechanism (TBD)</p> <p>Parties responsible for highly interdependent components should work closely together and have a decision structure that synchronizes organisations. The RP's will need to work closely together to ensure the realization of the combined vision. Perhaps there should exist a hierarchical management structure between RP's operating in the landscape (TBD).</p> <p>The project needs to ensure "landscape facilitator", preferably from community who understands politics and context, to operate within the landscape. Where possible, the RP should have presence within the landscape, at the very least regional offices.</p>
<p>INSTITUTIONAL</p> <p>Lack of buy in from community as to the proposed activities. Community members do not see the value of activities.</p> <p>Lack of interest of community member/s to drive ongoing SLM- This risks sustainability of the project</p> <p>Communication with communities in the correct language to promote trust and understanding is vital</p>	Med	<p>Activities are developed, as far as possible, together with the community to ensure they have ownership</p> <p>Promotion must be done at the highest levels to ensure respect of promoter by community as well as ensure buy in from governance structures</p> <p>Community champions must be identified from an early stage and protocols should be put in place to ensure ongoing identification of appropriate champions</p> <p>Ensure all communication with communities is done in their native tongue (where reasonable)</p>
<p>CONTINUITY</p> <p>Introducing an RP into a region that has not worked in the region recently or before risks both consultation fatigue and mistrust with communities but also risks duplication of previous interventions</p>		<p>Ensure RP's with regional or community experience are weighted higher than RP's that do not have regional or community experience</p>
<p>IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic poses a risk to effective implementation of the project i.e. limited movement, group m</p>	High	<p>The risk will be reassessed prior to project design finalisation</p>

meetings and consultations		
INSTITUTIONAL Dependencies on partnerships with unions and commercial farmers. Partnership opportunities may drive dependencies and even opportunities for commercial farmers taking advantage of available land (this has happened before due to no contract)	Low	Ensure that when partnerships are formalized, it be done so through a contract which stipulates terms and conditions. This will discourage non-compliance and foster trust.
FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY The costs of an external implementer working in the Rietfontein region is high. Financial and temporal resources will be lost through transportation therefore reducing resources available for interventions. The rates and costs proposed by RPs may risk the magnitude and impact of interventions.	Low	Ensure RP's that have the intention of establishing a presence within the landscape are weighted higher than RP's that do not have these intentions. Ensure RP's with more reasonable rates are weighted higher than RP's with higher rates
INSTITUTIONAL Dependencies on existing weak governance structures introduces major risks to the project.	Med	The project will establish a multi-stakeholder platform to ensure that key stakeholders and sectors can influence and benefit from project lessons through structured dialogue on mainstreaming of outcome.
INDICATORS The use of income as an indicator to the project may promote inappropriate allocation and use of income i.e. the appropriate use of income should be the indicator rather than the magnitude of income.	Low	Do not use income of enterprises for scale up as an indicator. Rather utilize indicators of reinvestment and growth i.e. assets or production
SUSTAINABILITY Once the project has been completed and the funding has stopped and key RP's pull out, there is a risk that all progress and activities towards long term SLM will cease	Med	Ensure RP's with long term interests in the landscape are weighted higher than RP's that do not have long term objectives. This will depend on the mandate of RP.
INSTITUTIONAL Communities, including the Groot Mier and Klein Mier communities, have been identified to have long standing historical grievances with one another. This reduces their willingness to work together.	Med	Ensure consultations and organization of communal groups is sensitive to these grievances. Explore mechanisms such as separate meetings or limited visibility of communal groups to attempt not to allow grievances to influence regional objectives.

6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

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

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) is the main execution partner on behalf of the Government of South Africa, in association with the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD). The IUCN will be the GEF implementing agency responsible for project oversight, supervision and the provision of technical guidance, and will furthermore assist in the execution of the project.

The project will be implemented by the IUCN who will be responsible for the efficient and effective use of project resources and the achievement of project goal, objectives and outcomes according to the approved work plan and budget. Day-to-day operational oversight will be ensured by DFFE and IUCN and will maintain the project budget, project expenditure, contracting of project personnel, experts and subcontractors, carrying out procurement and other project related activities.

Specific technical outputs will be delivered by the responsible parties in each of the two target sites. DFFE and IUCN will enter into agreements with each of the executing parties for the delivery of specific outputs. Two executing parties have been selected: Sol Plaatje University (SPU) and University of Limpopo (UL).

SPU will be responsible for the execution of the following activities in the Northern Cape landscape:

- Output 1.1.2: Tools, guideline and training materials developed;
- Output 1.1.3: Diverse stakeholders have capacity to implement sustainable land management and landscape management;
- Output 2.1.1: Mechanism for landscape planning and prioritisation of actions established;
- Output 2.1.2: LDN targets and investment priorities are validated;
- Output 2.1.3: Land users' resource rights are strengthened in target areas through application of appropriate governance mechanisms;
- Output 2.1.4: Organisational and governance capacity of community groups is strengthened;
- Output 2.1.5: Provincial landscape management mechanisms are strengthened for informed and consultative planning of land and water resources; and
- Output 2.1.6: Priority community-based rangeland restoration actions supported.

UL will be responsible for the execution of the following activities in the Limpopo landscape:

- Output 1.1.2: Tools, guideline and training materials developed;
- Output 1.1.3: Diverse stakeholders have capacity to implement sustainable land management and landscape management;
- Output 2.1.1: Mechanism for landscape planning and prioritisation of actions established;
- Output 2.1.2: LDN targets and investment priorities are validated;
- Output 2.1.3: Land users' resource rights are strengthened in target areas through application of appropriate governance mechanisms;
- Output 2.1.4: Organisational and governance capacity of community groups is strengthened;
- Output 2.1.5: Provincial landscape management mechanisms are strengthened for informed and consultative planning of land and water resources; and
- Output 2.1.6: Priority community-based rangeland restoration actions supported.

Where activities require technical skills not present within the identified executing parties, service providers will be selected via an open tender system as to provide equal opportunity to service providers.

Since the project is a full-sized project involving the coordination of substantial stakeholders across two different locations, a small Project Management Unit (PMU) will be setup to implement the project. The PMU will be composed of a Project Manager who will also be responsible for coordinating the delivery of technical outputs and supported by a Technical Administration Assistant. The Technical Administration Assistant will be further responsible for the development and monitoring of project safeguards and gender considerations. The PMU will be housed within the DFFE.

The duration of the project will be five years. The project will comprise the following management, oversight and coordination structures:

1. *The Project steering Committee (PSC)*: The PSC will have strategic decision-making non-executive powers and will be composed of representatives of the key project partners, and relevant stakeholders. IUCN, and DFFE will be responsible for formerly coordinating the appointment of the PSC members and ensure equitable representation of relevant institutions in the project decision making structures.
2. *The Project Management Unit (PMU)*: The PMU will be responsible for directing, supervising, monitoring and evaluation and coordinating project implementation and will be located within DFFE offices.

7. Consistency with National Priorities

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

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

South Africa ratified the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in September 1997 of which agreed to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought through national action programs that incorporate long-term strategies supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements. Towards this goal there are key national policies and strategies of which the project aligns with.

The National Development Plan: Vision for 2030 (NDP), aspires to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030. As the primary economic activity in rural areas, the NDP identifies agriculture as having the potential to create 1 million jobs by 2030. The NDP recommends that: i) investment in water resources and irrigation infrastructure is increased where the natural resource base allows; ii) tenure of security is created for communal farmers; iii) support for innovative public-private partnerships should be encouraged; iv) investment in research and development for the agricultural sector should be promoted; v) skills development and training in the agricultural sector, including entrepreneurship training should be promoted and extended – this should include the training of a new cadre of extension officers that will respond effectively to the needs of small-scale farmers; and vi) innovative means for agricultural extension and training by the government in partnership with industries should be sought.

The National Action Programme (NAP) for combatting desertification was adopted in 2004 and seeks to protect and restore land resources, as well as promote awareness training and mitigation strategies. Aim of the NAP is to form linkages between sustainable development and efforts to combat desertification, whilst mitigating the effects of drought. The NAP seeks to harmonise a number of programmes and plans aimed at promoting SLM in South Africa. Implementation of the NAP requires a bottom-up approach, with a focus on municipal Integrated Development Plans (IDPs), to combat desertification

The Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) reduces poverty in South Africa through the creation of sustainable rural communities. The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) is tasked with facilitating integrated development and social cohesion through partnerships with all sectors of society. The CRDP implements broad-based agrarian transformation and diversification of the rural economy. The success of this programme is dependent upon the participation of national and sub-national government and relevant stakeholders, including the local communities. Communal ownership and the effective contribution of local communities is integral to the sustainability of the CRDP.

The Agrarian Transformation Strategy is integral to the success of the CRDP. This strategy focuses on three key areas; i) sustainable land and agrarian transformation; ii) rural development; and iii) land reform based on restitution, redistribution and land tenure reform. Moreover, the strategy seeks to increase agricultural development and enhance the local economy. Thereby ensuring food security, dignity and improved rural livelihoods. The optimal and sustainable use of natural resources and appropriate technologies is also vital to the success of rural development. As is the ownership of projects and programmes through community buy-in. The project is aligned with the following key priorities of the strategy: i) improve productivity in land reform projects; ii) improve corporate governance and enhanced service delivery; and iii) implement proper change management and innovation strategies.

The LandCare programme is a government supported and community-based approach to the sustainable management and use of agricultural natural resources. The overall goal of the programme is to optimise productivity and sustainability of natural resources thereby increasing: i) productivity; ii) food security; iii) job creation; and iv) a better quality of life.

Additional relevant documents include the following:

- DALRRD's White Paper on Agriculture which lists the following agricultural policy goals: i) developing a new order of economically-viable, market-directed commercial farmers, with the family farm as the basis; ii) broadening of access to agriculture via land reform should be enhanced by adequate agricultural policy instruments and supported through the provision of appropriate services; iii) financial systems should focus on the resource-poor and beginner farmers, enabling

them to purchase land and agricultural inputs; iv) trade in and marketing of agricultural products should reflect market tendencies; v) agricultural production should be based on the sustainable use of natural agricultural and water resources; and vi) developing agriculture's important role in the regional development of southern Africa and other countries.

- The National Biodiversity Economy Strategy (NBES) sets out a framework and plan of action for the conservation and sustainable use of South Africa's biological diversity, as well as equitable benefit sharing from the use thereof. To ensure conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, the NBES focuses upon mainstreaming and integration, institutional effectiveness, co-operative governance and partnerships.

8. Knowledge Management

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

The project will through component one, the established Knowledge Management Platform, and component 2 the development of implementation plans for both communities and improved governance will capture, generate and distribute knowledge.

This knowledge is exchanged in different ways including through training of Stakeholders on the multiple benefits of improved SLM. This will occur through stakeholder dialogues, through peer to peer knowledge exchange and through organization of stakeholder discussions to present lessons and SLM practices to decision makers in government decision-makers, community leaders, civil society groups and other stakeholders.

Component 4 focusses on the direct distribution of all lessons learned, outcomes and results at a variety of levels. Under Component 4, the project will design appropriate learning and policy dialogue forum to raise awareness among stakeholders on policies and practices that foster LDN attainment, and documentation, exchange visits, policy discourse and outreach at different levels in South Africa. Other related documentation at global level, including global rangeland assessment by IUCN. Under this component, the project it will convene public fora to communicate project lessons and recommendations, with the goal of influencing national and local policy implementation in order to sustain project actions that are well aligned to LDN.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

The project will be monitored through the following M&E activities:

Inception Workshop: A project Inception Workshop will be held within the first three months of the project start date with those with assigned roles in the project organisation structure, the IUCN Country Office (CO) and other appropriate stakeholders. The participation of technical experts responsible for supporting project design will be critical to the success of the inception workshop. The Inception Workshop is crucial to building ownership for the project results and to plan the first year of the Annual Work Plan AWP).

The Inception Workshop will address the following key issues: 1) Assist all partners to fully understand and take ownership of the project; 2) Detail the roles and responsibilities of the project team; 3) Discuss the roles, functions and responsibilities with the project's decision-making structure, which includes communication lines, reporting and conflict resolution; 4) Discuss the terms of reference for project staff as needed; 5) Finalise the AWP based on the project results framework and GEF Tracking Tool; 6) Review and agree on the indicators, targets and their verification; 7) Provide a detailed overview of the M&E requirements, schedule and budget; 8) Confirm financial reporting procedures and obligations; and 9) Plan and schedule Project Steering Committee meetings. The development of an Inception Workshop Report is a key output of this process.

Project Implementation Work Plan: Following on from the Inception Workshop, the Project Management Unit (PMU) will be tasked with adapting and developing the strategic work plan. The work plan will outline the general timeframe for completion of the project outputs and achievement of outcomes. The work plan will set out the project activities from inception to completion.

Quarterly Progress Monitoring: Progress will be monitored on a quarterly basis. Based on the risk analysis developed, the risk log shall be monitored and updated. Project Outcomes, outputs, activities and indicators will be monitored. The monitoring will be in line with DFFE and IUCN processes.

Annual Monitoring: The Annual Project Review (APR) is prepared to monitor progress made since the start of the project and in particular for the previous reporting period *i.e.* 30 June to 1 July. The APR includes the following reporting requirements: 1) Progress made toward project objective and project outcomes comprising of indicators, baseline data and end of project targets; 2) Project outputs delivered per project outcome (annual); 3) Lesson learnt and good practice; 4) AWP and expenditure reports; 5) Risk and adaptive management; and 5) GEF Focal Area Tracking Targets.

Supervision Missions: The PMU, the IUCN CO and members of the PSC will conduct visits to project sites based on the agreed schedule in the Inception Report. A site visit report will be developed and circulated to the project structures.

Mid-Term Evaluation: The project will undergo an independent Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) at the midpoint of the project *i.e.* project months 34-36. The MTE will determine progress being made towards the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if required. The findings of the MTE will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project. The organisation and terms of reference (TOR) of the MTE will be decided after consultation between the parties to the project document. The independent consultant will be recruited at least six months prior to the planned commencement of the MTE. The relevant GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools will also be assessed in the MTE.

Terminal Evaluation: An independent Final Evaluation (FE) will take place three months prior to the final PSC meeting. The FE will focus on the on the delivery of the project's results as initially planned. The FE will look at the impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental benefits.

Project Terminal Report: The PMU will prepare the Project Terminal Report (PTP) during the last 3 months. The PTP is a comprehensive report which will summarise the results achieved, lessons learnt, problems met and areas where results may not have been achieved. Furthermore, the PTP will provide recommendations for further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the projects results.

Learning and Knowledge Sharing: Results from the project will be shared within and beyond the project intervention area. The project will identify, analyses and share lessons learned that may be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar projects. The project will disseminate learnings and best practice through relevant and appropriate networks and forums.

10. Benefits

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

The Project will initially deliver socio-economic benefits to South Africa at the local level through activities at the target sites however aims to deliver these benefits at regional then national level through mainstreaming initiatives that drive SLM. By developing a platform from where SLM may be scaled, the benefits realized at a local level may be facilitated and supported at a regional level. Socio-economic benefits accrued at this local level will be largely through the upgraded value chain, increased revenue and productivity of local land users and related enterprises through improved SLM of communal land. This will furthermore lead to improved employment opportunities, with increased revenues for individuals, as well as the trickle-down effect to local vendors and service providers.

The drivers of these benefits, as outlined in projet activities, include the following:

1. Training and capacity building for improved SLM on local land, enterprise development (Mentor farmers and Para-vets); financial and market navigation.
2. Improved institutional coordination (community, government and private) towards SLM;
3. Improved land use sustainability and productivity through land restoration activities and improved SLM;
4. Strengthened land tenure arrangements;
5. Improved, incentive driven, access to finance and markets;
6. Access to small-grants mechanism for enterprise scale up; and
7. Partnerships developed between commercial and informal stakeholders;

The activities at a local level will contribute to the restoration of 130 000 ha of landscapes through improved SLM at target sites.

These local drivers of socio-economic benefits will be accrued at regional and national levels through mainstreaming of SLM. This mainstreaming is enabled through establishing the following:

8. A Knowledge Management Platform to inform evidence based SLM at multiple scales;
9. A Sustainable Land Management Plan (SLMP) that informs regional SLM;
10. Participatory Rangeland Management Plans (PRMP) that inform local SLM;
11. The Rangeland/Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement that formalizes SLM intent;
12. Training and capacity building for provincial landscape management institutions;
13. Establishment of an SLM innovative finance mechanism; and
14. Improved access to SLM finance through national development banks.

The activities in their entirety will contribute to improved governance of 800 000 ha through improved capacity to implement improved SLM at a regional scale.

Implemented SLM will lead to improved land productivity from increased soil organic carbon (SOC) and soil moisture resulting in increased agricultural production and sustainable conditions for stocking rates of livestock which will support sustainable improved/maintained output potential of land. Socio-economic benefits accrued at the regional scale will therefore be linked directly to improved SLM of communal rangelands and the upgraded value chains.

Improved SLM will also indirectly link through improved environmental benefits of reduced land degradation through restoration activities. Improved SOC will contribute to climate change adaptation and an increase in soil moisture will increase drought resilience. Further co-benefits of the project will include the conservation of biodiversity, improved hydrological cycles and mitigation of climate change. Environmental benefits will be accrued through improved flow of ecosystem services which impact socio-economic wellbeing of beneficiaries from local through regional and international scales.

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

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

The project aims to mainstream Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in the communal grazing lands of Limpopo and Northern Cape province. The project will be implemented at **two target landscapes**: the Fetakgomo-Thubatse and Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality in the Limpopo Province and the Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province (NC). Within these landscapes the project will support the development of communal-level Participatory Rangeland Management Plan (PRMP), the formalisation of Rangeland/Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements and the implementation of concrete SLM interventions on key rangelands – focusing on **two intervention sites**: Rietfontein in NC and the Mphanama Village in Limpopo. These interventions should be scaled up through integration of SLM into various levels of developmental planning; this includes capacity building on SLM and the development of landscape level Sustainable Land Management Plans (SLMP). the project will further incentivise SLM by facilitating improved access to markets and finance for scale-up. This includes funding community validated priority value chains, financial capacity training and business case development towards submitting investment proposals to established financial institutions and providing opportunities for microfinance through small grants programmes.

The sites and the **actual SLM actions** will be influenced by the landscape level Sustainable Land Management Plans (SLMP) and will be decided when developing the community level implementation plans (PRMP) and the community level Rangeland/Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements. All three of these mechanisms are inclusive and participatory stakeholder processes facilitated by the project. Hence, the actual SLM actions will only be known during the project. The focus of these SLM interventions will be on supporting softer interventions such as management approaches (improved water, veld erosion management), though it is likely that hard interventions (construction and physical transformation) will be required in areas with significant degradation.

The selection of the **value chains** will be based on the outcomes of the profiling of value chains against the identified SLM and of a capacity assessment. Hence, although likely to include fodder production, meat and hide production but also non-livestock sectors, the final value chains to be supported are not known at this stage. The **small grants program** (SGP) will focus either on those livelihoods that drive improved SLM (e.g. fodder/ meat/ skins/ bone-meal/ para-veterinary services) or else benefit through the improved SLM (i.e. increased production or tourism related products to promote value chain activities and SLM practices).

Because all these interventions (SLM action, value chain activities and activities supported by the SGP) will only be defined and their planning finalized during the project, it is not possible to judge potential environmental or social adverse impacts of these interventions at this stage. These interventions are therefore referred to as sub-projects and an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is needed that will serve as guidance for ensuring that the sub-

projects – once defined - will be assessed on potential environmental and social impacts and appropriately managed, in line with the requirements of the IUCN Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) and with the GEF Safeguard policies.

Despite activities and sites of the sub-projects not having been defined, a preliminary screening has been carried out and provided the following results:

The **Standard on Involuntary Resettlement and Access Restrictions** is not triggered as the SLM interventions and potential restrictions will be decided by the resource users and rights holders themselves in their interest of securing sustainable use of the land (see details in section C1). However, the project should ensure and monitor the voluntary nature of such decisions. Second, because it is not unlikely that such restrictions might affect vulnerable groups an assessment of social risks is required in each of the two intervention sites and, if negative impacts are confirmed, mitigation measures are needed. This is addressed in B2 as risks to vulnerable groups.

The **Standard on Indigenous People** is not triggered either. The Limpopo project site does not account for the presence of ethnic groups that considered indigenous. While the Northern Cape province does comprise indigenous groups (Khomani San), their territory does not overlap with the actual SLM intervention site. And while the SLM-based landscape planning process would cover areas where the Khomani San tribes are present, it is acknowledged that the SLMP's will not be relevant for land of the Khomani San tribes as this is registered as a Community Property Association (CPA) and not commonage land. It was therefore decided that the Standard is not triggered at neither the SLM interventions nor the SLM Plans would affect the rights, livelihoods, cultural identity, values or practices of the Khomani San (see section C2 for details).

The **Standard on Cultural Heritage** is triggered (see section C3), however potential impacts are not very likely, precautionary measures should be described in the ESMF.

The **Standard on Biodiversity and Sustainable Use** is triggered as the it cannot be excluded that sub-projects might promote or require the use of herbicides or other biocides to control livestock parasites or invasive species. The ESMF to guide the Screening of sub-projects on the need to adhere with the IUCN ESMS Guidance note on Pest Management and the potential need to trigger the development of a pest management plan. Although water infrastructure provided by the project will be small scale, risk for water dynamics or water flows through extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water cannot be excluded and the ESMF will need to provide control and mitigation measures. The ESMF should further guide the selection of species for SLM interventions and ensure that no potentially invasive, non-indigenous species are used or promoted (including the common non-native plant species *Prosopis spp*) - see section C4 for details.

Other **social risks** have been identified in section B1-5 and gender risks and risks of affecting vulnerable groups are preliminarily assessed as moderate. While a gender action plan provides measures for ensuring gender-responsiveness, risk have been identified due to the prevalence of gender based violence in the project sites posing a threat to active participation in project activities and land management in general. Risks for vulnerable groups are primarily linked to changes in land use and potential livelihood impacts from use restrictions. The sub-project screening and the site-level vulnerability analysis will need to assess the likelihood and magnitude of such risks and negative impacts need to be mitigated. Community health and safety and labour and working conditions present only minor concerns. All social risks should be addressed in the ESMF with clear guidance.

Environmental risks are considered as minor (see section B6 for details), but measures for risk prevention, in particular related to value chain activities, should be included in the ESMF.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
ESMF_GEF7-SLM South Africa	CEO Endorsement ESS	
GEF7-SLM_South Africa_ ESMS_Questionnaire and Clearance	CEO Endorsement ESS	

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

OBJECTIVE/OUTCOME	OUTPUT	INDICATORS		B AS EL IN E	MID-TERM TAR GET	FINAL TARGET (s)	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION
PROJECT OBJECTIVE: TO SCALE-UP AND MAINSTREAM SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT FOR LARGE-SCALE IMPACT IN THE GRAZING LANDS OF TARGET SITES IN LIMPOPO AND NORTHERN CAPE OF SOUTH AFRICA		AREA OF LANDSCAPES UNDER RESTORATION THROUGH SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT IN PRODUCTION SYSTEMS (COMMUNITY LEVEL). LAND USERS TO BE DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER.	LIMPOPO	0	10 500 Ha	30 000 Ha	OPTION 1: PRAGA IUCN METHODOLOGY
			NORTHERN CAPE	0	42 000 Ha	100 000 Ha	OPTION 2: INDICATORS AS PER LDN FRAMEWORK - LAND PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT - SOC INCREASE - REVERSAL OR HALTING NEGATIVE LANDCOVER CHANGE
			TOTAL	0	52 500 Ha (40%)	130 000 Ha (100% PIF TARGET)	
		AREA UNDER IMPROVED GOVERNANCE OF SLM (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	LIMPOPO	0	70 000 Ha	200 000 Ha	NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNMENT FRAMEWORK (NRGF) METHODOLOGY
			NORTHERN CAPE	0	210 000 Ha	600 000 Ha	
			TOTAL	0	280 000 Ha (35%)	800 000 Ha (100% PIF TARGET)	
		NUMBER OF DIRECT BENEFICIARIES (DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER)	LIMPOPO	0	35 173	100 497	DIRECT BENEFICIARIES ARE DEFINED AS THOSE INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITHIN THE LANDSCAPE INTERVENTION AREAS AND THAT WOULD BENEFIT FROM IMPROVED SLM PRACTICES THAT RESULT IN IMPROVED ENVIRONMENTAL OR SOCIAL BENEFITS. THIS WOULD BE MEASURED BY THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN (SLMP) AND THE COMMUNITY LEVEL PRMP.
			NORTHERN CAPE	0	246 340	703 829	
			TOTAL	0	281 513	804 326 (430 584 FEMALE AND 373 742 MALE)	
			OUTPUT 1.1.2: RELEVANT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG 15.3) INDICATORS AND SLM GOOD PRACTICES ARE VALIDATED AND MONITORED	DECISIONS AT A COMMUNITY, LANDSCAPE AND NATIONAL LEVEL ARE INFORMED BY IMPROVED INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS PROVIDED BY A PRACTICAL, COMPREHENSIVE AND USER-FRIENDLY KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM (KMP) DEVELOPED AND MAINTAINED BY THE PROJECT FOR INFORMED DECISION MAKING AT DISTRICT, PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL		0	0

OUTCOME 1.1: DECISIONS ON SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, LANDSCAPE RESTORATION AND ADAPTIVE PLANNING FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE ARE INFORMED BY IMPROVED, DRYLAND ADAPTED ASSESSMENT DATA AT LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL.	D	DECISION MAKING AT DISTRICT, PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL.				
	OUTPUT 1.1.2: TOOLS, GUIDELINE AND TRAINING MATERIALS DEVELOPED;	LANDSCAPE SPECIFIC CUSTOM SLM TRAINING MODULE DEVELOPED	0	0	4	TRAINING MODULES DEVELOPED IN EACH OF THE TARGET LANDSCAPES
	OUTPUT 1.1.3: DIVERSE STAKEHOLDERS HAVE CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT AND LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT;	NUMBER OF LAND USERS, MENTOR FARMERS AND PARA-VETS TRAINED	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - REACHING AT LEAST 35% - 3 MENTOR FARMERS IN EACH OF THE TWO PROJECT LANDSCAPES - 1 COMMUNITY ANIMAL HEALTH WORKER (PARA-VETERINARIANS) IN EACH OF THE TWO PROJECT LANDSCAPES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - REACHING 100% OF ALL LAND USERS IN EACH OF THE TWO PROJECT LANDSCAPES - 10 MENTOR FARMERS IN EACH OF THE TWO PROJECT LANDSCAPES - 5 COMMUNITY ANIMAL HEALTH WORKER (PARA-VETERINARIANS) IN EACH OF THE TWO PROJECT LANDSCAPES 	NUMBERS OF LAND USERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TRAINED THROUGH PROJECT TRAINING INITIATIVES DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER.
OUTCOME 2.1: GOVERNMENT AND CUSTOMARY LAND MANAGEMENT	OUTPUT 2.1.1: MECHANISM FOR LANDSCAPE PLANNING AND PRIORITISATION OF ACTIONS ESTABLISHED;	NUMBER OF SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN'S (SLMP) DEVELOPED	0	0	2	THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN'S (SLMP) FOR EACH TARGET REGION
	OUTPUT 2.1.2: LDN TARGETS AND INVESTMENT PRIORITIES ARE VALIDATED;	PERCENTAGE LDN TARGETS AND INVESTMENT PRIORITIES REPRESENTED IN THE SLM P'S AND PRMP'S.	0	20%	80%	ACHIEVING LDN TARGETS AND INVESTMENT PRIORITIES SHOULD REPRESENT KEY AIMS OF THE SLMP AND PRMP MECHANISMS. THE PERCENTAGE TOTAL REPRESENTATION OF THE PRESENCE OF THESE TARGETS AS SPECIFIC AIMS OF THE MECHANISMS SHOULD BE ASSESSED.
	OUTPUT 2.1.3: LAND USERS' RESOURCE RIGHTS ARE STRENGTHENED IN TARGET AREAS THROUGH APPLICATION OF APPROPRIATE GOVERNANCE MECHANISMS;	PERCENTAGE OF LAND USERS' RESOURCE RIGHTS STRENGTHENED THROUGH IMPROVED OR COMPLIMENTARY MECHANISMS (I.E. CONTRACTUALLY, R/BSA AGREEMENT, LAND MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY PROCESSES OR ANOTHER IDENTIFIED PATHWAY)	0	20%	80%	THE PERCENTAGE OF LAND USERS, WITHIN PROJECT COMMUNAL SCALE, WHOSE RIGHTS TO RESOURCES HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED EITHER THROUGH CONTRACTUAL IMPROVEMENT OR FORMALISATION OF LAND MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES PROCESSES FOR RESOURCE RIGHTS ALLOCATION.
						LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INTENTION OF LAND

MENT AND CUSTOMARY LAND MANAGEMENT INSTITUTIONS ARE STRENGTHENED TO EQUITABLY COORDINATE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVE RESPONSE TO RECURRENT DROUGHT EMERGENCIES	OUTPUT 2.1.4: ORGANISATIONAL AND GOVERNANCE CAPACITY OF COMMUNITY GROUPS IS STRENGTHENED;	AREA OF LAND COMMITTED TO IMPROVED SLM BY LAND USERS UNDER R/BSA AND SUPPORTED UNDER ESTABLISHED PRMP	0	52 500 Ha	130 000 Ha	LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INTENTION OF LAND USERS FORMALIZED THROUGH GRAZING ASSOCIATIONS/ CONSERVATION COMMITTEES IN THE SITE-SPECIFIC R/BSA AND PRMP. THE PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BE DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER.
	OUTPUT 2.1.5: PROVINCIAL LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS ARE STRENGTHENED FOR INFORMED AND CONSULTATIVE PLANNING OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES.	NUMBER OF PUBLIC SECTOR PERSONNEL WITH INCREASED CAPACITY FOR SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF SLMP, SLMP IMPLEMENTATION AND SLMP SUCCESSION STRATEGY	0	10	30	NUMBER OF PUBLIC SECTOR PERSONNEL IN RELEVANT OFFICES THAT ARE TRAINED IN USE OF THE SLMP DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER. PERSONNEL MUST AT MINIMUM SIT WITHIN THE FOLLOWING STRUCTURES: - DFFE - DALRRD - LDARD - LEDET - DENC - NCDALR - SEKHUKHUNE DM - FETAKGOMO-THUBATSE LM - MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LM - DAVID KRUIPER LM
	OUTPUT 2.1.6: PRIORITY COMMUNITY-BASED RANGELAND RESTORATION ACTIONS SUPPORTED.	AREA OF LAND THAT IS UNDER IMPROVED SLM AS GUIDED BY SITE SPECIFIC PRMP	0	52 500 Ha	130 000 Ha	DATA ENTRIES IN PARTICIPATORY AND COMPLEMENTARY MONITORING MECHANISM (AS DEVELOPED IN COMPONENT 1).
OUTCOME 3.3: FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO SCALE UP VALIDATED SLM PRACTICES AND MARKET LINKS FOR PRIORITY VALUE CHAINS CREATED;	OUTPUT 3.1.1: INNOVATIVE FINANCIAL MECHANISMS ARE DEVELOPED FOR RESTORATION AND SLM, INCLUDING COMMUNITY SLM FUNDS, MICROFINANCE, AND LAND RESTORATION TRUST FUNDS;	INVESTMENTS MATERIALIZED THROUGH INNOVATIVE FINANCIAL MECHANISM (2 TO 1 RETURN ON INVESTMENT)	0	US\$245 000	US\$700 000	TOTAL INVESTMENTS MATERIALIZED THROUGH INNOVATIVE FINANCIAL MECHANISM DEVELOPED BY PROJECT DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER.
	OUTPUT 3.1.2: INVESTMENTS ARE MADE IN COMMUNITY VALIDATED PRIORITY VALUE CHAINS;	INVESTMENTS MADE INTO COMMUNITY VALIDATED PRIORITY VALUE CHAINS (4 TO 1 RETURN ON INVESTMENT)	0	US\$300 000	US\$1 200 000	TOTAL INVESTMENTS MADE INTO COMMUNITY VALIDATED PRIORITY VALUE CHAINS. RESULTS TO BE DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER.
	OUTPUT 3.1.3: INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS ARE DEVELOPED BETWEEN SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED ENTERPRISES	NUMBER OF PARTNERSHIPS DEVELOPED	0	6	20	TOTAL NUMBER OF AGGREGATION AGREEMENTS FACILITATED DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER.

	SES, NATIONAL FINANCE INSTITUTIONS, AND LOCAL LAND USERS;					
	OUTPUT 3.1.4: INVESTMENT PROPOSALS AND BUSINESS PLANS ARE DEVELOPED FOR SCALE UP OF INNOVATIVE FINANCE IN SLM.	BANKABLE PROJECTS/ BUSINESS CASES SUBMITTED TO DEVELOPMENT BANKS	0	3	10	TOTAL NUMBER OF BUSINESS CASES SUBMITTED TO DEVELOPMENT BANKS DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER.
OUTCOME 4.1: SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT IS MAINSTREAMED AT THE LOCAL, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL.	OUTPUT 4.1.1: POLICIES AND PRACTICES THAT SUPPORT LDN ATTAINMENT ARE VALIDATED AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL;	ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC FINANCE TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF SLM POLICIES AND PRACTICES	0	US \$ 250 000	US \$ 1 000 000	BUDGET ALLOCATED TO COMMUNITIES AND LANDSCAPES FOR THE MAINSTREAMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SLM RELATED PROJECTS.
	OUTPUT 4.1.2: POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ARE DEVELOPED THROUGH DISCOURSE AND OUTREACH AT DIFFERENT LEVELS;	PRESENCE OF AN INTEGRATED SLM POLICY BRIEF THAT INTEGRATES EXISTING RELEVANT SLM POLICIES AND PROJECT RECOMMENDED POLICIES	0	1	1	THE PRESENCE OF AN INTEGRATED SLM POLICY BRIEF WITH DEDICATED CHAPTER ON PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY.
	OUTPUT 4.1.3: PROJECT LESSONS ARE CAPTURED, EVALUATED AND SHARED;	NUMBER OF PROJECT SPECIFIC ANNUAL FORUMS HELD	0	2	5	ANNUAL FORUM AGENDA AND ATTENDANCE REGISTER DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER.
	OUTPUT 4.1.4: MULTI-STAKEHOLDER LEARNING FORUMS HELD AT PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS.	NUMBER OF MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUMS ATTENDED AND SHARED	0	2	5	MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM AGENDA AND ATTENDANCE REGISTER DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER.

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

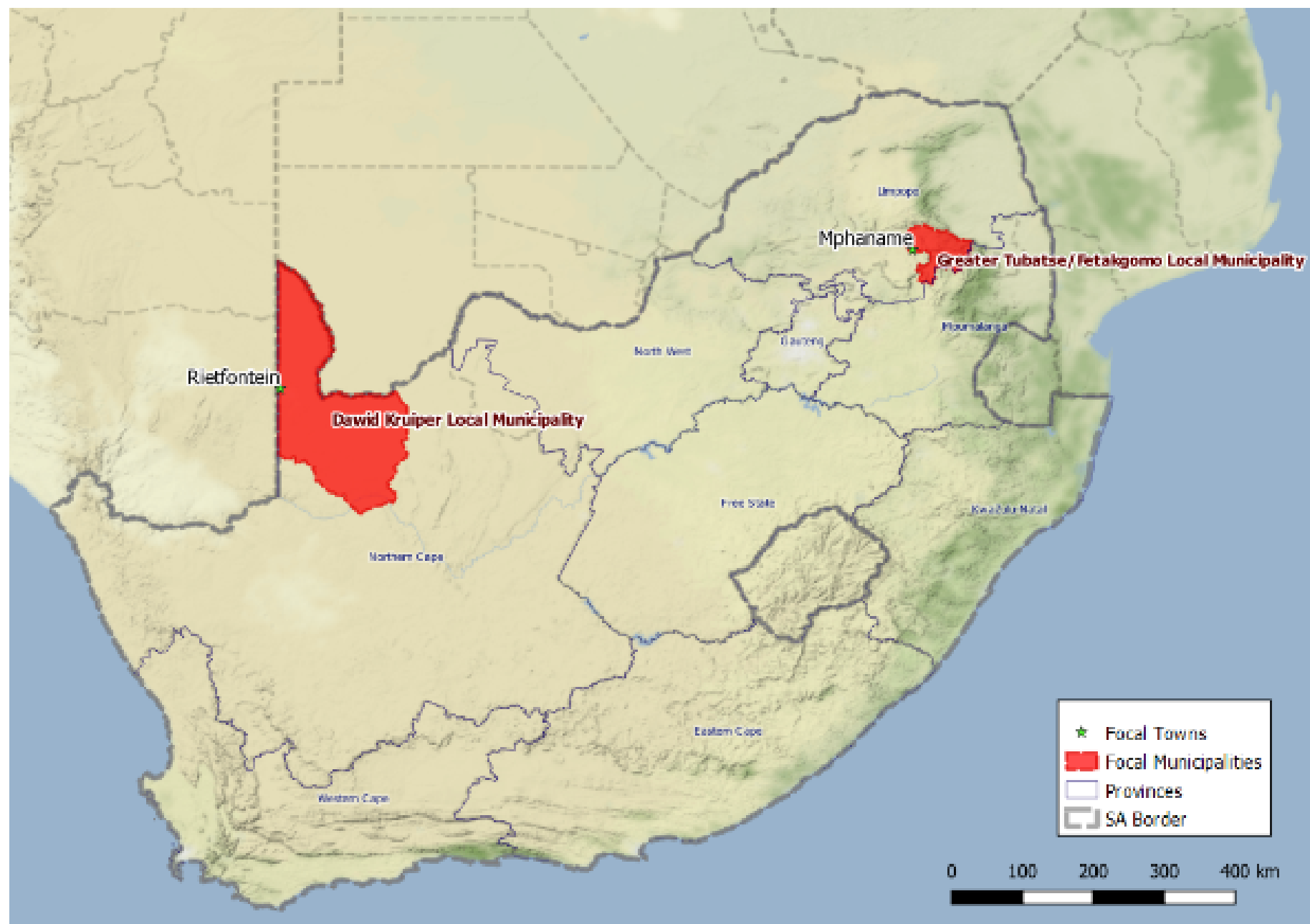
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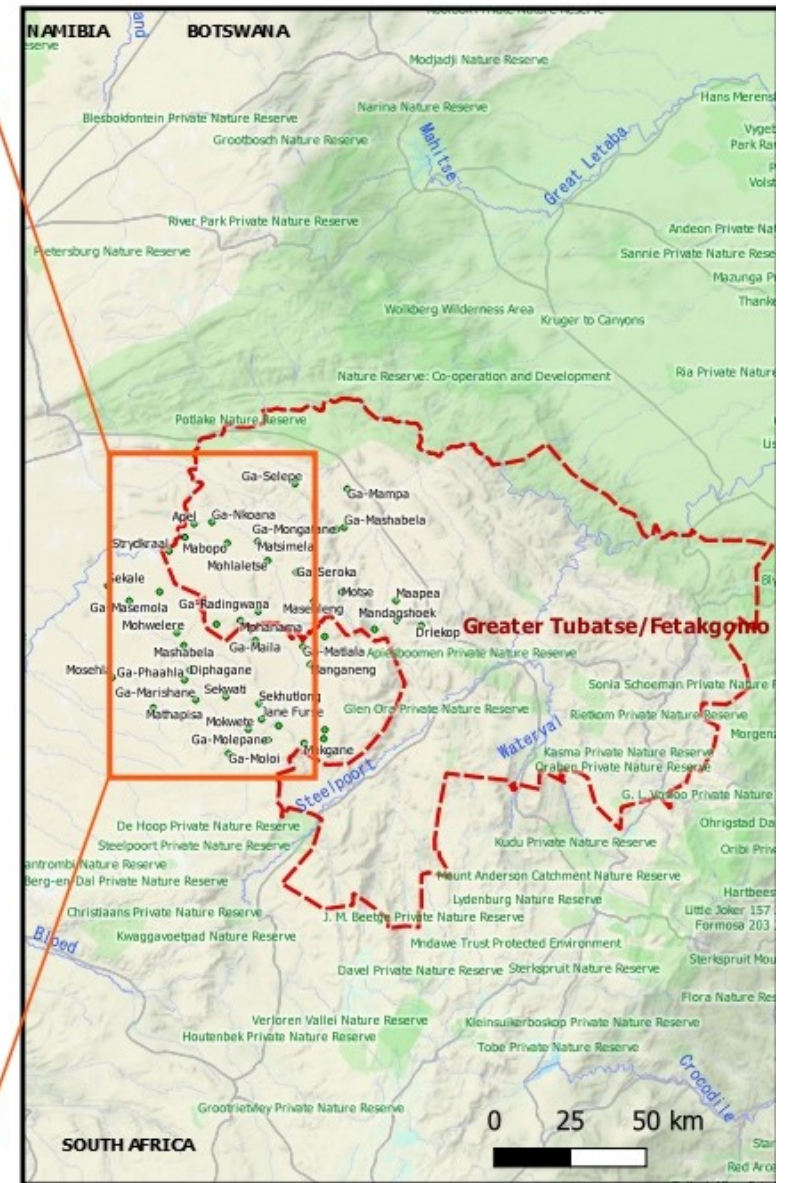
ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG). (Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

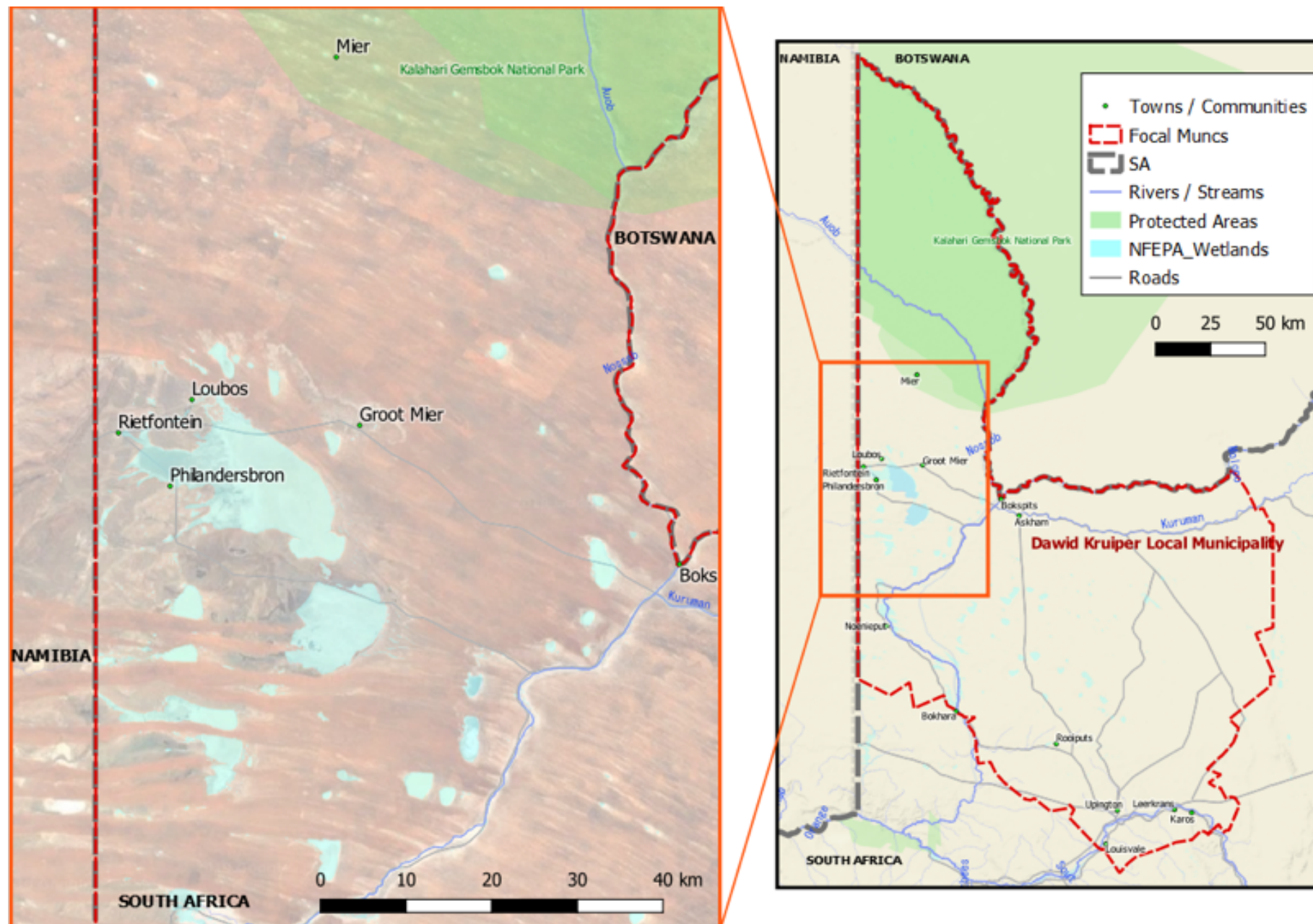
PPG Grant Approved at PIF: \$131,836			
Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent Todate	Amount Committed
Project Cost (@207 Days)	131,836	131,836	131,836
Expenses	7,499	7,499	7,499
Total	139,335	139,335	139,335

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

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







ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (US\$Eq.)				Sub-Total	M&E	PMC	Total (US\$Eq.)	Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)(1)
		Component 1 Outcome 1.1	Component 2 Outcome 2.1	Component 3 Outcome 3.1	Component 4 Outcome 4.1					
Grants/ Sub-grants	Develop and implement a small grants programme			400,000					400,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
Contractual Services - Company	This budget is reserved for equipment, materials, goods and labour required to bring at least 30 000 ha of grazing land in the Limpopo landscape under interventions identified in the PRMP. The focus will be on supporting softer interventions such as management approaches (improved water, veld erosion management), however it is likely that hard interventions (construction and physical transformation) will be required in areas with significant degradation.		350,000						350,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	This budget is reserved for equipment, materials, goods and labour required to bring at least 100 000 ha of grazing land in the Northern Cape landscape under interventions identified in the PRMP. The focus will be on supporting softer interventions such as management approaches (improved water, veld erosion management), however it is likely that hard interventions (construction and physical transformation) will be required to address with significant degradation.		350,000						350,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
Sub-contract to executing partner/ entity	Soi Pilaatje University (SPU) to conduct skills audit on stakeholders in Northern Cape landscape	25,000							25,000	SPU
	University of Limpopo (UL) to conduct skills audit on stakeholders in Limpopo landscape	25,000							25,000	UL
	SPU to develop/adapt training materials and train stakeholders in Northern Cape landscape	40,000							40,000	SPU
	UL to develop/adapt training materials and train stakeholders in Limpopo landscape	40,000							40,000	UL
	SPU to identify a network of mentor farmers in SLM practices in the Northern Cape landscape	10,000							10,000	SPU
	UL to identify a network of mentor farmers in SLM practices in the Limpopo landscape	10,000							10,000	UL
	SPU to train a network of mentor farmers, para veterinarians, community champions, land users, extension officers in SLM practices in the Northern Cape landscape	40,000							40,000	SPU
	UL to train a network of mentor farmers, para veterinarians, community champions, land users, extension officers in SLM practices in the Northern Cape landscape	40,000							40,000	UL
	SPU to develop SLMP for Northern Cape landscape		70,000						70,000	SPU
	UL to develop SLMP for Limpopo landscape		70,000						70,000	UL
Mainstreaming of SLM should be incorp into the SLMP	SPU to mainstream SLMP into existing management structures		13,750						13,750	SPU
	UL to mainstream SLMP into existing management structures		13,750						13,750	UL
	SPU to ensure LDN targets and investment priorities are validated in the Northern Cape landscape		11,330						11,330	SPU
	UL to ensure LDN targets and investment priorities are validated in the Limpopo landscape		11,330						11,330	UL
Can this be part of the of the skills audit	SPU to conduct a detailed governance assessment in the Northern Cape landscape		22,500						22,500	SPU
	UL to conduct a detailed governance assessment in the Limpopo Province landscape		22,500						22,500	UL
	SPU to strengthen land tenure arrangements in both landscapes by developing a Fair-Use Land Tenure Checklist in the Northern Cape landscape		18,750						18,750	SPU
	UL to strengthen land tenure arrangements in both landscapes by developing a Fair-Use Land Tenure Checklist in the Limpopo landscape		18,750						18,750	UL
	SPU to formalise rangeland/BSA in Northern Cape landscape		27,500						27,500	SPU
	UL to formalise rangeland/BSA in Limpopo landscape		27,500						27,500	UL
	SPU to formalise and strengthen Land Users into structures in Northern Cape landscape		37,500						37,500	SPU
	UL to formalise and strengthen Land Users into structures in Limpopo landscape		37,500						37,500	UL
Can this be part of the of the skills audit	SPU to conduct needs assessment SLM workshops in Northern Cape landscape		22,500						22,500	SPU
	UL to conduct needs assessment SLM workshops in Limpopo landscape		22,500						22,500	UL
	SPU to develop a PRMP for Northern Cape landscape		70,000						70,000	SPU
	UL to develop a PRMP for Limpopo landscape		70,000						70,000	UL
	SPU to operationalise and strengthen cross-sectoral coordination between stakeholders in Northern Cape landscape		9,000						9,000	SPU
	UL to operationalise and strengthen cross-sectoral coordination between stakeholders in Limpopo landscape		9,000						9,000	UL
	SPU to expand capacity of local and provincial government in Northern Cape landscape		18,750						18,750	SPU
	UL to expand capacity of local and provincial government in Limpopo landscape		18,750						18,750	UL
	DFFE/DLRRD to identify policy gaps that limit, and existing policies and practises that strengthen, LDN attainment approaches at national level			40,000					40,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	DFFE/DLRRD to periodically evaluate, at a national level, the policies and practises that strengthen LDN attainment approaches			45,000					45,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	DFFE/DLRRD to develop of an integrated SLM policy brief that integrates existing relevant SLM policies and project recommended policies			50,000					50,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	DFFE/DLRRD to periodically capture, evaluate and share lessons learnt with SLM multi-stakeholder project forums by the PMU and the implementing partners			40,000					40,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	DFFE/DLRRD to develop SLM multi-stakeholder platforms that report at national and provincial levels			50,223					50,223	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
Local Consultants	Local consultant appointed to Establish and implement user-friendly Knowledge Management Platform to share data, information and lessons learned on Land degradation and SLM among different stakeholders (communal, local, regional and national)	60,000							60,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Local Consultant appointed to develop participatory and complementary monitoring mechanism (based on an established framework/system) for input into KMP and train stakeholders.	40,000							40,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Local consultant appointed to determine relevant SDGs, indicators and monitor and analyse changes in ecosystem health against the extent of SLM implementation to ensure adaptive management.	20,000							20,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Local consultants appointed to determine viability of a suite of integrated innovative finance and incentive mechanisms within the landscapes		90,000						90,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Local consultant appointed to pilot and scale viable finance solutions to facilitate long term financial sustainability of actions		90,000						90,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Local consultant appointed to facilitate the strengthening of an updated business model that integrates SLM better practices ensure and participation of interested community land users.		75,000						75,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Local consultant appointed to implement/operationalize an established incentive mechanism that supports, regulates and accommodates the conditions present in dryland rural livestock enterprises to improve market access and therefore sustainability of SLM		90,000						90,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Local consultant appointed to develop partnerships in the livestock value chains between aggregators or buyers and local communities in both landscapes		40,640						40,640	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Local consultant appointed to engage relevant red meat commercial market players on SLM livestock production protocol development in both landscapes								18,267	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Local consultant appointed to facilitate improved access to finance through the development and submission of proposals and business cases to development and commercial banks as well as private investors.		60,000						60,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Appoint Local Consultant for Mid-Term Evaluation						20,000		20,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Appoint Local Consultant for Final Evaluation						40,000		40,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
	Appoint Local Consultant for annual audit						20,000		20,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
Training, workshops, meetings	Inception Workshop						10,000		10,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
Salary and benefits / Staff costs	Technical Admin Officer	40,000	132,759	308,277	50,000			181,491	712,526	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
Travel	Travel							45,000	45,000	DFFE / DALLRD / IUCN-SA
Grand Total		390,000	1,475,919	1,153,917	275,223	3,295,058	70,000	246,491	3,629,816	

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

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

ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows

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

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

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