

GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION	3
Project Summary	4
Indicative Project Overview	5
PROJECT COMPONENTS	5
PROJECT OUTLINE	8
A. PROJECT RATIONALE.....	8
B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION.....	17
Project description.....	17
Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.....	23
Core Indicators.....	24
Key Risks.....	26
C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES.....	27
D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS.....	29
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:.....	29
Stakeholder Engagement	29
Private Sector.....	37
Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks	37
E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS.....	37
Knowledge management.....	37
ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES	37
GEF Financing Table.....	37
Project Preparation Grant (PPG)	37
Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation	38
Indicative Focal Area Elements	38
Indicative Co-financing	38
ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS	39
GEF Agency(ies) Certification	39
Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):.....	39
ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION	40
ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING	42
ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS.....	42
ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET	42

General Project Information

Project Title

Local Investment And Action For Climate Resilient, Water Secure And Healthy Farming Communities In Timor Leste

Region

Timor Leste

GEF Project ID

11827

Country(ies)

Timor Leste

Type of Project

MSP

GEF Agency(ies):

FAO

GEF Agency ID

754131

Executing Partner

Ministry of Tourism and Environment

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area (s)

Climate Change

Submission Date

10/31/2024

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Mixed & Others

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Climate Change, Influencing models, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Stakeholders, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Consultation, Partnership, Participation, Private Sector, SMEs, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Communications, Strategic Communications, Public Campaigns, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Local Communities, Beneficiaries, Indigenous Peoples, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Gender Mainstreaming, Access to benefits and services, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Capacity Development, Access and control over natural resources, Participation and leadership, Gender-sensitive indicators, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Knowledge Exchange, Field Visit, South-South, Innovation, Theory of change, Learning, Indicators to measure change

Type of Trust Fund

LDCF

Project Duration (Months)

72

GEF Project Grant: (a)

4,416,210.00

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

419,540.00

Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

0.00

Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)

4,835,750.00

Total Co-financing

5,250,000.00

PPG Amount: (e)

PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)

150,000.00	14,250.00
PPG total amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)
164,250.00	5,000,000.00

Project Tags

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

Project Summary

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

Climate change in Timor Leste is expected to increase heatwaves, droughts, and floods, threatening water availability for households, agriculture, and ecosystems. The country's rugged landscape, isolation, and deforestation worsen these risks. Around 80% of the population lives in underserved rural areas reliant on rain-fed agriculture. Additionally, 48.3% of the population is considered 'multidimensionally poor,' ^[ii] and 74% of rural residents face moderate to severe food insecurity annually. Stunting affects 47.1% of children, the highest rate in Asia and the third highest globally ^[iii].

The project addresses these challenges through a collaborative, water security framework to support a whole-of-community approach to enable direct adaptation actions that enhance climate resilience of rural communities through locally developed NbS. This approach to enhancing water security and climate-resilience leverages local-national capacities and promotes youth and women leadership empowering the next generation of climate caretakers ^[1]. It targets 32,857 direct, vulnerable beneficiaries (50% women) in 200 *Aldeias* (villages) and will restore 18,000 ha through improved land management enhancing livelihoods, nutrition, and ecosystems.

Implemented through a Government led innovative Water-Climate Consortium, technically supported by FAO, and including local NGOs delivers cost-effective outcomes that focus investment at community level, with an emphasis on youth and women.

The enabling environment will be improved alongside development of 200 community adaptation action plans. A climate investment M&E and impact assessment framework and masterplan will be developed. Four (4) innovative pilots will will develop baselines that could be used to link carbon and/or biodiversity financing to support application of climate change adaptation at the community level based on diverse-species multiple function nature-based solutions (NbS) for catchment restoration.

^[1] Essential where 75% of the population is under 35 years of age.

^[i] UNDP 2021 <https://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/Country-Profiles/MPI/TLS.pdf>

^[ii] 2020 - Timor-Leste Food and Nutrition Survey 2020. Ministry of Health. <https://www.unicef.org/timorleste/reports/timor-leste-food-and-nutrition-survey>

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

To enhance water security and climate resilience for rural communities in Timor Leste through innovative youth and women led nature-based solutions

Project Components

Component 1: Improved enabling environment for climate change adaptation in rural, water insecure communities through integrated policy and planning mechanisms

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
799,124.00	1,075,046.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1.1 Strengthened national and community-level climate change adaptation policies, planning frameworks, monitoring and governance

Indicators:

- Number of decision-makers and stakeholders trained in basin planning (including basics in water accounting and allocation).
- National plan for climate-resilient water management
- Number of catchment water allocation plans
- Number of government and community participatory monitoring and impact assessments of climate finance investments
- Number of capacity assessments of NGO partners carried out (% of members women and youth)
- Number of policies/plans/ frameworks/institutions to strengthen climate adaptation

Output:

Output 1.1.1 Inter-sectoral coordination mechanism established at national and local levels to mainstream gender responsive climate adaptation priorities into WRM, agriculture and WASH policies.

Output 1.1.2 National capacities in water accounting for evidence-based and climate-resilient water planning and allocation enhanced (including for environmental flows)

Output 1.1.3 National plan for climate-resilient water management developed, supported by evidence-based water allocation plans in priority catchments including gender analysis.

Output 1.1.4 Strengthened systems for monitoring adaptation impacts and climate finance, improving stakeholder understanding and identifying future needs.

Output 1.1.5 Capacity assessment of NGO and CSO partners to guide development activities in Component 2.

Component 2: Local government, CSOs and communities (targeting women, youth groups and smallholder farmers) have increased resilience and adaptive capacities to adopt nature-based solutions that increase water security for all users.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)

2,817,962.00

3,522,395.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2.1: Increased options, incentives and capacities of vulnerable communities in target areas to adopt and implement nature-based solutions to enhance water security and meet food, income, health, nutrition and ecosystem needs.

Outcome 2.2 Early warning information from existing climate investments is delivered, understood and responded by communities.

Indicators

- Number of community and youth -led initiatives for watershed restoration using NbS and climate resilience
- Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)
- Number of people trained or awareness raised (% women / youth)
- Percentage change in water availability and quality in target areas as a result of nature-based measures.
- Capacity changes of community organisations to manage and maintain nature-based infrastructure. (% women / youth led) using participatory, self-evaluation tool such as PROSE

Percentage increase in community awareness and understanding of early warning messages and action (% women / youth).

Output:

Output 2.1.1: Gender-responsive community led plans for scaling nature-based solutions (e.g., agro-ecological restoration, catchment protection) developed to restore catchments and improve livelihoods, nutrition, and the environment.

Output 2.1.2: Youth led catchment restoration activities incentivised and carried out (*water retention ponds, swales, water barriers and diverse multi function tree planting, natural regeneration*)

Output 2.1.3: Capacity-building programs institutionalized for youth, women, rural extension services, and CSOs to implement nature-based solutions for water security.

Output 2.1.4: Youth and women trained to lead and train others, linked to technical support for land restoration.

Output 2.2.1 Strengthened capacity of local governments, NGOs, CSOs, and communities to respond to early warnings, building on existing climate information systems.

Component 3: Innovative financing, and effective knowledge management.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
378,532.00	252,559.00

Outcome:

Outcome 3.1 Innovative financing mechanisms (including carbon, PES and biodiversity financing) to sustain and expand adaptation actions at community level piloted

Outcome 3.2 Knowledge management, adaptive evidence and learning generated and communicated effectively to influence programming

Indicators

- Percentage change in adoption of evidence-based practices and strategies in programming
- Number of innovative financing mechanisms linked to support community led, bio-diverse tree-based catchment restoration.
- \$ of investment mobilized/ source.

Number of methodologies developed to provide technical baseline for innovative finance of locally led catchment restoration.

Output:

Output 3.1.1 Assessment of financial and other needs for priority adaptation actions and identification of means of addressing needs.

Output 3.1.2 Locally generated innovations piloted and/or taken to scale

Output 3.1.3 Baseline work carried out in 3 pilot sites to enable appropriate sources of finance (carbon/biodiversity/PES will be considered) that can enable communities to earn income for ongoing catchment restoration and other adaptation activities.

Output 3.2.1 Knowledge management and monitoring strategies and tools for adaptation are tested, validated and operationalized and a community of practice is established.

Output 3.2.2 Horizontal and vertical exchange of information and knowledge of the lessons learned to national and local stakeholders through seminars, conferences, consultations, workshops, and media.

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
210,296.00	150,000.00

Outcome:

Robust monitoring and evaluation system allows effective project management and learning

Output:

M&E framework developed and implemented, Inception and annual review workshops/meetings, mid term and end term evaluations conducted.

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1: Improved enabling environment for climate change adaptation in rural, water insecure communities through integrated policy and planning mechanisms	799,124.00	1,075,046.00
Component 2: Local government, CSOs and communities (targeting women, youth groups and smallholder farmers) have increased resilience and adaptive capacities to adopt nature-based solutions that increase water security for all users.	2,817,962.00	3,522,395.00
Component 3: Innovative financing, and effective knowledge management.	378,532.00	252,559.00
M&E	210,296.00	150,000.00
Subtotal	4,205,914.00	5,000,000.00

Project Management Cost	210,296.00	250,000.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	4,416,210.00	5,250,000.00

Please provide justification

PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

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

Timor-Leste is a Least Developed Country (LDC), a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) and a fragile state^[iii] situated at the eastern end of the Lesser Sunda Islands of the Indonesian archipelago. It comprises the eastern half of the island of Timor, the Oecusse enclave on the north-western side of Timor, and the islands of Atauro and Jaco. Topography is dominated by a central mountainous chain, rising to 3,000 metres, dissected by deep valleys and characterised by steep slopes^[iv]. Only 8 of 29 main river systems have consistent perennial flows.

At least 80% of households are engaged in agriculture and most are small farmers practicing subsistence or small scale commercial farming (80% depend on climate sensitive rain-fed agriculture)^[v] Only 30% of arable land is used for crops and grazing. Farms are small, with 66% of households cultivating less than a hectare. There are almost no large-scale farms. Arabica coffee, chimeri (candlenut tree), vanilla, coconut and horticulture are the main commercial crops and the major food crops produced are maize, rice, cassava, and sweet potatoes, with non-rice crops accounting for at least 75% of staple food production.

Over 40% of the 1.3M population lives below the national poverty line^[vi]. 48.3% are multidimensionally poor, and an additional 26.8% are vulnerable to multidimensional poverty - the highest in the Asia-Pacific^[vii]. Timor Leste has a **population bulge with 74% under 35 years of age - among the youngest in Asia** (with 40% aged 0–14).

Low agricultural production, limited market access, and inadequate services drive high food insecurity which affects 74% of the rural population^[viii]. Poor diets, water, sanitation, and hygiene practices contribute to severe malnutrition, particularly among women and children. In 2022, Timor-Leste ranked 110th out of 121 countries on the Global Hunger Index, reflecting serious hunger levels. It has the third highest rate of stunting globally, with over half of children under five affected^[ix]. A 31% gender gap in agricultural productivity further worsens women farmers' climate vulnerability due to lower literacy, less access to tools, extension and financial support and limited involvement in cash crops^[x].

Climate vulnerabilities

Climate change threatens to exacerbate existing health problems as well as undermine water and food supplies, infrastructure, food systems and social protection systems^[xi]. Timor-Leste is highly vulnerable to climate change and climate-induced hazards related to increased variability of rainfall, increased frequency of extreme events, an overall drying trend, particularly in the dry season, and variability in wet season

onset. The country experiences recurrent disasters associated with droughts, floods and landslides. Steep topography, geographic isolation and widespread deforestation compound these climate risks. Most climate-related disasters are localised and periodic, with significant impacts on local communities and sectors. The most disaster affected communities are isolated in terms of accessibility and communications, and those with low capacity to prepare for and respond to climate risks.^{[xi][xii](#)} Vulnerability is increased by low levels of socio-economic development.

When rain occurs, it is not effectively captured as groundwater due to catchment degradation leading to flooding, erosion, landslides, and water loss across the system. Water sources that rural communities rely on are drying and water insecurity is increasing. **Nationally 54% of households have experienced water shortages at least once in the previous six months (up to 70% in some municipalities)**^{[xii][xiii](#)}.

Timor-Leste has a monsoon climate with a wet season from December to March and a dry season from May to October, except on the south coast where rains last until July. Rainfall averages less than 50 mm per month from August to October^{[xiii][xiv](#)}. Climate variability is influenced by El Niño, which delays the wet season by 2-3 months, impacting agriculture and food security, while La Niña brings above-average rainfall, causing landslides and erosion^{[xiv][xv](#)}. A positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) reduces dry season rainfall^{[xv][xvi](#)}, and global warming is likely **to increase extreme climate events and unpredictability**^{[xvi][xvii](#)}, ^{[xvii][xviii](#)}.

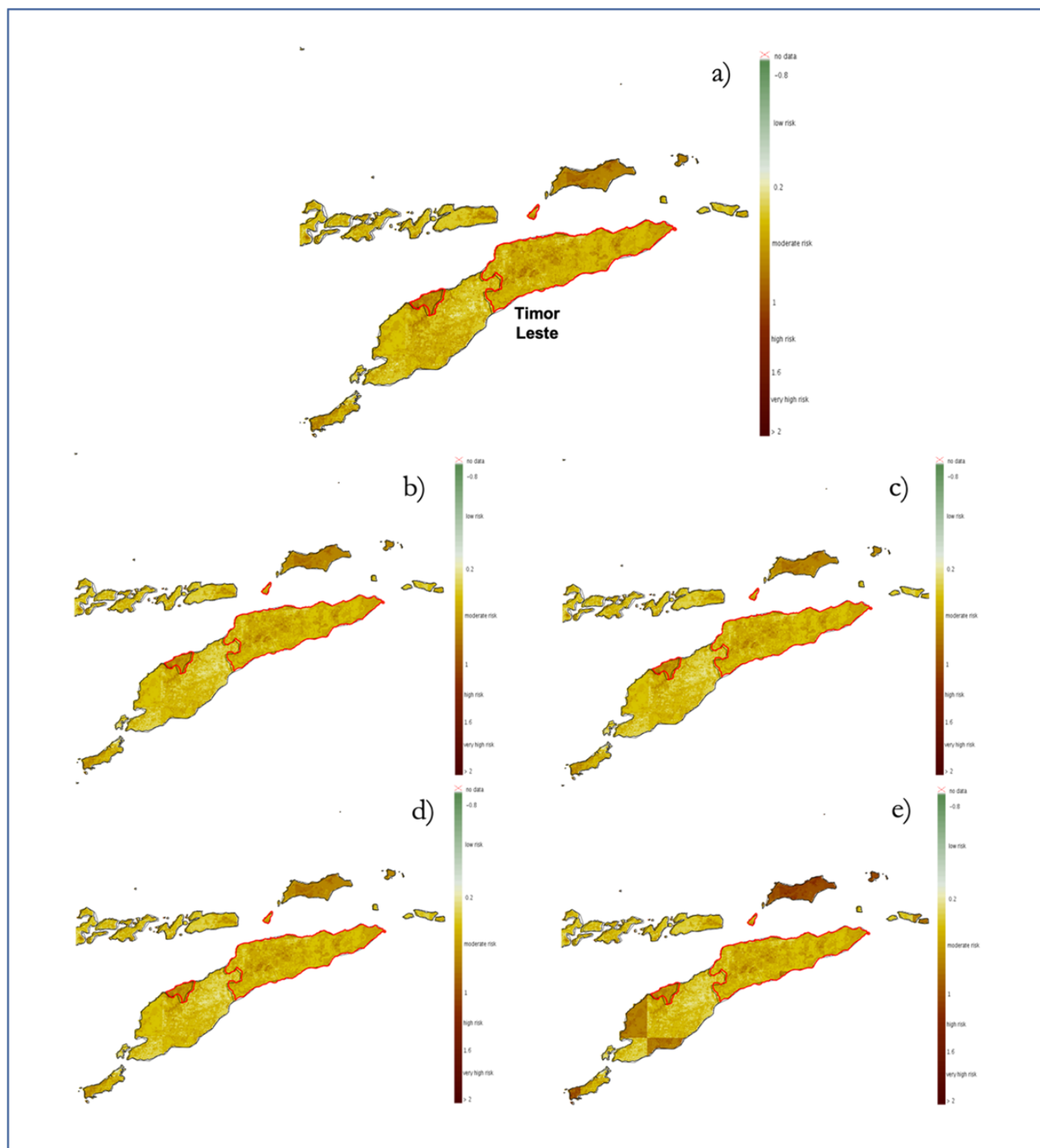


Figure 1. Spatial distribution of climate risks for the baseline period (a), near-term (2021-2040) for SSP1-2.6 (b) and SSP5-8.5 (c), and mid-term (2041-2060) for SSP1-2.6 (d) and SSP5-8.5 (e) based on hazard probability, exposure of agricultural systems, vulnerability of livelihoods and adaptive capacity.

Past climate trends

Temperatures: Average daily minimum temperature did not show significant changes during the 1979-2019 period, average daily maximum surface temperatures increased by 0.7°C from a baseline of 30.4°C.

Precipitation: High interannual rainfall variability associated with ENSO events was observed. Rainfall trends have shown a statistically significant increase between 4 and 8 mm/yr during 1990-2019 period.

Extreme weather events: The number of tropical nights ($T_{max} \geq 35^{\circ}\text{C}$) decreased from 22.9 to 21.6 days during the 1979-2018 period. The number of heavy rainfall events ($Pr > 50\text{mm}$) and the number of hot days ($T_{max} \geq 35^{\circ}\text{C}$) did not show any significant changes during the 1979-2019 baseline period. The average length of dry spells (days with $Pr < 1\text{mm}$) decreased from 7.1 to 5.2 during the 1979-2019 period.

Source: FAO 2023 [\[xviii\]](#)^{xix}

Future climate trends

Temperatures: Average daily maximum and minimum surface temperature are expected to increase by 1.2°C and 1.0°C under RCP 2.6 and by 2.0°C and 1.7°C under RCP 8.5 by mid-century (2040-2059) compared to the 1986-2005 baseline period.

Precipitation: Total annual precipitation is expected to decrease by 12% and 21% under RCP 2.6 and 8.5, respectively, by mid-century (2040-2059) compared to the 1986-2005 baseline period.

Extreme weather events: The average number of hot days ($T_{max} \geq 35^{\circ}\text{C}$) per year may increase by 20 days and 36 days under RCP 2.6 and 8.5 respectively, by mid-century (2040-2059), compared to the 18 days of the 1986-2005 baseline period. No changes in the average number of heavy rainfall events per year are projected. The average length of dry spells ($Pr < 1\text{mm}$) per year may increase by 0.5 and 1.1 days under RCP 2.6 and 8.5 respectively, by mid-century (2040-2059), compared to 7 days of the 1986-2005 baseline.

Ocean variables: Climate projections for 2050 suggest a rise in sea level by 150–340 mm, increased cyclone intensity and increased sea surface temperatures of 0.6°C – 0.8°C by 2030.

Source: FAO 2023 [\[xix\]](#)^{xx}

Extreme ENSO events, including El Niño, are projected to double in frequency, amplifying temperature extremes and reinforcing climate change effects [\[xx\]](#)^{xxi}, [\[xxi\]](#)^{xxii}, [\[xxii\]](#)^{xxiii}, [\[xxiii\]](#)^{xxiv}. Related climate vulnerabilities are **increased frequency of heatwaves** [\[xxiv\]](#)^{xxv} and **wildfire hazards** [\[xxv\]](#)^{xxvi}, [\[xxvi\]](#)^{xxvii}, [\[xxvii\]](#)^{xxviii}. Climate change is projected to alter inter-annual ENSO-driven precipitation particularly intensity or location of rainfall [\[xxviii\]](#)^{xxix}, [\[xxix\]](#)^{xxx}, [\[xxx\]](#)^{xxxi}.

These changes in both spatial and temporal rainfall distribution will have significant impacts on the water balance affecting the availability for household use, agriculture and the ecosystem.

Climate hazards related to rainfall include **floods** [\[xxxi\]](#)^{xxxii}, **landslides, and drought** [\[xxxii\]](#)^{xxxiii} events further exacerbated by increased deforestation and degradation of catchments [\[xxxiii\]](#)^{xxxiv}, [\[xxxiv\]](#)^{xxxv}, [\[xxxv\]](#)^{xxxvi}. These are expected to increase already high levels of acute food insecurity – 27% of the population is at IPC phase 3 or above in 2023-24 [\[xxxvi\]](#)^{xxxvii}.

Tropical cyclones, storms and sea level rise

An increase in the proportion of severe cyclones is expected to lead to increased loss and damage. Increased incidence of extreme storm-related loss of critical habitats is also anticipated. [\[xxxvii\]](#)^{xxxviii} The IPCC Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere (2019) suggests that under a high emissions scenario, the Antarctic ice sheet could contribute more to sea level rise than previously expected. For Timor-Leste, this means projected sea level rise by 2090 could reach 0.56 to 0.98 meters under very high emissions. [\[xxxviii\]](#)^{xxxix}

Underlying drivers of climate vulnerability

Timor-Leste's vulnerability is deeply rooted in a combination of economic, socio-political, and environmental challenges, all of which are exacerbated by climate change. Economic drivers such as poverty, lack of job opportunities, and poor access to services and markets force communities into unsustainable practices like illegal logging, firewood collection, and shifting cultivation. These practices degrade the environment, reduce agricultural productivity, and increase dependence on increasingly unreliable natural resources^{[xxxix]xl},^{[xl]xli},^{[xli]xlii},^{[xlii]xliii}.

Socio-political drivers further compound these issues. Land mismanagement, gender inequality, demographic pressures, low literacy rates, malnutrition, and vulnerability to natural hazards create a fragile socioecological system. Inappropriate agricultural practices, such as cultivation on steep slopes and uncontrolled grazing, accelerate deforestation, soil erosion, and loss of biodiversity^{[xliii]xliv}. This leads to reduced water infiltration, drying springs, and less water available for agriculture and household use, disproportionately impacting women who are responsible for securing food and water for their families.

There are numerous positive developments that LDCF funding can build on to support transformational change that results in improved climate resilience, water security and healthy farming communities as well as the delivery of associated Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs). These 'baseline' developments, or enablers, include:

- Decentralized government with structures at the Suku level including community WASH committees, disaster response committees, and links to municipal government services including agriculture.
- Civil society, including indigenous NGOs like Permatil, Hasatil and movements such as MKBR (Movimentu Konservasaun Bee no Rai), support youth in land restoration, to date benefiting 700 communities and restoring 500 water source / springs.
- Agro biodiversity: Diverse crops and trees support livelihoods, with additional resources available via south-south exchanges. Seed multiplication capacity such as 70-farmer group Anaprofiko Association.
- Schools can play a key role in informing communities and supporting adaptation; a curriculum on catchment restoration is already in use in primary schools.
- Government policies, such as the National Climate Change Policy (2021), NAP (2021), emphasize water management and quality. Timor Leste Carbon Farming Policy and Guideline (CFPG) provide a framework for sustainable financing.
- Past, present, and planned projects and programs that provide relevant lessons and potential co-financing (refer to Ongoing Initiatives table p 18) but often have limited local impact.

Without the project's intervention, the following scenarios are envisaged:

Scenario A – Under a moderate emissions scenario and incremental climate investments, some gains will be made in catchment restoration and resilience. However, opportunities to transfer knowledge and benefits to rural, small-scale farmers in vulnerable areas will be missed. Capacity building for water resource management will progress slowly, outpaced by climate changes, and gender inequality and low youth engagement in environmental restoration will likely persist. Appropriate adaptation efforts linked to water are unlikely, as communities lack access to information, technology, training, and social and financial capital. This will exacerbate the impacts of climate change and reduce future adaptation capacity. Local NGOs will remain small-scale service providers, limited by short project durations and a lack of investment in community-driven priorities.

Locally developed solutions will not scale, and government and community involvement in monitoring will remain restricted by capacity and operational constraints. External experts will continue to dominate monitoring. Ultimately, this will result in missed opportunities to:

- Make climate investments more effective.
- Apply lessons learned to improve coordination and future investments.
- Empower communities through participation in climate investment monitoring and learning.

Scenario B – Under a high-emissions scenario, with limited progress in climate investments due to lack of local engagement and capacity building in watershed restoration, food import reliance (currently 30-40%) will rise as productivity and ecosystems degrade. Global climate impacts may make these imports unaffordable, leading to increased malnutrition and poverty. Frequent extreme weather will hinder efforts to address these issues, leaving communities unable to adopt restorative actions like improving rainwater infiltration and reducing runoff. Ecosystem services, such as water sources, will continue to deteriorate, worsening vulnerability.

Farmers will lack access to improved soil and cropping methods, leading to further soil depletion and land degradation. Agricultural diversity will remain low, failing to provide adequate nutrition or climate resilience. Without measures like water retention structures or increased vegetation cover, water quality and availability will decline, negatively impacting food security, health, and ecosystems.

Whilst scenario A is more likely, in either scenario the ongoing land and ecosystem degradation will pose risks to key habitats and species, contribute to declining carbon storage capacity, reduce flows of some ecosystem services, and increase vulnerability to climate change.

Key **barriers** to achieving transformational adaptation include:

Capacity barriers

- **Inadequate mobilisation of communities.** To date, climate adaptation interventions have not focused adequately to secure meaningful engagement at the community level nor on intermediary organisations who have the presence and capacity to mobilize and build ownership for project interventions within communities, especially youth and women. Good practices exist, but they are not being scaled because rural communities and civil society organisations lack resources, incentives, organizational and project management capacity, leadership, and skills required for catchment restoration. Whilst WASH services have reached most communities, water catchment restoration and management have been largely ignored. Youth are not widely involved in adaptation action. Women face a productivity gap and there is limited participation of youth who are a key labour force and form the majority of the population.
- Local NGOs have demonstrated great potential to work with women, youth and communities to **strengthen climate resilience using nature-based solutions that build on traditional and local knowledge** while also achieving other socio-economic benefits such as youth and women's empowerment and agroecology. But efforts are scattered, and their organisations weakened by inadequate resourcing and ad hoc projects. Both civil society and government departments lack capacities in program delivery and monitoring and coordination.

Sustainable adaptation finance

- **Poor access to and deployment of climate finance to support adaptation** Climate finance (GEF, GCF etc) is largely driven by external organisations. Government and communities lack tools for effective oversight and learning. Gaps in modelling, methodologies and regulation prevent locally developed and driven catchment restoration using diverse polyculture NbS and traditional knowledge from tapping into carbon / biodiversity finance or Payment for Environmental Services (PES) markets for benefits to reach communities **to sustain adaptation activities that requires community investment.**

Knowledge barriers

- **Insufficient knowledge.** Farmers lack knowledge and access to practical solutions for nutrition, climate resilient agriculture and catchment restoration. They do not practice nutrition-sensitive agriculture or link its adoption to health improvement including reduction in stunting of children. Schools have inadequate WASH facilities and educational gardens for learning about climate resilient agriculture. Enormous resource of youth are not mobilized into land restoration. Agricultural system lack climate resilience reliant on rain fed agriculture and shifting cultivation systems no longer fit for purpose.
- **The complex and interrelated problems around nutrition, soil fertility, catchments and water quality and availability are being addressed in a disjointed manner** by different agencies. But they

have potential to be linked together under a framework around an integrated approach at the household and community level for water, agriculture and food security sectors to enable climate change adaptation. Vulnerable communities need support and incentives to take on these measures. For sustainability there is a need to validate these models and through pilots develop an evidence base to create space for carbon, biodiversity PES or other market mechanisms to support adaptation.

- Government lacks the **tools and approaches to independently assess climate investments** for impact and other stakeholders (communities and civil society) are not involved in monitoring.

Project support will provide the needed additional investment that will otherwise be difficult to attain through government budgetary, non-governmental or private sector sources. The project will focus on **transformational change** that supports communities to carry out informed catchment restoration activities that address livelihood and ecosystem needs. **Youth leadership** and involvement of schools will enable this process to become embedded in community practice as the evidence base and learning generated by increased government and community monitoring and impact assessment grows.

The project will facilitate engagement of the private sector including farmers, farmer groups and associations (Anaprofiko Seed Producers association), MSMEs, social enterprises, other private sector including carbon market actors. Pilots and new methodologies linked to wider policy development are expected to lead to longer term financing pathways to support diverse catchment restoration activities that until now have been excluded from that type of finance which has focused on monocultures and narrow species options.

The project will build on existing government policies and priorities, leverage ongoing/planned investments, and incorporate relevant lessons from previous projects and programs.

This project aims to use a **water security framework to support a whole-of-community approach to enable direct adaptation actions that enhance climate resilience of rural communities through locally developed NbS**. The project will introduce an expanded concept of WASH where water sources, quality and quantity are better managed, while meeting Timor-Leste's stated resilience and adaptation goals.

At the end of the project, in targeted areas:

- Deforestation and land degradation are beginning to be reversed.
- Integrated and multifunctional (livelihoods, food security and ecosystem benefits) catchment reforestation and revegetation is underway based on locally proven models.
- Tree planting, natural regeneration, and small-scale water retention structures are increasing water infiltration and reducing surface runoff.
- Springs and water sources are recovering and are more resilient to climate variability and extremes.
- New rain fed cropping practices that protect and improve the soil, small scale irrigation for dry season nutrition and climate sensitive agriculture, and increased agroforestry is reducing climate risks.
- Households have access to increased dietary diversity, and expanded understanding of climate risks and ability to respond in practical ways that is also nutrition and livelihood positive.
- Government will have conducted impact studies on climate finance and increased the use of tools to track adaptation progress at national and sub levels to ensure better coordination and impact.
- Communities in the project areas will be engaged in monitoring and will have defined their own indicators of climate resilience and identified steps needed to continue to strengthen adaptation.
- Sustainable financing of adaptation models will be validated for more diverse catchment restoration activities, opening up new channels for carbon/biodiversity finance to support adaptation.
- Stronger local civil society organisations will have the capacity to work alongside government to deliver effective community-based adaptation programs on scale led by women and youth.

Project Objective: *Enhancing water security and climate resilience for rural communities in Timor-Leste through innovative youth and women led nature based solutions. .*

The project is expected to reach 200 *Aldeias* (communities) in at least 25 *Sukus* (over 5% of total *Sukus* in Timor Leste). Geographic targeting will be finalised in the project design phase. The project interventions are relevant in rain fed farming areas in all municipalities of the country but realistically will cover 1 municipality. Stakeholder discussions identified multiple criteria for selecting communities and catchments for project implementation including: level of climate hazards; level of deforestation and ecosystem vulnerability; malnutrition and food insecurity; critical catchments; socioeconomic vulnerability; open defecation free; coverage by other projects; and water availability based on level of households who have experienced water shortages.

These criteria, applied at municipal level, can be overlayed (see table annex C) but need to have certain criteria weighted more highly as all municipalities are high on some criteria. At the PIF stage Oecusse Municipality appears to be highest on the criteria mapped. Bobonaro and Covalima Municipalities also rank as highly vulnerable. Mapping of target areas within municipalities is likely just as important down to the Suko level as the project will identify areas highly dependent on rain fed agriculture, most likely more isolated and higher in the catchment. This will occur during the PPG. FAO will also consider how the LDCF project fits into its wider programmatic partnership with Timor Leste Government to ensure the project takes steps that can be followed up with planned GCF and Adaption Fund projects. PPG stage design workshops to select target areas will ensure stakeholder ownership and a reasonable balance of these criteria. See Annex C - Project Location.

How project fits in the current landscape of investments and lessons learned

The project complements existing investments (see the table in the next section). Rather than focusing on large-scale and heavily flood prone infrastructure investment, the **project focus is on the poorest small scale and rainfed farmers using technologies that communities can take to scale across the most vulnerable parts of the country**. Climate investments to date have been driven by and largely implemented by external agencies. Government and civil society perceive that these large climate investments lack transparency and evidence of their impact at community and household level.

The project will build on climate investments that have utilised the expertise and catchment restoration models of the indigenous/local NGO – *Permatil* – by building the capacity of Permatil (and a consortium of local NGOs) to work in partnership with government and other key stakeholders on a scale that responds to the high need to support farmers and rural communities in climate adaptation. It will enhance other existing climate investments by building the capacity of the government to carry out monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment and by strengthening the capacity of civil society and communities.

The project acknowledges there is a need for higher levels of government ownership and leadership of climate change adaptation and climate finance. It is proposed for the government to act as the lead executing agency, subject to the government passing a micro assessment conducted during the PPG.

Finally, this LDCF project is part of a a proposed ambitious program to support Timor-Leste's climate adaptation objectives in line with the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contribution. Centered on building community resilience, the programme will not only address the immediate challenges posed by climate change but also to lay a foundation for long-term sustainability and resilience by programmatically integrating disparate funding sources and adopting a strategic river basin approach to ensure effective and consistent coordination between the investments from multiple and diverse funding sources. The 'Building Timor Leste Climate Resilient Communities through Water and Food Security' integrated strategic program will consolidate LDCF funding (both FAO and ADB projects) with funding from the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other funding sources.

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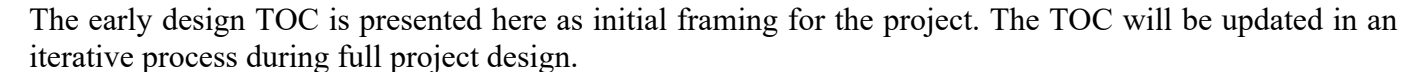
B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project description

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

ToC statement:

If rural, agriculture-dependent communities in Timor-Leste are supported by local government, NGOs and CSOs to enhance their water security with nature-based solutions THEN they will be more resilient to climate change BECAUSE the quality and quantity of water needed to increase and diversify agricultural productivity and ensure access to WASH will be enhanced. (updated TOC diagram below)



- **Assumption 1:** Improved access to and use of existing sources of spatial data, knowledge, and decision support systems will expand the ability of community stakeholders to identify priority areas for protection and development, potential areas of conflict, and issues requiring mitigation action.
- **Assumption 2:** Planning driven by community interests and needs, that empowers youth and women in leadership roles provides the most viable and sustainable basis for climate resilience actions.
- **Assumption 3:** Community stakeholders can and will adapt land use practices to climate change where it supports critical needs including livelihoods, food security, as well as environmental functions and resilience.
- **Assumption 4:** Sustainable finance and investment mechanisms could provide incentives for community stakeholders to restore water catchments long-term. Better impact assessment and monitoring of climate investments by government and communities will lead to better results.
- **Assumption 5:** Capacity and capabilities of civil society and government agencies can be developed sufficiently within the timeframe of the project for systemic transformation that is needed to enable to community driven catchment restoration linked to livelihoods, water and food security.

The project has three components:

- **Component 1:** Improved enabling environment for climate change adaptation in rural, water insecure communities through integrated policy and planning mechanisms.
- **Component 2:** Local government, CSOs and communities (targeting women, youth groups and smallholder farmers) have increased resilience and adaptive capacities to adopt nature-based solutions that increase water security for all users.
- **Component 3:** Innovative financing and effective knowledge management.

Component 1:

Component 1 will establish and institutionalise an inter-sectoral coordination mechanism at national and local levels to mainstream climate adaptation priorities into WRM, agriculture and WASH policies. This is critical as water is essentially a ‘connecting’ resource that requires inter-sectoral management to be effective. It will develop national capacities in water accounting for evidence-based and climate-resilient water planning and allocation (including for environmental flows) via a series of learning-by-doing training and pilot accounts.

Water accounting is an essential underpinning of effective basin/catchment planning as it helps ensure that water policy makers understand current and future water availability and demands, allowing them to plan effectively and to understand the potential and actual benefits to different water usage, conservation and protection actions. New capacities in water accounting will form the foundation for the ‘National plan for climate-resilient water management’ which will include estimates/scenarios of future water availability and how this can be optimally shared between different users. As climate-resilient water management is an iterative and continually improving process, the plan will identify the key areas where further data, technical skills and capacities are required. The plan will be accompanied by preliminary evidence-based water allocation plans in priority catchments identified during the PPG stage. Allocation plans will be based on best available data and start with bulk allocations between sectors.

The local NGOs involved in delivering component 2 will have their capacity built through Component 1 to enable them to act as delivery agents for effective community adaptation. They will work in partnership with Government agencies at Municipal and local *Suku* level who will also have their capacity built. This will involve the provision of technical and management positions for the duration of the project housed within the target local NGO(s) rather than just in a PMU, and an organisational capacity assessment and plan conducted and resourced to address institutional strengthening.

At the national level Component 1 will support the Secretary of State for the Environment and the National Designated Authority (NDA) for Combating Climate Change to build their institutional capability in monitoring and impact assessment of climate investments. This will include technical assistance and resources to conduct impact assessment and monitoring of a sample of climate investments. Their capacity to engage communities and other non-state stakeholders in monitoring and learning from adaptation investments will be enhanced. Relevant government departments will be involved in School WASH, nutrition and climate sensitive agriculture demonstration and extension activities.

Component 2

Component 2 will support a consortium of local NGOs to scale the NbS models developed and tested by Permatil (and others), supporting 200 communities to take on locally appropriate catchment restoration activities that meet environmental, livelihood and food security functions and result in increased water capture, infiltration and storage. This work will be delivered through a series of youth-focussed 5-day camps/training programmes which will expand the existing Perma Youth movement and empower young women and men with practical skills and knowledge in climate resilience. Young people will then be supported to form and/or strengthen existing *aldeia* based youth and women groups who will mobilise

resources to undertake diverse NbS based activities focussed on restoring / recharging springs and water sources. This will include supporting youth led community activities around diverse multi-function tree planting in polyculture forests (each tree must meet at least 5 functions according to the Permatil model), establishment of labour based water retention and groundwater infiltration structures, models of agro-forestry, livestock management, soil fertility management as alternatives to shifting cultivation and horticulture that are compatible with watershed restoration, water quality protection and climate resilience. This will be closely connected to *Suku* local government level structures including water catchment committees and disaster management committees. The PPG will explore how this component can incentivise youth led restoration activities building on existing experiences of cash for work programs in Timor Leste and the model of incentives used by Permatil in earlier work.

A network of local NGO actors and community-based organisations (including youth, women and farmer groups) will support this work, working with local and municipal government. This will build on respective strengths and expertise, including in establishing nurseries, seed multiplication and supporting delivery of best practices. In parallel, a program in local level schools within the target watersheds will establish demonstration climate resilient gardens / NbS and where needed have their WASH facilities upgraded/repaired improving health of students at school. They will conduct practical training and awareness linking water, hygiene, health and nutrition with the environment and climate resilience - linked to a recently adopted permaculture curriculum. Local groups and youth leaders will support students in an outreach program for their families to establish water efficient kitchen gardens.

Key adaptation options to assist communities in adapting to climate change are:

- Monitoring of groundwater resources improving understanding of water availability
- Managed aquifer recharge (storing water underground and re-use)
- Conjunctive surface and groundwater management
- Integrated water harvesting and water system maintenance for resilience and adaptive capacity
- Agricultural diversification and climate smart agriculture to build resilience and adaptive capacity
- Improving governance (monitoring adaptation progress and targets and impact assessment)

Component 3:

In the area of innovative finance the project will support modest scale but well targeted pilots to develop bottom up and locally led carbon, biodiversity and other methodologies to enhance the opportunities to link carbon credits, biodiversity credits and Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) to diverse and multi-functional models of catchment revegetation led by local communities planned in component 2. This will support baselining and investigating suitable means of measuring carbon sequestration as well as key principles of additionality, leakage and permanence. The purpose of these baselines and pilots is to explore opportunities for additional income to communities who are undertaking adaptation activities. These potential carbon, biodiversity, PES initiatives will contribute to an emerging locally controlled carbon industry that has the capacity to support ongoing adaptation work on catchment restoration as well as bring transformative income to communities. Supporting ongoing adaptation work such as catchment reforestation, envisaged in the project and diversifying sources of income for communities can both contribute to increased resilience to climate change impacts.

In addition, the Government has requested support to fill some key gaps in the emerging carbon industry which they see as having potential to enable sustainable financing of adaptation at the community level. The activities will support for 1-3 pilots to be undertaken to develop some baseline information on the carbon sequestration / biodiversity benefits of the polyculture catchment restoration model that will be applied in the project based on the Permatil model. The purpose of this link is to explore the potential for other sources of financing that could support adaptation work at community level. While in this case the source may be a carbon offset from a carbon market, if it can provide a financial incentive to communities to expand and maintain catchment restoration work it has potential to increase resilience of communities to climate change. In addition, these sources

of finance could potentially provide an additional source of income for vulnerable rural communities targeted by the project. In this way this also contributes to resilience by diversifying their sources of income.

Our discussions with Timor Leste government indicate their visions of a locally controlled carbon industry – ie a Timor Leste regulated carbon market - is likely to place more emphasis on carbon finance being used to support the type of diverse indigenous species and traditional knowledge and livelihoods linked approaches of this project. It is also likely to enable a higher amount of income to actually reach communities for carrying out and maintaining adaptation actions that also sequester carbon or protect biodiversity etc. Regardless of whether the Timor Leste carbon markets are regulated and develop in this way, there are also opportunities in the voluntary carbon markets for financial incentives for communities to support adaptation. All these approaches will require the evidence base to show the offset generated by the particular model of the project and this work requires baseline modelling. Without this work carbon offsets tend to flow to single species monocultures where this modelling work has already been done even though such monoculture models, usually based on exotic species will have less benefits to communities and the ecosystem. Thus the project resourcing the baseline modelling work for polyculture species rich catchment restoration is contributing to adaptation.

Knowledge management will ensure lessons learned, best practices and knowledge are captured, leveraged and upscaled. Activities will target the project team, wider national stakeholders as well as learning and sharing with regional and global stakeholders including south-south exchanges and with other SIDS. Assessment will be done on national stakeholders' needs on immediate and long-term knowledge and capacity needs. Appropriate knowledge management activities will then be supported. Knowledge dissemination will utilise national mechanisms, FAO platforms and GEF platforms. These will include appropriate feedback mechanisms, assessing effectiveness of knowledge sharing activities, and knowledge management tools in local languages. National and municipal Civil Society networks around climate change and its links to agriculture, food security and WASH sectors will be included.

Strategic support will expand use of Permatil's Tetum language permaculture education resources focused on climate adaptation strategies including water-source restoration, environmental rehabilitation, agroforestry and sustainable food systems. This will be focussed particularly on rural youth and women to increase environmental literacy.

The project will consider investing in multi-stakeholder platforms including user relevant digital systems in which data can be entered and accessed by communities and other stakeholders. A Communications Strategy will be developed to enable a targeted approach with different stakeholders and appropriate communication channels. This will be adaptive in nature and will be updated during implementation.

Across all the components the project will employ the following practices to achieve **transformative results**:

- **Innovation:** the project will pilot NbS in degraded landscapes and to conserve and protect productive landscapes in sites where these have not been carried out before.
- **Integrated approach:** the project will address several sectors and environmental concerns simultaneously by promoting ecosystems-based adaptation and landscape restoration.
- **Scaling up:** the project will encourage scaling up locally by municipalities, and provide lessons learned and best practices. Innovations in financing will explore sustainable financing of diverse catchment restoration activities.
- **Inclusive and equitable development:** Rural women and youth will be provided accessible and usable capacity building tools, improving the social circumstances of marginalised communities.
- **Transformation:** The project will support transformation of agriculture to support enhanced food security, increased diet diversity from climate smart production, resilient production methods, ecosystem restoration, livelihood diversification, and economic independence

Monitoring and evaluation

The project will develop and implement an M&E strategy that supports learning and adaptive management. Across all 3 components project progress will be monitored in a timely manner and results and impact will be captured and evaluated in alignment with GEF and FAO policy. For the agro-ecological approaches for agri-food system transformation, a multi-criteria assessment tool will be selected for project monitoring, for example the Tool for Agroecological Performance Evaluation TAPE^[ixlv]. All data will be gender and youth disaggregated. In addition, participatory monitoring and evaluation tools will enable implementing partners and beneficiaries to develop their own indicators of impacts of NbS, capacity building and resilience to climate change and contribute to measuring these changes themselves. Furthermore, the project management unit will engage a MEAL expert, securing timely delivery of project progress reports, facilitating annual reflection and planning meetings with stakeholders, mid- and terminal evaluations, as well as technical reports and others. The approach will exceed minimum GEF requirements (5% overall). It is expected that FAO will conduct the terminal evaluation (TE).

Cross-cutting themes:

Cross-cutting themes include the pursuit of gender equality, youth empowerment, landscape approaches, sustainable livelihood development and knowledge exchange. They will be mainstreamed throughout project planning and implementation. The PPG will explore the best approach to resourcing technical assistance for the gender equality and youth empowerment aspects of the project. The project enhances vertical, horizontal, and multi-stakeholder coordination, advances community ownership and leadership in water management while continuously monitoring, learning and adapting strategies and activities.

Global LDCF alignment

The project responds to the global GEF LCDF ToC priority on fostering **partnerships for inclusion and a whole of society approach**. The intervention scale is in targeted rural areas focussed on critical catchments of community identified springs and water sources. At an output level the project will enable adaptation solutions to be scaled for small farmers dependent on rain fed agriculture. It will build institutional capacity for planning (and monitoring and impact assessment) at government level and for implementation by local NGOs and communities. Scaling locally proven adaptation innovations in NbS and linking this to innovative financing is a key focus and will involve the private sector. The project strongly addresses the cross-cutting themes of gender equality and youth empowerment. The project approach aligns with the LDCF theme 1 Agriculture, food security and health, theme 2: Water; and theme 3: Nature-based Solutions. The project includes the following elements aligned with LDCF priorities:

- Nature-based solutions, landscape approach, climate resilient community small infrastructure, value chain development, sustainable alternative livelihoods, small scale community-based business development (adapted private sector), ecosystem restoration, climate adaptation education to youth and children, empowerment of women, youth and indigenous peoples.
- Mainstreaming adaptation and climate resilience, and combined CCA-DRM-NRM community-based on-ground management approaches at village and municipal level; promoting adaptation action at multiple scales, from national to sub-national to community levels; ensuring vertical integration (across governance levels) and horizontal integration (across sectors).
- Stakeholder engagement, including private sector; knowledge exchange for innovation and technology transfer, sharing of best practice, and scaling-up of adaptation solutions.

[i]

Explain the methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page) **280**

Core indicator 1:

Beneficiary numbers are based on expected direct targeting of 200 Aldeias with an average of 25 households per Aldeia (to be modelled more accurately once specific municipalities are selected in PPG phase). 5.7 people per households based on 2022 census. (28,500)

Schools in each Suku among the target Aldeias will be involved. Number of Aldeias per Suku is variable but this is modelled to be 25 schools * 175 students = 4,375 students. The catchment of the students is assumed to include more HH than those directly involved in watershed restoration and agriculture activities but there may be some double counting that needs to be resolved more accurately in the PPG phase. This is expected to be compensated by additional households who would be reached by student linked activities.

Note that Timor Leste recognises Indigenous People. Home to nine ethnic groups, the country is both multi-ethnic and multilingual, with more than twenty Indigenous languages and dialects in active use.

Core Indicator 2 . This indicator captures the total area of land undergoing restoration in terms of ecosystem function and/or ecology. The target is focussed on restoration of degraded agriculture lands but may also include some natural grass and shrubland restored and forest and forest land restored as part of catchment restoration activities. This is based on a combined estimate of 30 HA per Aldeai (6,000HA) through direct targeted catchment restoration actions on degraded land through youth led activities, 20 HH per Aldeai (village) apply improved practices on 50% of their fields (0.5 HA each = 2000 HA), improved agriculture fields and kitchen/household and school gardens equivalent to 5 HA per Aldeai (1000 HA). These restored land areas with increased infiltration of groundwater, reduced run off and soil erosion, increased biodiversity is estimated to have a multiplier benefit of 2 in surrounding and downstream areas of the catchment which will benefit =18,000 HA. A more nuanced understanding of this multiplier effect will be explored in the PPG phase and modelled with more detail.

Core indicator 3: This is based on the engagement of 200 aldeias (communities) who will each develop plans for catchment based adaptation actions that mobilise youth and women. An additional 6 national level institutions are estimated to be strengthened and or develop national level plans and frameworks.

Core indicator 4: Training – 10,000 people directly trained based on assumed 2 members per household in 25 households per aldeai with 200 Aldeai targetted. In addition Students at schools within the target area (4375) will also be trained. 14,375 in total.

<https://d.docs.live.net/278f8ac63d985e7d/Chawii>

Core indicator 5: This is a plausible estimate of private sector actors who may be involved in component 2 and 3 activities. It could include private sector service providers involved in brokering carbon or biodiversity offsets interested to learn from the modelling on more diverse polyculture adaptation systems and their carbon benefits through to enterprises involved in the youth based catchment and agriculture landscape restoration activities such as nursery/propagation providers and youth and women enterprises.

Tools | Agroecology Knowledge Hub | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (fao.org)

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

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

If so, please describe that role here. Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing

Cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects

This project is expected to form part of a wider strategic integrated program 'Building Climate Resilient Communities through Water and Food Security in Timor-Leste' will consolidate funding available from the

Global Environment Facility's Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other funding sources as they become available. The table below outlines other projects that are expected to have strong links to the LDCF. During the PPG stage, opportunities to increase co-finance from some of these projects will be explored in more detail.

Project,Budget & Timeline	Key Focus	Link to LDCF Project
ADB – GEF LDCF project currently in development with co finance from ADF and Ireland: <i>Rural Resilience and Livelihoods Improvement Project (RRLIP)</i> Approx. USD\$17 million	Strategic assessment & planning of land and natural resources (community based) Water harvesting and flood protection infrastructure Livelihood systems and market linkages for climate resilience	Project has similar landscape watershed approach in one municipality Manatuto (which is not targeted by this project). there will be opportunities to leverage technical assistance and joint learning during implementation which is likely to follow a similar timeline. Both projects will potentially contribute to the emerging program being developed by FAO and Timor Leste government mentioned above.
PARTISIPA Ten-year AUD80,000,000 (2021-2031)	Improve basic infrastructure and rural water systems	Supports partnerships for nature-based solutions (NbS), climate-resilient agriculture, and catchment protection.
Community-based Landscape Management,USD 15.4M JICA/GCF	Reduce deforestation and forest degradation through community-based natural resource management	LDCF focuses on catchment restoration, water retention, and agroforestry.
Climate-Induced Disasters,USD 59.4M (To 2026) UNDP GCF	Strengthen institutional capacity for climate risk management	Build systems for monitoring climate investments and community-level responses.
Early Warning Systems,USD 21.7M (To 2027), UNEP GCF	Enhance climate information and disaster risk reduction system	Strengthen local capacity for early warning responses.
SAPIP,USD 21M GAFSP	Boost smallholder agriculture productivity and watershed management	Aligns with LDCF's water security investments and climate-resilient agriculture.
Carbon Finance Projects,Various EU/DFAT	Increase access to finance for smallholders through carbon markets	Supports innovative climate finance for WASH and ecosystem restoration.
TOMAK DFAT	Sustainable agriculture and improved natural resource management	LDCF will build on TOMAK's capacity development for climate-resilient agriculture.
IkanAdapt,USD 14.9M (2022-2027), FAO GEF	Enhance resilience of fisheries and aquaculture to climate change	Lessons in ecosystem-based adaptation and biodiversity conservation
Disaster Ready Project,DFAT-funded	Local disaster preparedness and climate resilience	LDCF aligns with locally-led climate resiliency efforts.
School Feeding Program,USD 25M WFP and INGO consortium	Improve school attendance, nutrition, and local economy	LDCF supports climate-resilient agriculture and WASH services in schools.
COVID-19 Health System Support,USD 2.75M	Strengthen community response to health emergencies	LDCF will integrate climate-resilient WASH services to protect health
BEST – Education Sector,USD 23.55M World Bank	Improve school infrastructure and teaching quality	LDCF to address gaps in school water systems and food infrastructure.

Core Indicators

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

META INFORMATION – LDCF

LDCF true	SCCF-B (Window B) on technology transfer false	SCCF-A (Window-A) on climate Change adaptation false
Is this project LDCF SCCF challenge program? false		
This Project involves at least one small island developing State(SIDS). true		
This Project involves at least one fragile and conflict affected state. true		
This Project will provide direct adaptation benefits to the private sector. true		
This Project is explicitly related to the formulation and/or implementation of national adaptation plans (NAPs). true		
This project will collaborate with activities begin supported by other adaptation funds. If yes, please select below		
Green Climate Fund true	Adaptation Fund false	Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) false
This Project has an urban focus. false		
This project will directly engage local communities in project design and implementation true		
This project will support South-South knowledge exchange true		
This Project covers the following sector(s)[the total should be 100%]: *		
Agriculture	25.00%	
Nature-based management	25.00%	
Climate information services	5.00%	
Coastal zone management	0.00%	
Water resources management	25.00%	
Disaster risk management	5.00%	
Other infrastructure	0.00%	
Tourism	0.00%	
Health	15.00%	
Other (Please specify comments)	0.00%	
Total	100.00%	
This Project targets the following Climate change Exacerbated/introduced challenges:*		
Sea level rise false	Change in mean temperature true	Increased climatic variability true
		Natural hazards true

Land degradation true	Coastal and/or Coral reef degradation false	Groundwater quality/quantity true
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CORE INDICATORS – LDCF

	Total	Male	Female	% for Women
CORE INDICATOR 1 Total number of direct beneficiaries	32,856	16,428.00	16,428.00	50.00%
CORE INDICATOR 2 (a) Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha) (b) Coastal and marine area managed for climate resilience (ha)	18,000.00 0.00			
CORE INDICATOR 3 Number of policies/plans/ frameworks/institutions for to strengthen climate adaptation	206.00			
CORE INDICATOR 4 Number of people trained or with awareness raised	15,634	7,817.00	7,817.00	50.00%
CORE INDICATOR 5 Number of private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience	25.00			

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Moderate	As a part of this PIF development, FAO has undertaken climate risks assessment and its recommendations have been integrated in the PIF. Further detailing on their incorporation in the full proposal will be done during the PPG
Environmental and Social	Moderate	An assessment of environmental and social safeguards has been undertaken at PIF stage, in line with FAO's corporate safeguards checklist. In line with the rating from this exercise, further work will be undertaken during PPG to address any safeguards concerns. During PPG phase, the project formulation team will identify and assess the environmental and social risks and prepare a risk mitigation plan following the consultative process to ensure that the project is sustainable, environmentally responsible, and socially acceptable. The environmental and social risk management plan (ESRMP) will emphasize stakeholder engagement, the use of socio-economic, natural resource and climate data, and the implementation of effective mitigation measures. The ESRMP will include, but is not limited to, the following sections. I. A summary of identified risks and potential impacts II. Mitigation and management strategies III. Stakeholder consultation outcomes IV. Monitoring and reporting framework Through proper monitoring,

		transparency, and continuous improvement, this ESRMP process will support the long-term sustainability and social acceptability of the proposed project.
Political and Governance	Low	TL has a stable government and political and governance risks are considered low.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	This project builds on existing government priorities and policies. However, these are considered inadequate from climate change adaptation perspectives, hence the project is also emphasising these aspects in its design.
Technological	Low	The project will largely scale up and speed up the adaptation approaches suitable for Timor Leste, and hence these are considered low risk.
Financial and Business Model	Low	The project has a component to explore linking catchment restoration to climate finance markets. These pilots will need longer term investments to take them to scale but the risk is considered low.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Substantial	Given the limited capacities and resources of the government, these risks are considered high. The project will aim to mitigate these risks through appropriate capacity building and supporting sustainable financing mechanism, and multi stakeholder participation.
Fiduciary	Moderate	These risks of the proposed executing agency has not yet been attempted. This will be done during the PPG phase. Strong implementation support is expected to be part of the design
Stakeholder	Low	Given the high level of importance attached by local communities, their involvement and interest in the project is considered low risk, as well as by the government. The involvement of the nascent private sector is considered medium risk, as their involvement in such kinds of projects have been limited in the past. However, the project will make strong efforts to engage them in the project during the design phase. Overall risk, therefore, is still considered low
Other		
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	The overall risk is moderate because climate change impacts could potentially reverse/reduce the development gains made, regardless of the mitigation measures put in place across different risk categories, thus compounding the vulnerabilities. Further, the capacities of institutions to deliver on the scale expected as well as the level of community engagement is not ascertained.

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

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

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

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

The project's is on the theme of water under GEF8's LDCF strategy. The project will support actions to improve quality, quantity and access to freshwater in the context of climate change related impacts. Given freshwater is critical to agriculture, food security and health, the project will contribute to this theme. Aligned to theme 3, the project will support implementation of NbS to freshwater resource storage in ecosystems and aquifers. Water related hazards will be addressed, aligned to theme 4 on Early Warning and Climate Information Systems. The project will support climate resilient farming and food systems including promotion of flood- and drought-tolerant crop species. The entry point of water allows the project to contribute to all the priority themes identified by the GEF8 LDCF strategy.

The project is aligned with the levers of transformation. Component 1 aligns with Lever of Transformation 1: Policy coherence and mainstreaming of climate adaptation as well as Transformation 2: Strengthened governance for adaptation. Mainstreaming and governance is an important issue at local levels, and will be pursued under Component 2. Lever of Transformation 3: Knowledge exchange and collaboration is a strong focus in all components, and notably in Component 3. The project focus on knowledge management and sharing and ensuring effective arrangements for long term collaboration among different stakeholders ensures a "whole of society" approach, including strong private sector engagement. The project will work at landscape and agro-ecological system-based approaches; whilst integrating ecosystems and NbS as far as possible, focusing on rural communities as a priority.

Country and regional priorities

The project aligns with the following:

1. Strategic Development Plan 2011 – 2030 which identifies climate change and natural disasters as a major source of risk
2. National Disaster Risk Management Policy (2008)
3. The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2021 objective 1 which aims to build a climate-resilient development trajectory.
4. The National Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030 which recognizes that young people are the future of the country and they must be supported to gain the education, skills and experience needed to participate in national development.
5. National Water Resource Policy which aims to: 1) ensure the people have access to water resources, 2) encourage coordinated development of water sources for social, food security, economic and environment benefit, 3) empower the relevant authorities to develop and apply systems to manage, regulate and monitor the use and development of water resources.
6. The National Food and Nutrition Security Policy, 2017 (NFNSP) with its focus to invest in understanding the drivers of poor nutrition in children and women and tailor a response that significantly reduces child stunting. Second, strengthen the inter-ministerial/ inter-sectoral collaboration and coordination to implement critical nutrition-sensitive activities in preventing stunting effectively. And for national strategies to prioritise the most vulnerable children: the youngest, the poorest, and the socially excluded.
7. Timor Leste Carbon Farming Policy and Guideline' (CFPG) and emerging carbon market legislation.
8. Government priorities on gender equality and the prevention of gender-based violence.

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: Yes

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector: Yes

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

Stakeholder Name	Contact Name	Summary of PIF consultation & Role in Project
Meetings held with all stakeholders listed over 2 rounds of visits to Dili 4-8th September, 2023 & 25-28th September 2023		
Operational Focal Point (OFF) GEF Director General, Secretariat of State for Environment	Mr. Joao Carlos Soares DG National Directorate for Environmental Affairs (Min of Tourism and Environment) soaresjoaocarlos@ymail.com Tel:+670 333 9119/333 9094/7327062	<i>Role:</i> Overall project coordination. Lead Steering Committee. Recipient of capacity building in monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. Resources for coordination between climate investment projects. <i>Consultation:</i> numerous actors in carbon finance and questions over effectiveness of current approach to carbon tree plantings. Avoid one agency doing one thing in one area and then another coming and doing the same thing. Combine priorities of GEF with that of the government. Livelihoods of the community is the important priority & community ownership is important. Worried about severe water scarcity in Artuaro. Supports the idea of CSO and NGO delivery. Include community education and awareness, but linked to real action.

<p>National Designated Authority (NDA)</p> <p>National Directorate for International Environmental Affairs and Climate Change</p>	<p>Pedro da Costa, President of AND, I.P. National focal point for UNFCCC,GCF & CDM. A.04sta@gmail.com (+670)77571385</p> <p>Ivo Cancio, consultant Green Climate Fund and Clean Development Mechanism Ivosantos2000@yahoo. com</p> <p>+670 78022992</p> <p>Antonio Guterres Atoyabelg@gmail.com +670 74056951</p>	<p><i>Role:</i> Participate in the project steering committee. Recipient of capacity building in monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. Resources for national seminar to reflection on fund access and implementation. Support to set new priorities and new mechanisms at national level. Coordination of C1 activities round carbon pilots linked to c2 community driven catchment restoration and WASH.</p> <p>NDA has the authority for the carbon so if we have this in the project we need to coordinate with them.</p> <p><i>Consultation:</i> MCIE is the lead agency responsible for biodiversity conservation. The GEF operational focal point (OFP) and UNFCCC focal point Ministry. Coordinated the development of NAPA and 1st National Communication to UNFCCC. Developed a climate change thematic working group. Want to have independent (government led) assessments of investments and delivery by UN agencies.</p>
<p>Ministry of Forestry (MoF)</p>	<p>Raimundo Maun</p> <p>DG of forestry, coffee and industrial crops</p> <p>Adalfredo Ferreira</p> <p>Nat Dir of Forestry and Watershed management</p>	<p>MoF is responsible for forestry resources, including mangroves. Join Steering committee, support technical extension including on nurseries for catchment restoration. Agree aquifer recharge is a critical need and gap in the country experience. Have a lot of programs to plant trees but not a program to plant water. 29 critical catchments (out of 191 catchments in country) would like to see this overlaid with buffer zones of protected areas as potential focus for the project.</p>
<p>UNICEF</p>	<p>Bilal Durrani Country Representative Bazdurrani@unicef.org +670 78580345</p> <p>Suranga De Silva WASH Specialist sudesilva@unicef.org +670 7766 3234</p>	<p>Makes sense to use catch catchment management as an entry point for climate resilience.</p> <p>Existing partnerships with government and Permatil and learning on capacity building.</p> <p>UNICEF and FAO plan to coordinate in WASH sector and UNICEF will play a role in this project in particular in relation to nutrition sensitive agriculture and link to mothers and children health.</p> <p>Ministry of public works which includes health which is UNICEF strong point) linking the ministry of agriculture (which is FAO strength) is a very good opportunity of the collaboration and joint programming.</p>
<p>Agriculture (Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) National Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NDFA))</p>	<p>Mr. Martinho • Laurentino Soares</p> <p>Director Genera</p> <p>Livestock</p>	<p>Coordinate agriculture officer engagement at local (suku) level. Participate in Steering committee. Coordination of nutrition sensitive agriculture and south - south linkages for access to Germplasm. Livestock division is interested to explore opportunities for livestock for nutrition but also livestock management as critical factor for</p>

	Ms. Joanita Jong ND Veterinary Services	<p>catchment regeneration. Traditional irrigation can be strengthened.</p> <p>Suggested to explore groundwater pumping and focus on horticulture. Specific water challenges and opportunities for water retention structures in Atauro island</p> <p>Critical to focus on livestock and their management to enable catchment restoration.</p>
Education	Ms. Odilia da Does Education Director General	Strongly supportive of the project overall and of school involvement in school garden climate and nutrition focussed initiatives and in filling gaps for WASH and water/ sanitation needs in particular. Join Steering Committee and facilitate links with schools and education authorities in target municipalities. Link to existing infrastructure programs and seek synergies.
Ministry of State Administration.	Sr Acaci Barret Chief of department Municipality planning and finance.	<p>Suggested possible links with the school feeding program. In target schools, suggested we also look at cafeteria and food preparation and food safety environments. Key challenge for school procurement is fruit and vegetables - suggested we consider linking activities in the project to school procurement markets where possible.</p> <p>Water scarcity in schools is immense. Upland areas are the worst off. Protection of water catchments and splints is not an area delegated to municipal level - it is a gap to get local engagement in this area and highly supportive of approach.</p>
Permatil	Ego Lemos CEO Goodwill Ambassador for Art, Culture and Environment ego.lemos72@gmail.com +670 77257883	<p>NGO operating 23 years cooperation with government and multiple projects on catchment restoration, Youth led approach. Current scale is approx \$500,000 per year across multiple projects / donors. Project will aim to +/- double this through a single program linked to capacity building. Work with Permaculture Youth Association -youth movement planting trees.</p> <p>Proposed to lead a consortium of local NGOs in component 2. Recipient of capacity building from Component 1.</p>
Anaprofiko	Joanico Ximenes Manager anaprofikotl@gmail.com +670 77122602 Ilidio Mendonca Executive President Samuel Soares Vice President	70 seed producer farmer groups across country. Strong relationship with Agriculture department. Potential role in multiplication of planting materials for C2 activities plus strong groups to build on at local level including women's savings groups once municipal targeting clear.
World Bank -	Karen Navarro Water Specialist, SEAW1 knavarrorios@worldbank.org +67077955525	<p>Supportive of the Concept of WASH - NRM – irrigation in an integrated approach</p> <p>Key challenge will be the capacity of the government to implement.</p> <p>Sector(s) suffer from Lack of studies, lack of information, or poor coordination of it</p>

		<p>Potential link to MCC project depending on geographic targeting (if part of Dili catchment for example)</p> <p>Learn from experiences of consulting firm as PMU manager in current WB project.</p>
WaterAid	<p>Justino Da Silva, Country Director justino.dasilva@wateraid.org.au</p> <p>Paul Johnston (Water Aid Australia)</p> <p>Antonio Rosario antonio.rosario@wateraid.org.au</p> <p>+670 3322 944</p>	<p>Program scale is \$1.5 million per year. Over 16 years have worked with 140 communities on water on Water systems. Experience working on WASH with schools (including on menstrual health) and aid posts. Part of PNBESTIL network of WASH providers. Have worked successfully with Permatil as partner on water infiltration and SIMILE on sensors and environmental monitoring. Experience with local organisation capacity building. Mostly spring fed water systems but some experience with bore holes and solar pumps. Do capacity building on community management and water user groups / SEMASA.</p> <p>Potential to be part of NGO consortium leading activities in WASH with schools and aid posts.</p>
PARTISIPA		<p>Coordinate and link with program especially concerning WASH and Suku level structures - LDCF project will expand their focus to include youth and community led catchment restoration.</p> <p>Looking at maintenance of water supply systems</p> <p>Impacts of climate change, natural disaster. Farmlands grow upstream of water supply. Hear a lot about water supply has gone dry. Communities then break into dispute</p> <p>Have a budget line for environment activities - this varies from municipality to municipality. Mostly under-utilised. setting up water management committee within communities to take care of water supply systems.</p>
FONGTIL,	<p>Mr. Valenti</p> <p>+670 7724 2717, 7738 3836</p> <p>forumong.tl@gmail.com</p>	<p>Participate in steering committee. Possibly part of local NGO capacity building activities under c1.</p> <p>Civil Society umbrella organisation for Timor Leste 270 members most are NGOS have sectoral working groups including agriculture and WASH</p>

CRS	<p>Sarah Ali, Country Manager and Climate Change PM, Alberto : sub office Bakau - project officer for climate change , carbon capture program</p> <p>Jason Ndia : Monitoring, accountability and Learning.</p> <p>Edwin - DRR Program Director based in Bakau</p>	<p>Link to carbon finance pilots as part of CRS consortium working with NDA. Could have a potential role in capacity building of local NGOs. Depending on geographic focus could be closer integration with existing projects.</p> <p>Program includes: Community disaster risk management- rain water harvesting, water source protection and water conservation. Do catchment and water source restoration work: Introducing fast growing trees for firewood. Want to promote native trees. Have Agroforestry technical expertise to support.</p>
WorldVision	<p>Jared Berends Country Director jared_berends@wvi.org</p>	<p>No direct role - coordination with their project(s).</p> <p>Current nutrition sensitive agriculture programs includes some catchment related program. Many relevant nutrition sensitive ag experiences: integration with health service messaging, kitchen gardens, horticulture production, accelerating natural revegetation of catchments, cooking and processing. 5 super foods: Soya bean, moringa, mung bean, + 2 others. Focus is on iron and protein deficiency as key need following their own surveys. Promote inter cropping of these nutrition crops plus production in home gardens, simple irrigation technologies. Community health worker visits houses and reinforces messages. Have used Permatil for training.</p>
European Union	<p>Severin MELLAC</p> <p>Attache Project Manager Rural Development, Environment and Climate Change.</p> <p>Delegation of European Union to Timor Leste</p> <p>+670 3311580</p>	<p>No Direct role - aim to link with EU supported projects in Carbon and forestry sector for learning and synergies, Suggested FAO open a dialogue with EU on water - talk about it on a policy level and try and develop a coordination mechanism,</p> <p>EU want to continue to invest in agroforestry. Want to consider carbon farming one of the opportunities but not the only opportunity. Want to see a relationship with the water infrastructure, Want to consider the potential of water harvesting structures. Water for irrigation requires quite large investment. 7 million from EU wont be enough for any large scale irrigation.</p>
ACIAR	<p>Luis Almeda</p> <p>Luis.Almeida@aciarc.gov.au</p> <p>+670 7726 2971</p>	<p>5-7 projects on a range of themes</p> <p>Potential to link in particular with project on indigenous underutilised food crop development and connect to component 2</p>
Aboriginal Carbon Foundation	<p>Lisa McMurray</p>	<p>Potential advisory role in establishing carbon finance pilots for catchment restoration and developing baselines</p> <p>DFAT funded carbon financing program is supporting NDA to gain exposure to Australia carbon governance mechanisms and institutions for learning. WWF managed - Climate Resilience for Nature. 6 NGO consortium - ACF is one of the 6. CRS is the lead NGO (at least in TL). National</p>

		Determined Authority – taskforce is aiming to set up a carbon industry.
CARE	<p>Jose da Costa</p> <p>Programme Director</p> <p>jose.dacosta@careint.org</p>	<p>Coordination with their programs. Potential role on PMU if government was unable to meet micro assessment requirements.</p> <p>Have passed UN Micro Assessments. Largest and longest running INGO in TL. Strong focus on Nutrition, education and women economic empowerment. Moving to a localisation model - increasing delivery through local NGPO partners and building their capacity. National magazine goes to all schools in country. Lead of school feeding consortium in country and work with world bank and Japan on social development. Currently lead of DFAT funded INGO consortium</p>
Oxfam	<p>Mr. Fausto</p> <p>Country Director</p>	<p>Program includes water catchment / disaster resilience although currently do not have operational project in catchment restoration. Transitioned from direct implementing to working with local partners at national and municipal level. Strong focus on localisation - over 20 civil society partners including Permatil. Part of global advocacy program on climate finance and plan to support civil society tracking and monitoring of GCF and GEF investments in Timor Leste. Supporting the government to have better understanding about disaster response and preparedness and hearing community needs and ideas. Part of the EU carbon project - community led carbon agroforestry - a consortium of different organisations - Oxfam is the contract holder. - with One Seed as partner. Have done micro assessment globally in the past.</p>
World Bank BEST project (infrastructure)	ADD	<p>Link for school census when available to support priority schools for WASH interventions overlaid with other criteria.</p> <p>Did school census. Supporting school infrastructure upgrades.</p>
JICA		<p>GCF project - CBNRN - community based natural resource management - implemented by JICA and covers various target watersheds and runs until 2029. Focussed on irrigation infrastructure. Some challenges over government partner capacity. Share lessons learned. Likely this project will target different municipalities.</p>
Community consultations	<p>Visits were made to selected community sites where Water Aid has worked with Permatil to deliver catchment restoration in Liquica municipality. Informal discussions were held with men and women members of the farmer group and community as well as restoration work observed.</p>	<p>Scaling the youth led catchment restoration model of Permatil is a central focus of component 2 of the project. The site visits clearly confirm community ownership and commitment and the clear benefits to increased water infiltration, restored community water sources, and increased biodiversity. The second site was also a member of Anaprofiko Association and the links with strengthened seed producer groups were also discussed and are seen as a possibility for inclusion in the local NGO consortium approach.</p>

An WRM-WASH Integration for Enhanced Climate Resilience: Roundtable Discussion on Opportunities in Timor-Leste as held on the 5th September 2023 that involved Government, local NGOs and community representatives, International NGOs present in Timor Leste, UN Agencies and donors in a full day workshop.

Main findings of the roundtable which included community representatives:

- Wide agreement that drought and scarcity are key challenges (especially in the current El Nino period)
- Participants shared many promising nature-based solutions that can be scaled up: catchment work, tree planting, use of natural regeneration, nutrition sensitive agriculture
- New ideas that can be tested including involving private sector eg use of environmental sensors,
- Good models for involving youth, women, local structures, Suku level structures
- Must enable ownership at all levels - from government through to community / household for

sustainability

- Need good coordination and leadership and buy in from government and also between different

government agencies and levels, currently many programmes are overlapping

- Mechanisms to enable them to deliver their programs and strengthen their organizations

In implementation need regular process(s) to reflect on progress, learn lessons, share information

- Capacity building is important - for civil society and for Govt. - different needs for each
- A lot of opportunity to form consortiums and networks and build on respective strengths.
- A lot of opportunity to link with and connect with other programs
- Several opportunities to capitalize on emerging carbon markets – biochar, cookstoves, replanting, solar powered irrigation/WASH

These discussions were updated through stakeholder meetings during August – September 2023 and again in August and September 2024.

Stakeholders

Relevant Stakeholders	Their role in the system	Role in the project
Government including: GEF Operational Focal Point Secretariat of State for Environment, National Directorate for Environmental Affairs; National Designated	Coordination, policy and service delivery of relevant sectors. Decision making on climate financing priorities.	Subject to passing a micro assessment, the government will be the lead executing agency. Participate in the Steering Committee.

<p>Authority (NDA) under Secretary of State;</p> <p>MALFF; Ministry of Education;</p> <p>Municipal service for water, sanitation and environment supply office (SMASA); Ministry of Public Works</p>		<p>Select and support coordination with schools that take part in WASH and climate/nutrition sensitive agriculture activities.</p> <p>Participate in project monitoring.</p> <p>Lead project impact assessments with TA from project.</p>
<p>Private sector including farmers, farmer groups, Associations (eg Anaprofiko Asosiasaun Nasional Produtor Fini Komersial</p> <p>Seed Producers),</p> <p>MSMEs, social enterprises, and carbon market actors</p>	<p>Agriculture production units responsible for land use decisions. Groups enable collective marketing, training and learning. More formally organised groups of farmers including as commercial seed producers. Traders in carbon credits link to global voluntary carbon markets.</p>	<p>Small farming enterprises, particularly those led by women and youth and at household level are the key target group.</p> <p>Associations/cooperatives may have roles in producing seed to meet climate and nutritional diversification requirements. Carbon value chain actors will be involved in determining the approach to catchment restoration pilots</p>
<p>Local Actors: NGOs & CSOs: Permatil, Perma Youth Association, others TBD in PPG design phase</p>	<p>Timor Leste has a vibrant and open civil society. Permatil has worked for 20 years on catchment restoration and sustainable farming practices with communities.</p>	<p>Permatil as a key implementor will take their models (operating for 23 years) to scale using a youth led leadership approach to step down to rural communities, households and schools (gardens). Participate in Capacity building.</p>
<p>Youth and Women</p>	<p>Evidence is emerging on the immense negative impacts of climate change on children and youth. Gender inequality is causing a 30% productivity gap in Timor Leste and the drivers of this inequality are likely to be increased by climate change.</p>	<p>Women will be key targets of adaptation efforts at community level. Adaptation measures will be sensitive to gender roles in different crops and address gender needs such as firewood collection and cooking, nutritional diversity decisions, kitchen gardens.</p> <p>Youth will be leaders of the catchment restoration activities and youth groups will be mobilised to support land-based water retention structures and tree planting. Schools will be involved in adaptation activities and students will involve their families in climate smart nutritional gardens.</p>
<p>United Nations agencies</p>	<p>Accredited Applicant to LCDF and climate finance in general.</p>	<p>FAO will have overall contractual responsibility for the fund according to GEF requirements.</p> <p>FAO and UNICEF have agreed to collaborate to enable a more integrated approach to WASH and water security on a regional basis and this collaboration is expected to contribute to this project.</p>
<p>International NGOs</p>	<p>Major international NGOs deliver projects through various finance channels including for adaptation and WASH. They have a general direction to increased localisation and working through national NGO partners and building their capacity</p>	<p>WaterAid or other WASH sector specialists present in Timor Leste will form part of the consortium to deliver WASH interventions in communities, schools. During PPG an INGO (e.g. CARE) may be selected as lead executing agency if Govt. is not able to meet micro assessment requirements.</p>

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

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

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

Yes

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
FAO	LDCF	Timor Leste	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	4,416,210.00	419,540.00	4,835,750.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)						4,416,210.00	419,540.00	4,835,750.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

150000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

14250

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
FAO	LDCF	Timor Leste	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	150,000.00	14,250.00	164,250.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)						150,000.00	14,250.00	164,250.00

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

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

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CCA-1-1	LDCF	4,416,210.00	5250000
Total Project Cost		4,416,210.00	5,250,000.00

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Donor Agency	Permatil linked projects – various contracted projects - AFD, KIWA, MFAT, UNDP	Grant	Investment mobilized	979494

Donor Agency	UNEP/GCF 'Enhancing Early Warning Systems to build greater resilience to hydro-meteorological hazards in Timor Leste'	Grant	Investment mobilized	2138006
Donor Agency	TOMAK/DFAT	Grant	Investment mobilized	250000
Donor Agency	Partisipa/DFAT	Grant	Investment mobilized	1272500
Donor Agency	GAFSP/GAFSP Sustainable Agriculture Productivity Improvement Project (SAPIP) - 4 biggest water catchments	Grant	Investment mobilized	250000
Donor Agency	JSDF Program/Japan Social Development Fund	Grant	Investment mobilized	110000
GEF Agency	FAO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	250000
Total Co-financing				5,250,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

a) Existing grant projects of Permatil with apportioning of budget with expected strong synergies to project; b) LDCF project will extend Early Warning information to communities and support their understanding and response actions; c) Synergies with Kafo level capacity building; d) Synergies with Kafo level capacity building, including DRR committees; e) Likely links with water catchment restoration work; f) Likely synergies with community driven grants program pending final geographic focus area confirmation

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Jeffrey Griffin		Lianchawii Chhakchhuak		jeffrey.griffin@fao.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Joao Carlos Soares	National Director for Climate Change and Timor Leste - GEF OFP	Secretariat of State for Environment National Directorate for Environmental Affairs Edificio de Fomento, Mandarin Dili Timor Leste	9/24/2024

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

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





Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Project Area Map: Timor-Leste Districts and Sub-districts



Source: United Nations. 2020. Map of the world [online]. [Cited July 2022]

Timor-Leste is organized into 14 municipalities, which include 13 districts further divided into 67 sub-districts. At the local level, Timor-Leste has 498 villages, or *suku*, composed of one or more *aldeias* (hamlets). This division provides an average of seven villages per sub-district. This district and sub-district map of Timor-Leste was developed as part of the GEF-8 project. GEF-8 project focuses on climate change adaptation to strengthen regional food security.

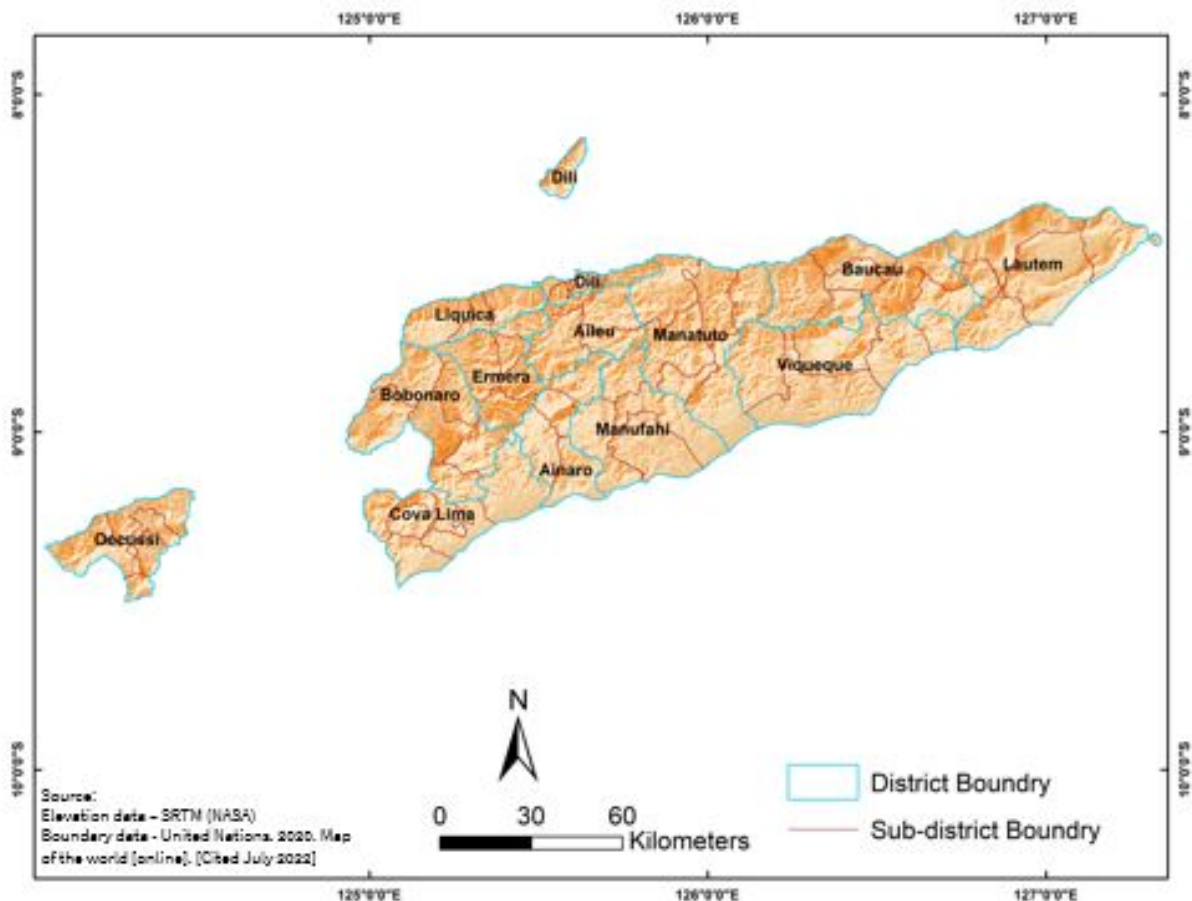


Figure 1: Location map of GEF-8 Project in Timor-Leste

Prepared by Ashiq Hussain, Shrijwal Adhikari, Amit Ghosh, Adrian Saman, Beau Daman and Mathieu Henry for the GEF-8 projects. Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations, Rome, Italy.
[AESR \(2022\)](#)

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ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

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

Title

FPMIS_Environmental_and_Social_Risk_Screening_Checklist_final

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Significant Objective 1	Principal Objective 2	Principal Objective 2	Principal Objective 2

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

The taxonomy worksheet is provided as an annex in the Roadmap

