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 18

Project description 18

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project. 28

Core Indicators 30

Risks to Project Preparation and Implementation 33

C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES 38

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS 40

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: 40

Stakeholder Engagement 40

Private Sector 44

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks 44

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS 44

Knowledge management 44

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES 44

GEF Financing Table 44

Project Preparation Grant (PPG) 45

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation 45

Indicative Focal Area Elements 46

Indicative Co-financing 46

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS 46

GEF Agency(ies) Certification 46

Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s): 46

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION 47

ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING 47

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS 47

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET 48

General Project Information

Project Title Land degradation neutrality initiative in Southern Haiti	
Region Haiti	GEF Project ID 11238
Country(ies) Haiti	Type of Project FSP
GEF Agency(ies): FAO	GEF Agency ID 744472
Executing Partner UNEP Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development	Executing Partner Type GEF Agency Government
GEF Focal Area (s) Land Degradation	Submission Date 4/12/2023
Project Sector (CCM Only) AFOLU	
Taxonomy Gender results areas, Gender Equality, Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Productivity, Land Cover and Land cover change, Carbon stocks above or below ground, Food Security, Climate Change, Climate Change Mitigation, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Climate Change Adaptation, Climate resilience, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Local Communities, Type of Engagement, Participation, Beneficiaries, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Participation and leadership, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Capacity Development, Knowledge Exchange, South-South	
Type of Trust Fund GET	Project Duration (Months) 96
GEF Project Grant: (a) 5,417,361.00	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b) 0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c) 514,649.00	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d) 0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d) 5,932,010.00	Total Co-financing 20,175,990.00
PPG Amount: (e)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)

150,000.00	14,250.00
PPG total amount: (e+f) 164,250.00	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f) 6,096,260.00
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)

Land degradation is the result of human-induced actions which exploit land, causing its utility, biodiversity, soil fertility, and overall health to decline[1][1]. Southern Haiti suffers from land degradation due to unsustainable agricultural practices and deforestation and is, in addition, highly exposed to climate hazards such as storms, floods and droughts. Environmental degradation brought about by unsustainable agricultural practices and deforestation, combined with periodic downpours from storms, have resulted in major flooding and advanced soil erosion, and subsequent declines in agricultural productivity (also affected by climate induced droughts). In addition to erosion, deforestation and unsustainable agricultural practices conduct to the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services and increase the climate vulnerability of people and ecosystems.

Despite the Government's awareness of the above mentioned and efforts already undertaken by Haiti's Government and partner institutions, several barriers such as lack of information and weak inter-institutional coordination, planning frameworks, effective governance and institutional capacities regarding sustainable land management mainstreaming for achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) still remain.

This project's objective is to promote sustainable land management (SLM) for the recovery and restoration of prioritized landscapes that sustain environmental services and food security. The proposed project is structured around four interrelated components aimed at i) strengthening the enabling environment for LDN target setting and monitoring; ii) promoting sustainable land management (SLM) for recovering and restoring ecosystems; iii) sustainable land management (SLM) for soil conservation in agricultural systems and iv) knowledge management to combat land degradation.

The project will focus on six municipalities in the South Department, highly exposed to climate risks driving land degradation, with high rates of deforestation and where percentage of soils with high risk of erosion range from 50% at Les Cayes basin up to 81% at the Tiburon-Port Salut basin. The focus on the South department will allow for greater efficiency, concentration of activity, deeper understanding of the context and stakeholders, which enable to increase the potential for project activities to be scaled-up and replicated in other departments and at the national level. The project will benefit from co-financing from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project "Increasing the resilience of vulnerable farmers in Southern Haiti" targeting the same intervention area and whose activities are complementary.

[1] United Nations Convention to combat Desertification. https://www.unccd.int/land-and-life/land-degradation-neutrality/overview

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

Promote SLM for the recovery and restoration of prioritized landscapes that sustain environmental services and food security in Southern Haiti

Project Components

1. Strengthen the Enabling Environment for LDN target setting at landscape level for continued transformation in prioritized basins

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
450,033.00	4,085,327.00

Outcome:

1.1 Enabling environment to improve decision-making and facilitate LDN planning and target setting for restoring degraded ecosystem and agrifood systems strengthened

Output:

1.1.1 LDN target setting and baseline assessment of LDN indicators conducted at national and local scales

1.1.2 Participatory assessment of SLM practices that avoid and reduce land degradation and restore ecosystems, reduce emissions and improve the provision of ecosystem services conducted

1.1.3 Governance and institutional systems strengthened to integrate LDN planning and SLM practices into policies and plans

1.1.4 Capacities and awareness of institutions at local and national levels strengthened to support achieving LDN

2. Demonstrate the LDN approach and promoting sustainable livelihoods through avoidance/ reduction of land degradation and restoration of ecosystems, in prioritized landscapes

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
3,404,016.00	3,385,165.00

Outcome:

2.1 Improved land management practices in key selected ecosystems and agricultural intervention areas to avoid and/or reduce land degradation and restore ecosystem services

Output:

2.1.1 Ecosystems restored at landscape-level through enhanced Sustainable Land Management (SLM) practices
2.1.2 Restoration and management of coastal ecosystem (including the wetland and coastal ecosystems -beach, mangrove and reef)

3. Promote innovative incentive mechanisms to promote SLM for sustainable climate-resilient agricultural systems in order to achieve LDN

Component Type	Trust Fund
	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
870,726.00	10,116,420.00

Outcome:

.1 SLM and resilience production practices in key value chains for diversifying livelihoods and providing long-term sustainability to the estoration mainstreamed

Output:

3.1.1 SLM practices to promote sustainable climate- resilient production systems adopted
3.1.2 Targeted SLM-friendly value chains fostered through market linkages, enhancing resilience and socio-economic benefits

4. Knowledge management and communication strategy

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
272,095.00	1,332,443.00

Outcome:

4.1 Knowledge management, and lessons learned disseminated to improve awareness

Output:

4.1.1 Communication strategy developed and implemented to support SLM scaling up to meet LDN targets
4.1.2 Knowledge management products developed and disseminated

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
162,521.00	295,874.00

Outcome:

Output:

Project mid-term and final evaluation conducted

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
1. Strengthen the Enabling Environment for LDN target setting at landscape level for continued transformation in prioritized basins	450,033.00	4,085,327.00
2. Demonstrate the LDN approach and promoting sustainable livelihoods through avoidance/ reduction of land degradation and restoration of ecosystems, in prioritized landscapes	3,404,016.00	3,385,165.00
3. Promote innovative incentive mechanisms to promote SLM for sustainable climate-resilient agricultural systems in order to achieve LDN	870,726.00	10,116,420.00
4. Knowledge management and communication strategy	272,095.00	1,332,443.00
M&E	162,521.00	295,874.00
Subtotal	**5,159,391.00**	**19,215,229.00**
Project Management Cost	257,970.00	960,761.00
Total Project Cost ($)	**5,417,361.00**	**20,175,990.00**

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

1) Global environmental problems that need to be addressed

Context

Land degradation in Haiti and land degradation neutrality

Land degradation is a critical concern in Haiti. The direct causes of land degradation in the country are the alarming rate of deforestation and unsustainable agricultural practices. Weak governance systems, lack of effective land use planning, poverty and climate change[1][2] are underlying drivers. Land degradation in Haiti induced to a loss of forest cover and fertile soils, resulting in the loss of ecosystem services, economic losses for the agriculture sector, increased food insecurity and a higher vulnerability to climate change. Deforestation, particularly in the hillsides, has led to flooding, dramatic rates of soil erosion, and subsequent declines in agricultural productivity. Haiti's coastal and marine resources have also been degraded by sediment deposition and overfishing, resulting in considerable loss in biodiversity. Haiti's remaining primary forest represents less than 1% of the original cover[2][3] and erosion affects over half of Haiti's territory with 6% of the land, or 166,500 hectares, considered to be severely eroded[3][4].

The purpose of Land Degradation Neutrality is to stop the current loss of fertile land due to its degradation[4][5]. Unlike past approaches, the LDN sets a goal for degradation management that consists of a response hierarchy, with measures to prevent or reduce land degradation, combined with others to reverse past degradation. Three concurrent actions required for achieving land degradation neutrality: i) building enabling conditions for avoiding new degradation of land and maintaining existing healthy land; ii) reducing existing degradation by adopting sustainable land management (SLM) practices that can slow degradation while increasing biodiversity, soil health, and food production and iii) restore and return degraded lands to a natural or more productive state[5][6]. Haiti is signatory of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) but hasn't submitted its voluntary LDN targets yet. In 2015, the Government of Haiti, in its *Aligned Programme of National Action to fight against desertification*-aligned to the *National Action Plan to Fight Against Desertification (PAN-LCD)*[6][7]**,** developed a framework with the overall objective to enhance the livelihoods of the Haitian people through the improvement and restoration of ecosystems. The PAN-LCD (whose development process initiated in 2009) established as specific objectives to i) improve knowledge on land degradation and systematise models and experiences to improve knowledge on land degradation; ii) influence mechanisms and actors for the adequate integration of the fight against desertification into public and sectoral policies; iii) develop and strengthen local and national capacities; iv) improve the institutional and legislative framework for combating land degradation; v) create synergies between actors and stakeholders; and vi) rehabilitate areas affected by land degradation. Five areas of intervention were prioritized: 1) strengthening national capacities to combat desertification; 2) the development and strengthening of scientific, technical and technological capacities; 3) sustainable management of natural resources; 4) restoration/rehabilitation of degraded soils and ecosystems; and 5) improving the income and living conditions of affected populations[7][8].

Institutional Context

The Government of Haiti has developed the abovementioned *Aligned Programme of National Action to Fight Against Desertification* and *National Action Plan to Fight Against Desertification* (PAN-LCD). However, Government investment plans do not integrate LDN clear targets and SLM into their budget lines and territorial planning instruments do not integrate this issue. There is still a lack for building an integrated approach that could provide the basis for LDN target setting and SLM implementation. Efforts are still required to demonstrate the LDN approach and integrate it into inter-sectoral planning processes to avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation. In addition, it is also necessary to enhance synergy and integrate actions to adapt to climate change, to conserve and sustainably use natural resources and increase food production and other socio-economic benefits.

Socioeconomic and political context

Haiti has a population of 11.9 million[8][9] (IHSI 2022) and remains the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, with a GDP per capita of USD 820. In terms of food security, following the socio-political shocks of the year 2019 in the country, the number of people in need or suffering from food insufficiency increased in 2020 from 2.5 to 4.6 million (41% of the population), an 80% increase[9][10]. According to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis (2022), a record 4.7 million people are currently facing acute hunger (IPC 3 and above), including 1.8 million people in Emergency phase (IPC 4) and, for the first time ever in Haiti, 19,000 people are in Catastrophe phase (phase 5)[10][11]. Among other implications, intense food security hinders farming households' ability to engage in the longer-term planning needed to tackle land degradation and improve climate resilience. Haiti has been facing several years of conflicts and political instability resulting in conflicts, violence and a lack of confidence in the government structures. With a lack of government structures, institutions are unable to coordinate actions which exacerbates pressure on natural resources and increases the impacts on / of land degradation. There is also a low involvement of governmental institutions in the implementation process: Lack of expertise or interest in the Government might lead to misunderstanding of progress and challenges on the ground and to a certain extent to the lack of recognition of best practices for sustainability and replication.

Contribution the national economy and challenges of the agriculture sector

Agriculture plays a crucial role in the Haitian economy, contributing to 20.6% of GDP[11][12] (although the budget allocated to the Ministry of Agriculture only accounts for 6.5%) and 5.9% of total exports value[12][13]. In 2022, it only accounted for 3.10%[13][14]. By providing 75% of employment to low-income rural households, agriculture represents the main source of income in rural areas[14][15]. The agricultural sector is constituted of about one million farming plots, of which 22% are led by women[15][16] . Smallholders[16][17] are the overwhelming majority of farmers, representing over 90% of the workforce. Smallholders farm on 2-3 plots, each covering 0.62 ha on average, and produce about 45% of the national food supply[17][18]. Smallholder farming is characterised by low access to production means and assets.

Agriculture in Haiti is beset with problems, despite its importance in local food security and its contribution to GDP. The lack of policy and infrastructure support and little investment has resulted in the decline in food production, a lack of growth in the agriculture

sectors' economic contribution, and an increase in food insecurity[18][19]. The decline in productivity is closely linked to several factors[19][20], including land tenure and lack of long-term security, reducing incentives for farmers to invest in long term soil fertility. These factors are compounded by climate hazards, political instability, and the deterioration of soil quality for farming[20][21].

Production is highly dependent on rainfall; most farmers have poor access to agricultural inputs and knowledge; and access to credit in rural areas is not a viable option for most poor farmers. In addition, there is little organization among producers and value chains are underdeveloped, which is further compounded by a lack of rural infrastructure to access markets. Among other factors, the lack of value addition along value chains, and the unreliability and weak sustainability of sources of farmers' incomes generated from tree-crops and other vegetable crops due to climate variability impacting agricultural campaigns constitutes a major impediment to the maintenance and sustainable expansion of smallholders systems**.** This also drives their choices towards higher demanded/less perishable production, such as charcoal, often at the expense of the environment, contributing to the vicious circle of land degradation and increasing population vulnerability.

Land use and land tenure

In a country that is already densely populated, steady population growth and land inheritance rules continue to put pressure on land and to drive land use changes. Haiti has 961 inhabitants per square kilometre of arable land, the highest density pressure on arable land in the Western Hemisphere. Farm sizes have shrunk dramatically over time. Diversification, which is an important risk mitigation strategy for farmers, has become increasingly difficult to apply in this context. The traditional practice of creole gardens (or "jardin creole"), i.e. small but highly diversified agro-forestry systems which provide fresh and nutritious food throughout most of the year, among other benefits (including high biodiversity, higher productivity linked to species associations, and soil protection and quality), have tended to decrease to give way to annual crops. Restoring these agro-forestry systems is not affordable for the vast majority of farmers.

The land in Haiti is subject to important land use pressure and has sustained severe degradation of the land fertility and natural resources. Haiti's complex land tenure system is also cited as key constraint to agricultural intensification and rural development. A majority of agricultural parcels are indeed informally divided while the formal institutional system for administering tenure and registering property is largely ineffective. Although 38% of Haiti's land area is arable, the share of land dedicated to agricultural production is almost double. The consequences of this high land use intensity are several and range in scale; at the environmental level, accelerated erosion has resulted in low agricultural productivity, landslides, and increased flood impact. At the social level, decreasing soil fertility and low agricultural productivity have contributed to food insecurity.

Land tenure in Haiti is characterised by the fragmentation of agricultural land, with around 1 million small agricultural exploitations of less than 1 hectare, and very few farms with more than 50 or 100 hectares. Haiti does not have an effective national cadastre and lacks a comprehensive, functional system for recording land ownership. Ownership claims and conflicts over land resources are exacerbated by the situation post the numerous climate hazards hitting the country increasing pressure on natural resources and land degradation. In addition to the lack of clear definition on land ownership, another issue with the land tenure system is the appropriation of public agricultural land and plots by people who do not own the land. This practice poses an important sustainability issue as farmers are not incentivised to apply soil conservation practices such as long-term fallow, in an effort to maximise production to the detriment of soil fertility.

Climate change

Haiti is one of the most exposed countries in the world to climate hazards including hurricanes, floods, and droughts. The number of named storms which came within 200 km of Haiti has increased from up to 4 by per decade in the 1980s, to 11 in the first decade of this century. The effects of hurricanes include wind damage, landslides, torrential debris flows, coastal surges and flooding. Environmental degradation brought about by deforestation combined with periodic downpours from storms, have resulted in major flooding and advanced soil erosion in many regions[21][22]. A maximum increase in temperature of 1.02°C and 1.87°C is expected for 2025 and 2055 respectively, under RCP 4.5, while under RCP 8.5 maximum increases of 1.18°C for 2025 and 2.57°C for 2055 are expected. In terms of rainfall, the 2030s will be up to 6% drier, the 2050s up to 17% drier, while by the end of the century the country as a whole may be expected to be 20% drier for the most severe RCP scenario (RCP8.5) and between 9 and 12% drier for RCP4.5 and RCP6.0, respectively. This will affect agricultural production and will have impacts on food security. Climate risk is particularly high in the South Department and in addition to the high exposure to climate drivers, the area suffers from land degradation due to unsustainable agricultural practices and deforestation, thus leading to increased climate vulnerability of both the population and ecosystems.

Project intervention area and problem to be addressed

The South Department suffers from land degradation due to deforestation and unsustainable agricultural practices (the local population has limited know-how of sustainable land management (SLM) and sustainable agricultural practices). The South Department is ranked second, with 42.9% of its territory affected by land degradation. Deforestation in the department is very high, with the Tiburon – Port Salut watershed having deforestation in 86% of the slopes above 40%. Main drivers for the deforestation are related to the dependency on firewood (households resort to chopping trees and selling firewood as well) and the lack of alternative livelihood opportunities (tree cutting for land expansion for agriculture and cash generation through firewood or charcoal production and sales, as well as timber sales). For the South Department, the percentage of soils with high risk of erosion range from 50% at Les Cayes basin up to 81% at the Tiburon-Port Salut basin (ranking this watershed four in the country with higher risk of erosion); the deforested area in slopes above 40% at the South, reaches 87% at the Tiburon-Port Salut basin[22][23]. Accelerated erosion affect the agricultural production cycle and lead to production loss from the highlands to the coastal environment, severely affecting those with a heavy reliance on subsistence agriculture[23][24].

In addition, climate risk is particularly high in the South Department where a combination of high exposure to hurricanes and increased susceptibility of ecosystems to damages, due to high level of land degradation (deforestation and soil erosion), is hitting poor communities with low ability to adapt and react**.** Taking into consideration that climate change impacts are expected to worsen, the phenological requirements of key staple and export crops cultivated in the South department may no longer be met. In the middle elevations, the suitability for common beans and cacao may decrease or be lost in the future. The suitability for bananas and taro, may decrease in mid-elevations and be lost along the coastal areas. For maize, it may decrease in lower and coastal areas but may remain the same in mid-elevations. Cashew, cassava and lima beans would not be affected, while the suitability for sorghum may remain the same overall, or even tend to increase in some areas. In the case of pigeon and sweet potato, suitability in the midlands may decrease in the future, though it would increase at higher elevations, probably putting additional pressure on biodiversity hotspots and protected areas in the highlands.

As the project cannot cover all the municipalities in the South Department at the same time without risking a dilution of funding and therefore results, it is focusing on municipalities with high level of land degradation making the area sensitive to climate drivers and impacts such as increased erosion. To this end, a prioritization process was carried out including consultations with the Ministry of Environment (MoE), the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR), the Departmental Agricultural Directorate (DDA) and the Departmental Directions of the Environment (DDE) of the South Department and the municipalities of Saint Jean du Sud, Roche à Bateau, Coteaux, Port Salut, Tiburon and Torbeck were selected (see Annex C).

The main problem the project aims to address is drivers and impacts of land degradation and the project aim at supporting the Government of Haiti addressing:

- The lack of information on degraded areas and absence of target setting for achieving LDN, the weak institutional and governance framework for combating land degradation, and the limited local and national capacities;
- The lack of implementation of sustainable land management practices to restore degraded areas;
- The limited use of sustainable land management practices to avoid and/or reduce land degradation and promote sustainable agricultural systems to improve environmental services and food security; and
- The limited knowledge on land degradation and experiences that contribute to achieving LDN.

2) Baseline and alternative scenario, relevant stakeholders and associated baseline projects

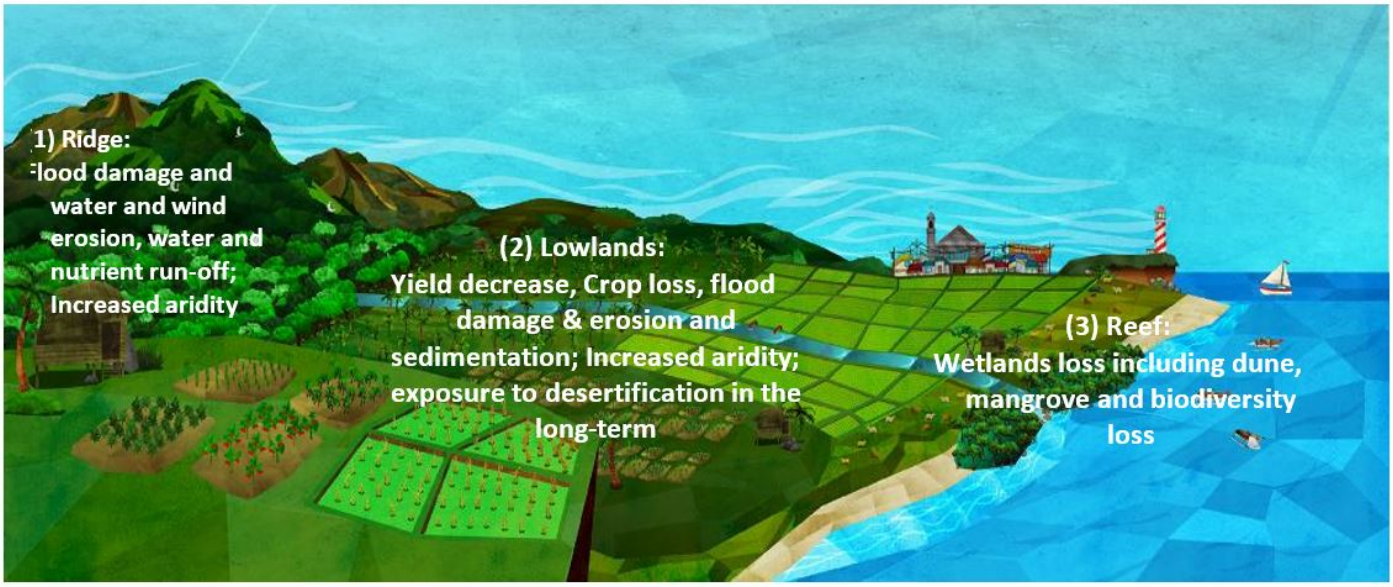
Baseline and alternative scenario

In a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario in Haiti, the lack of alternative livelihood opportunities will put further pressure on forest resources and stimulate unsustainable agricultural practices. Deforestation will lead to flooding and soil erosion, and subsequent declines in agriculture. In addition, the livelihoods and food security of farm families will be increasingly affected by climate change-induced drought, and the increased frequency and strength of tropical storms hurricanes. Without landscape restoration and climate change adaptation measures, already reduced soil fertility and water availability will be exacerbated, leading to a deterioration in ecosystem services, reduced crop yields and diminished resilience of rural livelihoods.

The proposed project aims at supporting developing mechanisms for achieving and monitoring LDN by integrating, at the landscape level, four complementary components aimed at i) strengthening the enabling environment for LDN target setting and monitoring; ii) promoting sustainable land management (SLM) for recovering and restoring ecosystems; iii) sustainable land management (SLM) for soil conservation in agricultural systems and iv) knowledge management to combat land degradation. By promoting SLM practices (restoration and soil conservation in agricultural systems), the project expects to enhance the capacity of ecosystems to deliver ecosystem services critical for agricultural systems, such as, holding moisture in the soil and nutrient cycling for enhancing soil fertility improving livelihoods and therefore reducing the pressure on natural resources and the vicious cycle of land degradation. In addition, the project is complemented by co-financed activities focused on increasing the resilience of farmers which include restoration and diversification of livelihood (honey production) in coastal areas, promotion of water management techniques and practices for climate-resilient agricultural systems, improving the resilience of key value chains through diversification and enhanced market access and provision of sound data and information on ecosystems restoration and capacity building to improve decision-making on adaptation to climate change. The ridge-to-reef approach aim at ensuring long-term results due the linkages between land, coastal, and ocean ecosystems in support of natural resources management and economic development. The approach used in this proposed project was chosen in order to build the environment necessary to set the targets and monitor LDN indicators (which so far weren't established for Haiti), and at the same time, demonstrate the LDN approach by implementing improved land management practices in key selected ecosystems and agricultural intervention areas to avoid and/or reduce land degradation and restore ecosystem services.

The South Department includes three landscape sections (as indicated in Figure 1 below). The landscape approach aims at helping achieving land degradation neutrality and building resilience at a landscape level by targeting measures in different sections of the landscape - uplands ("ridge"), lowlands and coastal areas ("reef"). The project activities will focus on uplands and lowlands while co-financing include action in coastal areas as well. This integrated approach has the potential to contribute to mitigating the impacts of soil erosion and storm surges, such as landslides, coastal and inland flooding. Moreover, through the co-financed activities, it aims at reducing people's exposure and vulnerability to the hazards typical for the project area while at the same time providing direct livelihood benefits to local communities.

Figure 1: The project landscape approach with three levels of landscapes



Relevant stakeholders

Previous experiences from FAO and other development partners in Haiti have shown that if the project is to deliver long-term results, a participatory approach is needed. Meaningful engagement of local populations, organizations and authorities in the planning and LDN target setting for avoiding new degradation; implementing SLM practices and restoring degraded lands is a key to success. A consultation process was conducted and is to be continued during the project preparation phase to identify all relevant stakeholders. It will also be continued during the implementation phase using a number of coordination mechanisms.

Key stakeholders identified at this stage include at governmental level: The Ministry of the Environment (MoE) and its directorates (National Bureau of Environmental Assessment (BNEE); National Agency for Protected Areas (ANAP); National Observatory of Quality of the Environment and Vulnerability (ONQEV); Education and Inspection Department of Environmental Monitoring (DEISE); Climate Change Direction (DCC); Forest Direction (Forêt) Departmental Direction of the Environment- DDE; the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR) and agricultural extension services (Departmental Agriculture Directorate- DDA, sub-Departmental Directorates and Communal Agricultural Offices- BACs). A number of community-based organisations and CSOs / NGOs are present in the project area, ranging from grassroots organisations with a handful of members, to NGOS, to organisations with a department-wide reach. These organisations include: local communities of beneficiary municipalities; community leaders; groups of agricultural producers; agricultural cooperatives; women's groups (note: the project will ensure that women are consulted and derive the expected benefits from the implementation of the project. The results of the project will be disaggregated by sex to measure impact on women) and farmers' organizations. In terms of watershed management, out of the six targeted municipalities, only the municipalities of Tiburon and Roche a bateau have watershed management committees, however these are currently not operational, due to a lack of resources to pursue activities initiated by other development projects.

Regarding extension services by the private sector and NGOs, in Haiti, there is currently no national agricultural extension system (SNVA) structured and organized in the truest sense of the word. Popularization is done by state projects / programs (PNSA, PPI, PIA,etc.), private structures (VETERIMED, AGRO SERVICE, GSB,…) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Each institution designs its extension approach and puts it into practice, on targets which are most often the same in rural areas. Agricultural research and extension have so far been unable to make available to the Haitian producer enough appropriate technical benchmarks capable of solving the specific problems of its environment, and capable of significantly raising agricultural productivity. The Table de concertation agricole (TCA) animated by the DDA will facilitate exchanges between representatives of the public, private and associative sectors. The Table de concertation agricole (TCA) works at the departmental level. It brings together actors from different spheres (state sector, commercial private sector, NGO sector, etc.). Its mission is to improve the performance of the agricultural sector at the Department level, through the harmonization, coordination and collective monitoring of interventions by actors at the instigation of the Departmental Agricultural Directorate. Its main objectives are: consolidation of the platform of the main stakeholders in the agricultural sector in the department, promotion of joint planning of sector interventions in the department, promotion of the annual programming of activities to be implemented, promotion of joint monitoring of sector activities in the Department, joint preparation of the annual report on interventions in the sector.

Complementary projects

The project is aligned to the Action Against Desertification initiative and supports the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and its added value is focusing specifically on demonstrating the LDN approach and integrating it into inter-sectoral planning processes to avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation. The project includes the three concurrent actions necessary to achieve LDN – strengthening an enabling environment to improve decision-making and facilitate LDN planning and target setting for avoiding new degradation of land and restoring degraded areas (Baseline assessment of LDN indicators, establishment of monitoring system, LDN mainstreaming in selected national policies and planning processes at various levels, cross-sectoral dialogues and capacity building); promoting SLM for the restoration of degraded areas and reducing existing degradation (soil conservation practices). The project takes into consideration the diversity of institutions involved in restoration, implementation of sustainable land management practices and climate adaptation in Haiti and in the South Department and recognizes the significant need for coordination at the local and national level for maximising project results and impacts.

This proposed project is complementary to the project "Increasing Resilience of Vulnerable Farmers in Southern Haiti", focused on climate change adaptation, by financing activities focused on LDN, helping addressing challenges that contribute to ecosystem and population climate vulnerability. The project "Increasing Resilience of Vulnerable Farmers in Southern Haiti" is a co-financing from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) being prepared for the same intervention area, and FAO will be responsible for overall quality assurance and oversight of all the project activities (GEF and GCF financed activities). In the same intervention area, the GCF project will finance activities to strengthen the climate resilience of coastal ecosystems (beach, mangrove and reef) with restoration activities to be implemented in close coordination and in a complementary way to the restoration of degraded areas financed by the proposed project. It will also enhance the adaptive capacity of vulnerable farmers and build climate resilience of agricultural value chains. It will achieve promoting water management technologies and practices (complementary to the soil conservation practices financed by the proposed project) and strengthening the resilience of production systems through diversification, market access and storage facilities. It will also aim to create the institutional enabling environment for continued transformation by providing climate information, strengthening governance and institutional systems and by strengthening the capacities and awareness of local and national institutions.

In addition, this project builds on lessons learned from other past projects of institutions such as FAO, UNEP, UNDP, IDB, USAID, IFAD, and others, that have been working with the Government of Haiti over the past two decades to implement SLM practices, resilient agriculture and ecosystems-based adaptation practices; and to enhance the capacity of national government agencies. The project complements these initiatives by focusing specifically on LDN and by supporting the Government of Haiti for LDN target setting, demonstrating the LDN approach and integrating it into planning processes to avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation. Both UNDP and UNEP have tested the reef to ridge (R2R), or integrated landscape approach in the South department based on the realization that reducing threats to biodiversity such as land degradation while improving agricultural production requires an integrated approach that acknowledges the dynamic and symbiotic relationship of ecosystems and agricultural production systems. The proposed project acknowledges the co-dependency of ecosystems and agricultural production by combining ecological restoration and conservation and agricultural income generating activities as the core of the project strategy. The project also seeks synergies and complementarity with other on-going projects e.g., FAO's project "*CSIDS-SOILCARE Phase 1: Caribbean Small Island Developing States multicountry soil management initiative for integrated Landscape Restoration and climate-resilient food systems*" (2021), and the projects "Building Resilience in the Wake of Climate Disasters in Southern Haiti" (UNEP) and "Improving the flow of ecosystem services in biologically-rich watersheds of the Southern region of Haiti", both approved in 2022 and will add value by focusing on specifically on the Country's LDN framework.

3. Barriers

Despite efforts already undertaken by Haiti's Government and partner institutions, several barriers still remain that prevent planning and achieving land degradation neutrality. The proposed project is specifically focused on LDN and is designed to help overcoming these barriers.

1) **Institutional barriers**

1.a Lack of planning, inter-institutional coordination, effective governance and institutional capacities regarding SLM mainstreaming for LDN achievement. The Government of Haiti investment plans do not integrate LDN clear targets and SLM into their budget lines and territorial planning instruments. There is still a lack of capacity and inter-institutional coordination for mainstreaming LDN and SLM practices into policies and plans and for building an integrated approach that could provide the basis for LDN target setting and SLM implementation. The existing institutional and legal frameworks do not address land degradation across sectors neither do they consider its effects on food security and the maintenance of ecosystem services. There is a need to enhance synergy to integrate the LDN approach to other instruments and initiatives to adapt to climate change, to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity, maintain ecosystem services and increase food production.

1.b Limited institutional capacity to plan, design and implement actions and long-term solutions to achieve LDN. Local governance and cooperation structures (committees, water user groups, agricultural cooperatives) have a very limited presence across the South Department, hindering collective responses to land degradation. Also, while participatory and inclusive planning is a basic principle of the integrated landscape approach at the three levels of intervention of the landscape (mountains, plains and reefs), there is an absence of inclusive and participatory community consultation mechanisms for planning and decision-making for achieving LDN. Often, sustainable development initiatives have not sufficiently engaged project beneficiaries nor created a sense of community to foster the restoration of productive landscapes. As LDN is a multisectoral approach, it requires that government institutions engage in an integrated, multilevel and cross-sectoral technical and political process.

2) **Information barriers**

2.a Limited knowledge on land degradation and solutions to achieve LDN. There is a limited awareness on land degradation and SLM within the local population. Farmers have low levels of awareness of the impacts that deforestation and poor farming and non-farming practices in vulnerable landscapes have on water resources (quantity and quality) and soil fertility at the farm level, or how those practices affect downstream ecosystems and fisheries. In terms of behavior and decision-making at the field level, farmers lack of awareness on the specific risks they face and have limited comprehension of locally appropriate SLM options. In addition, there is a lack of actual data on degraded landscapes. There is insufficient or a complete lack of information regarding the location and condition of degraded areas, impeding decision making to combat land degradation and LDN target setting. Haiti is signatory of the UNCCD and the Government has developed its National Plan to Fight against Desertification (NAP). In accordance with article 10 of the UNCCD, the NAP 2009 had the general objective of identifying the factors that contribute to desertification and land degradation and factors to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought. However, since then, Government of Haiti hasn't been able to apply LDN target- setting yet due to, among others, knowledge and capacity constraints. There is also a lack of knowledge and capacity to plan and implement the three concurrent actions necessary to achieve LDN– avoid, reduce and recover- in an integrated way.

2.b There is a limited capacity to systematise current models and experiences in combating land degradation. Several SLM initiatives have been implemented in Haiti. However, these initiatives and related lessons learned aren't properly systematized. Consequently, information and lessons learned cannot be disseminated or escalated at a national level and decision-making is not well-informed.

3) **Technical barriers**

3.a Limited technical capacity of farmers, Government, and extension services on LDN planning and on applying sustainable land management practices for achieving LDN. There is a lack of capacity, both at the Government and local levels to mainstream and implement LDN. National and local planning systems lack LDN and SLM criteria and collaboration across sectors is still limited. Local organizations have limited knowledge of farming and restoration practices to combat land degradation. The current lack of knowledge of soil conservation techniques in agriculture and poor farming practices for root crops on slopes leads to soil erosion and loss of organic matter and nutrients, loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. In addition, rural extension services coverage is limited and fail to consider the linkages and co-dependency of ecosystems and agricultural production.

4) **Financial and market barriers**

4.a Limited access to financial mechanisms to implement SLM practices. There is a lack of agricultural credit, particularly in rural areas, where financial markets are, most of the time, non-existent. There is limited access to finance or credit for the up-front costs of sustainable land management practices.

4.b Underdeveloped marked and limited access to inputs. There is an underdeveloped agricultural value chain with difficult access to seeds in the production phase; limited access to capital and appropriate techniques during the storage and processing phases and difficult access to markets due to a poor road network that is often affected by flooding and landslides. In addition, there is limited availability of inputs necessary to implement SLM, such as saplings for the restoration of degraded areas.

The table below outlines how the project interventions aim at addressing the barriers identified.

Barriers to achieve LDN	How the project will mitigate the climate risks and address the barriers
Institutional barriers	
1.a Lack of planning, inter-institutional coordination, effective governance and institutional capacities regarding SLM mainstreaming for LDN achievement.	The project will establish a consultative and participative planning process at the landscape level through the establishment and strengthening of local landscape restoration committees constituted of representatives of community organizations and local authorities. These structures will have the responsibility of designing and monitoring the landscape restoration activities and ensuring locally informed decision making. This will help to improve dialogue between local stakeholders so that responses to ecosystem degradation are better integrated and accepted by them, further mainstreaming into the agricultural and environmental practices promoted by the project. This is expected to ensure ownership and common responsibility over landscape management interventions. In addition, the project will improve governance at the national and local levels by strengthening the horizontal and vertical coordination mechanisms. It will build bridges between departments, line ministries, and municipalities to mainstream ecosystems restoration and climate change considerations through policy-to-practice guidelines. (Output 1.1).
1.b Limited institutional capacity to plan, design and implement actions and long-term solutions to achieve LDN	Trainings will be provided to local authorities to improve their technical capacities on sustainable land management practices; on how to plan, design and promote LDN strategies beyond the life of the project, thereby contributing to innovation, sustainability and scaling up of impacts (Output 1.1).
Information barriers	
2.a Limited knowledge on land degradation and solutions to achieve LDN	Local farmers' associations will be engaged in landscape restoration committees and their capacities strengthened to conduct a participatory assessment of SLM practices, develop a participatory landscape restoration plan (Output 1.1) and implement it (Output 2.1). Through the Farmer-Field-School (FFS) approach the project aim at improving farmers' understanding and dissemination of SLM practices that can be used to combat land degradation (Output 3.1).
2.b Limited capacity to systematise current models and experiences in combating land degradation.	Once formulated and agreed by all stakeholders, landscape restoration plans targeting clusters and networks of parcels will be implemented. The restoration activities implemented will be monitored in order to contribute to learning on ecosystem restoration through sustainable land management (SLM) practices beyond individual farms at a broad landscape scale. The lessons learned on (i) best practices for restoring ecological structures, (ii) best SLM and (iii) the contributions of ecosystem restoration to the resilience of ecosystems and communities, will be the building blocks used to progressively structure landscape restoration and management plans at a catchment or at the most practicable landscape scale, according to the social, environmental, and climate-risk context. (Output 1.1).
Technical barriers	
3.a Limited technical capacity of farmers, Government, and extension services on LDN planning and on applying sustainable land management practices for achieving LDN.	The project will use the FAO's proven FFS approach to disseminate knowledge and know-how through hands-on practices. Based on FAO experience, the FFS is the best way to ensure learning through exchanges between farmers in an informal way with a view to improve the understanding and dissemination of sustainable agricultural practices including soil conservation and water management (Output 3.1). In addition, trainings will be provided to local authorities and extension services to improve their technical capacities on sustainable land management practices and on how to plan, design and promote LDN strategies (Output 1.1).
Financial and market barriers	
4.a Limited access to financial mechanisms to implement SLM practices.	The project will improve farmers' livelihoods by diversifying target crops to improve agricultural production and increase yields. Training will be provided to support farmers implement SLM practices (Output 3.1).
4.b Underdeveloped marked and limited access to inputs.	Trainings will be provided to farmers to improve technical skills for enhancing value chains and to strengthen organizational capacities of producers, business development and management skills for better access to market (Output 3.1).

[1] On the other hand, one reason for the susceptibility to and severe damage from (river) flooding in Haiti, is the degree of deforestation in the country. Environmental degradation brought about by deforestation combined with periodic downpours from storms, have resulted in major flooding and advanced soil erosion in many regions. Low lying areas, coastal areas and estuaries are especially vulnerable to this hazard risk. (CNSA, FAO. 2016- Cited MoE, 2017 /Smith, S.E., Hersey, D., 2008. Analysis of watershed vulnerability to Flooding in Haiti. World Applied Sciences Journal 4 (6): 869-885. ISSN 1818-4952. /Briceño, H.O., González, M., 2017. Environmental vulnerability of the Trou du Nord basin: A priority sub-watershed analysis. Aqua-Lac – Vol.9 – Nº1 – Mar. 2017. Pp.38-50).

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[15] MARNDR (2012) Recensement Général de l'Agriculture – Synthèse Nationale des Résultats.

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[17]IFAD (2018) President's report – Agricultural and Agroforestry Technological Innovation Programme. 15/04/2018.

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[19] Poor infrastructure that supports the production, storage, transport, and marketing of local agricultural product; increased urbanisation resulting in a reduced labour force, due in part, to a lack of efforts to revive, sustain and grow the agricultural sector, reflected for example, in the near absence of farmer assistance programs and extension services; inaccessibility of suitable financing options, credit and saving cooperatives (EDL, 2022).

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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

The project objective is to promote SLM for the recovery and restoration of prioritized landscapes that sustain environmental services and food security.

The project Theory of Change (see Figure 2) shows how the project will apply the LDN approach of avoiding land degradation, reducing land degradation and, recovering degraded areas by establishing an enabling environment (information generation, planning, capacity building, institutional strengthening), promoting the adoption of SLM in priority landscapes to be identified in the six target municipalities, and improving production systems of farmers, thereby sustaining and restoring the range of ecosystem functions generated. SLM practices and systems will be selected with and adapted to the land users through a participatory capacity development process with the range of stakeholders and service providers. The impact of these practices on local livelihoods and ecosystem services will be monitored and registered to provide a knowledge base for decision making, wider scaling out and to enable the country in reporting on its LDN achievements.

The overall strategy to ensure the sustainability of project successes includes strengthening governance at the national level; having a decentralized and participative approach aiming at involving both community-based organizations and municipal actors; building the capacity of local authorities and communities; promoting sustainable practices that generate income and ensuring country ownership.

The structure of the project stems from the following considerations:

1. The project will contribute for building enabling conditions for avoiding new degradation of land and maintaining existing healthy land by enabling the assessment of the current state of land degradation and its drivers as a basis for setting LDN targets, supporting informed decisions on what action to take, and tracking progress. Governance and institutional systems will be strengthened to integrate LDN planning and SLM practices into policies and plans and capacity will be built at national and local levels (Component 1).

2. The project will contribute to recovering degraded lands by raising production and productivity using SLM practices at the farm and community level, which will directly contribute to rebuilding the natural resource base at the watershed and costal levels. By protecting and restoring topsoil cover (through reforestation and restoration with the implementation of agroforestry and establishment of woodlots to reduce pressure on protected areas), the project will improve water retention capacity, reduce erosion and enhance soil quality (Component 2).

3. The project will also contribute to reducing land degradation by supporting the promotion and implementation of soil conservation and water management practices (Component 3).

4. To support this transition, awareness, and information on land degradation and LDN will be improved and shared among the various stakeholders and information needed to make informed decisions will become readily available in appropriate forms (Component 4).

The project is structured around four interrelated components and is designed to achieve four outcomes, which are jointly reinforcing to deliver a paradigm shift:

Outcome 1.1 Enabling environment to improve decision-making and facilitate LDN planning and target setting for restoring degraded ecosystem and agrifood systems strengthened. To achieve Outcome 1.1, the project will support the mapping of degraded areas, capacity building and institutional strengthening to support LDN target setting.

Outcome 2.1 Improved land management practices in key selected ecosystems and agricultural intervention areas to avoid and/or reduce land degradation and restore ecosystem services. To achieve Outcome 2.1, the project will implement and up-scale transformative ecosystem restoration solutions. The restoration of heavily degraded lands will contribute for maintaining and restoring ecosystem services and will increase overall landscape resilience.

Outcome 3.1 SLM and resilience production practices in key value chains for diversifying livelihoods, to avoid and/or reduce land degradation, and providing long-term sustainability to the restoration mainstreamed. To achieve Outcome 3.1, the project will enhance farmers' capacities to implement sustainable land management practices, improving their resilience to climate change; and improving food security and rural livelihoods by diversifying, sustaining and increasing crop yields. This will reduce pressure on natural ecosystems and ensure long-term sustainability of the ecosystem restoration solutions implemented under Component 2.

Outcome 4.1 Knowledge management and lessons learned disseminated and M&E conducted. To achieve Outcome 4.1, the project will implement a knowledge management plan and a communication strategy to disseminate lessons learned during the project implementation phase. The knowledge generated and disseminated by the project will provide an enhanced evidence base to support further promotion and investment in interventions to achieve LDN.

The project outcomes are expected to contribute to Sustainable land management and Land Degradation Neutrality by:

Avoid and reduce land degradation through sustainable land management (LDFA Objective I).

Reverse land degradation through landscape restoration (LDFA Objective II).

Improve the enabling policy and institutional framework for LDN (LDFA Objective IV).

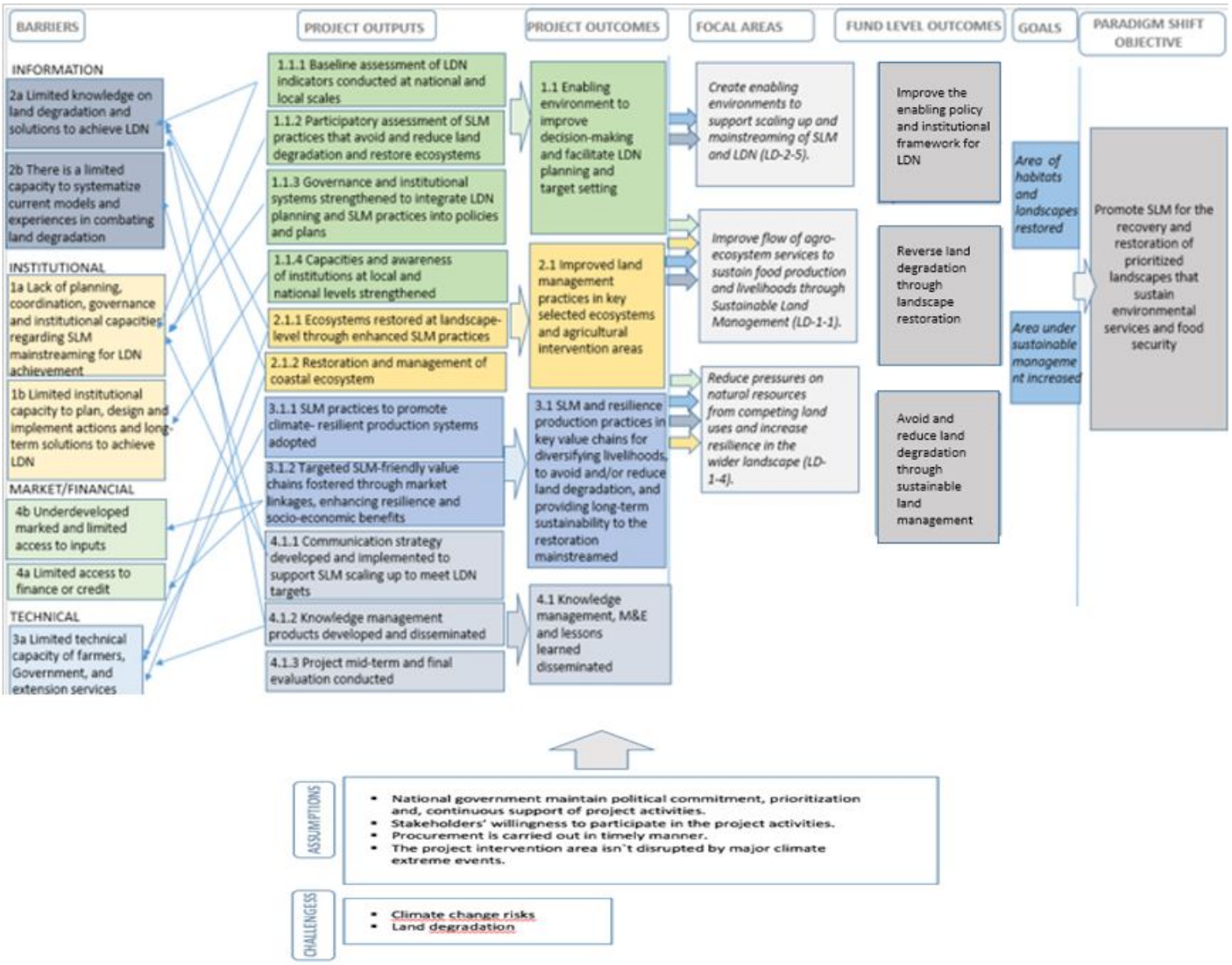
The proposed project will lead to a paradigm shift away from unsustainable production systems characterised by the use of unsustainable practices that contribute for land degradation, low productivity levels and high vulnerability, in favor of SLM practices and productive systems that ensure food security and diversified income opportunities for smallholder farmers. The proposed project will apply multiple transformative levers:

- Restoration: assessing and systematizing information on degraded land and on solutions that contribute for achieving LDN / Planning and implementing strategies for achieving LDN.

- Agriculture: redesigning food systems by identifying key leverage points for catalyzing high-impact adaptation in sustainably productive food systems; and monitoring, evaluation and learning to inform scaling based on contextual relevancy and priority issues.

- Ecosystem and ecosystem services: ecosystem-based management of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems via participatory multi-stakeholder processes; and ecosystem-based solutions that improve projects by ecosystem type and geography.

Figure 2: Theory of change diagram



Component 1. Strengthening the Enabling Environment for LDN target setting and monitoring at landscape level for continued transformation in prioritized basins

Outcome 1.1: Enabling environment to improve decision-making and facilitate LDN planning and target setting for restoring degraded ecosystem and agrifood systems strengthened

Output 1.1.1 LDN target setting and baseline assessment of LDN indicators conducted at national and local scales

Activity 1.1.1.1 LDN indicators baseline created for LDN target setting, to inform decision making and restoration plans

In Output 1.1.1, the project will support the conduction of a baseline assessment on land cover and land cover change, soil organic carbon and land productivity at national and local scales for establishing LDN indicators. LDN indicators will be assessed at the national level and a monitoring system on LDN indicators and implementation will be integrated in a national land use monitoring system. The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 15.3.1 will be reported through the monitoring of the UNCCD set of sub-indicators (land cover and land cover change, soil organic carbon and land productivity).

Following the UNCCD scientific conceptual framework for LDN[1]25, data indicators will be collected at the national level and local levels to assess the land degradation baseline in Haiti. The data collection will be done through multiple sources such as official statistics and surveys (at national and local levels). This baseline assessment will enable providing a scientific ground to define national LDN targets and to develop a strategy involving different sectors for decision making, defining interventions, achieving and monitoring the progress towards the LDN targets defined. As a complementary action, a participatory assessment and documentation of SLM practices that avoid or reduce land degradation and restore ecosystems and its services will be conducted (see Output 1.1.2). The information generated in these activities will be integrated in the monitoring system, providing inputs to decision making and to the evaluation of activities contributing to the LDN targets achievement.

Output 1.1.2. Participatory assessment of SLM practices that avoid and reduce land degradation and restore ecosystems, reduce emissions and improve the provision of ecosystem services conducted

Activity 1.1.2.1 LDN restoration committees created/strengthened in selected landscapes for conducting participatory assessment, to formulate and implement restoration plans

Local farmers' associations will be engaged in landscape restoration committees and their capacities strengthened to conduct a participatory assessment of SLM practices and develop a participatory landscape restoration plan (to be implemented in Component 2). Landscape restoration committees will be established in each municipality and made of representatives from existing farmers associations, local institutions, the Departmental Directorate of the Environment (DDE), Department Directorate of Agriculture (DDA), Communal Agricultural Offices (BAC), Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC), and municipalities, along with local leaders and members of watershed committees -where these exist. The project will promote election of at least 50% of women to the landscape restoration committees.

Guided and assisted by the project, these committees will be in charge of developing and implementing the landscape restoration plans aimed at landscape restoration through widescale adoption of most appropriate SLM practices (See Component 1 for practices proposed that will be discussed/ decided/validated by the committees). The participatory landscape restoration plan led by the established committees will improve the delivery of ecosystem services for agricultural production, leading to increased food and nutrition security and improved climate-resilient rural livelihoods.

Once formulated and agreed by all stakeholders, landscape restoration plans targeting clusters and networks of parcels will be implemented. The restoration activities implemented will be monitored in order to contribute to learning on ecosystem restoration through sustainable land management (SLM) practices beyond individual farms at a broad landscape scale. The lessons learned on (i) best practices for restoring ecological structures, (ii) best SLM and (iii) the contributions of ecosystem restoration to the resilience of ecosystems and communities, will be the building blocks used to progressively structure landscape restoration and management plans at a catchment or at the most practicable landscape scale , according to the social, environmental and climate-risk context. Ecological restoration plans will guide ecosystem management and restoration activities and assist at prioritizing SLM practices for achieving the rehabilitation of productive landscapes and the restoration of ecosystem services to strengthen community resilience.

Once all lessons learned on ecosystem and community resilience have been systematically captured and experience is being built about the challenges and the benefits of LDN planning and climate resilient practices at a scale beyond the single farm, landscape restoration plans will be formulated and aligned with project activities, motivations and incentives to avoid compromising restoration goals. A defining element of the proposed participatory approach is the cost-share strategy which is a key element to guarantee long-term sustainability of restoration activities and SLM practices and secure ownership of the adaptation outcomes over the short and long term. It will provide a baseline for continuing communities' investments in proposed activities beyond project end. The participatory approach will seek project stakeholders' co-investments of time and resources. It will empower local communities to

make investment decisions in the use of their land resources, while volunteering their time and effort to implement and monitor project activities.

The landscape restoration plans will identify: (i) key reforestation sites and climate-resilient species adapted to the on-site ecological conditions and with high economic value; (ii) sub-agreements required to support this activity and ensure that trees planted are maintained and SLM practices carry on beyond the project. The most suitable species and mechanisms will be determined during a participatory process, in which the participation of female leaders will be essential to secure inclusiveness. It will include mapping land degradation areas, the development of a LDN baseline (land cover and land cover change, soil organic carbon and land productivity) and the development of a LDN landscape impact monitoring system. The development of the LDN landscape impact monitoring system is an important activity this project is proposing for improving reporting capacities in order to enhance the Framework for Ecosystem Restoration in the context of the UN decade of ecosystem restoration.

To ensure interventions and incentives align with current and future drivers of deforestation and land degradation (and climate hazards), the following tools will be used to inform restoration plans:

Tool	Application
GIS analysis	To be blended with the data collected through participatory assessment of land degradation and participatory analysis of the land degradation drivers;
Participatory land-use mapping and planning	Will be used to analyze the different land uses and risk zones in the municipalities and to inform landscape restoration plans;
The opportunity mapping tool	Recently applied by UNEP in the South Department, will be used for identifying areas in need of ecological restoration that can deliver ecosystem services for DRR & adjacent areas highly exposed to climate hazards.
Participatory monitoring, evaluating & learning (MEL)	For monitoring the impact of SLM and LDN achievement

Output 1.1.3 Governance and institutional systems strengthened to integrate LDN planning and SLM practices into policies and plans

Activity 1.1.3.1 Cross-sectoral collaboration and dialogue for the implementation and promotion of ecosystem restoration

The project will also promote interagency dialogue on ecosystem restoration at the national and local level in coordination with the FAO TCP project, the objective of which is to improve governance mechanisms and institutional systems in climate resilience in agriculture. The project will establish an inter-institutional committee (with representatives of the Ministry of Environment (MoE), Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR), Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation (MPCE), the Interministerial Committee for Territorial Development (CIAT), the National Agency of Protected Areas (ANAP), the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) at departmental level, municipal authorities and key local community representatives from landscapes) for participatory and multi-governance dialogues on LDN, conservation and protection of ecosystems, agricultural biodiversity and on the protection and preservation of species (plants, animals and aquatic) threatened by the current climate scenario. The project will also reactivate the multisectoral Green Table of the South Department for sustainable development and resilience to enable inclusion of a wider audience and experts in agriculture and environmental issues into the dialogue and local level decision-making processes.

Activity 1.1.3.2 Capacity building for the integration of LDN approach at landscape level in the national and regional action plans

Current national plans and sector strategies do not adequately mainstream LDN and SLM. Systems at central level for development planning, knowledge management and decision-making are insufficient to support the integrated landscape management and conservation of ecosystems in vulnerable watersheds. The incorporation of a more integrated landscape approach is needed in land

use planning policies in order to deliver environmental benefits and address the implications of land degradation and climate change. The project will build the capacities of MoE and MARNDR and other relevant actors (123 people trained) on how to integrate a multi-sectoral approach to land degradation neutrality into policy and actions plans.

In addition, this output will benefit from two complementary activities to be co-financed by the GCF that aim i) to supporting the development of the National Environmental Information System (NEIS) capacities to produce and manage data and ii) strengthening local capacities to provide information on ecosystems and ecosystem-based adaptation in the South department and targeted landscapes to support governance, decision-making and awareness on the need to restore ecosystems to enable sustainable and resilient livelihoods.

Output 1.1.4 Capacities and awareness of institutions at local and national levels strengthened to support achieving LDN

While activity 1.1.2.1 supports the design of landscape restoration plans, this output includes a complementary activity (co-financed by GCF), to build capacity at the national governance, local, institutional levels and for Germoplasm center to implement the interventions outlined in the plans. The second complementary and co-financed (GCF) activity will support Haiti's Hydrometeorology Unit (UHM) to collect, analysis and generate timely hydrometeorological information by refining methods and tools (such as software tools freely accessible by the project generating information such as soil moisture) to provide information tailored to farmers' decision-making needs. Having these skills and better information systems can help planners, managers and farmers make better decisions. This output is about the establishment of a training programme adapted to the specific needs of key stakeholders into the core of national and local institutions (at the ridge, lowlands and reef level), so that they can function in the absence of external support.

Component 2- Demonstrating the LDN approach and promoting sustainable livelihoods through avoidance/ reduction of land degradation, restoration of ecosystems, in prioritized landscapes

Outcome 2.1: Improved land management practices in key selected ecosystems and agricultural intervention areas to avoid and/or reduce land degradation and restore ecosystem services

Output 2.1.1 - Ecosystems restored at landscape-level ecosystems through enhanced Sustainable Land Management (SLM) practices

LDN aims to preserve the land resource base by ensuring no net loss of healthy and productive land via a combination of measures that avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation. Achieving neutrality requires estimating the likely impacts of land-use and land management decisions, counterbalancing anticipated losses through strategically planned rehabilitation or restoration of degraded land within the same land type. The LDN approach aims to achieve a functional balance between what we take from the land and what we give back, providing a framework for a balanced approach, which considers trade-offs and anticipates new degradation[2]26. Activities to be implemented under output 2.1.1 will be supported by the enabling environment activities of Component 1 which include the creation of landscape restoration committees, mapping degraded areas, the development of a LDN baseline (land cover and land cover change, soil organic carbon and land productivity) and the development of restoration plans (see Component 1 for further information). This participatory landscape restoration approach is innovative in the context of Haiti and will result in

participatory mapping to inform decision making, strengthen local environmental governance and planning (Component 1), and has a high potential for replication elsewhere in Haiti.

Activity 2.1.1.1 - Restoration of 3,338 ha of degraded lands at watershed level through woodlots and agroforestry

Woodlots and agroforestry techniques will be used in the restoration of degraded lands. With a focus on providing sustainable sources of fuelwood while reducing soil erosion and increasing water infiltration, activities will focus on the establishment of energy woodlots; the promotion of an appropriate grass and bush cover for soil conservation; the improved enforcement of protected forests; and agroforestry at the prioritized restoration sites using climate resilient tree species produced at the germoplasm center in Camp Perrin.

The establishment of woodlots[3]27 (and woodlots associated to fruit trees) is of major economic interest to produce wood for energy, cabinet making, landscaping or recreation; besides, woodlot establishment is a strategy to combat erosion. The project will harness the market to stimulate investment in energy woodlots, reducing pressure on standing forests and trees; guide target communities in species selection, using criteria like drought-resistance, fast-growing characteristics, and best wood density for higher-quality charcoal. This activity will support the establishment of woodlots near the coastline and using fast-growing tree species.

The experience of farmers with agroforestry in the South Department will enable the promotion of new and restoration of existing agroforestry systems on sloping farms in upstream areas. Reference to the traditional “jardin créole” is to be made here for assisting with the selection of the most suitable species delivering multiple benefits and products (fuelwood, fruit) and climate adaptation services e.g., soil conservation, protection from wind gusts and micro-climate improvement.

This output will benefit from a complementary activity co-financed by the GCF that will contribute to slope and riverbanks stabilization through reforestation and restoration of natural buffers in 742 ha of degraded lands based on the restoration plans developed in Component 1. This activity will support soil conservation activities, reforestation and ecological restoration of natural buffer zones and green belts along the banks to reduce soil erosion and mitigate the risk of landslides and flooding.

Output 2.1.2 Restoration and management of coastal ecosystem

Activities under this project output will be financed by the GCF, for the coastal ecosystem restoration and management (including the wetland and coastal ecosystems - beach, mangrove, and reef). In line with the restoration plans developed in Component 1, the project will work with coastal communities that rely on mangrove for charcoal production to build capacities increasing their access to alternative businesses e.g. honey production, mangrove plantation, fast-growing fuelwood species plantations and promote the adoption of sustainable practices; and therefore reduce the pression on natural resources. This output include the restoration of 131 ha of degraded mangrove forests for protection as a natural buffer / shield against storm surges and the restoration of 250ha of coastal ecosystems.

Component 3- Promoting innovative incentive mechanisms to promote SLM for climate-resilient agricultural systems in order to achieve LDN

Outcome 3.1: SLM and resilience production practices mainstreamed in key value chains for diversifying livelihoods, to avoid and/or reduce land degradation, and providing long-term sustainability to the restoration mainstreamed.

In the South department, smallholders have been caught in a vicious cycle of decreasing soil fertility caused by unsustainable farming practices, which has in turn resulted in decreasing yields, further jeopardized food security and driven even more unsustainable practices. In outcome 3.1, the project aims to demonstrate the benefits of land management practices for reducing land degradation and for improving climate resilience on an area covering 16,378 ha consisting of small plots of less than 1.30 hectares.

Output 3.1.1 SLM practices to promote climate- resilient production systems adopted
One of the actions necessary to achieve LDN is to reduce existing degradation by adopting sustainable land management practices that can slow degradation while increasing biodiversity, soil health, and food production. In Output 3.1.1 the project aims at enhancing farmers' capacity to implement sustainable land management practices to improve their food security and livelihoods and enhance their resilience to climate change.

Activity 3.1.1.1 - Promotion and implementation of soil conservation and water management techniques and practices contributing to the resilience of rain-fed agricultural production systems

To restore soil fertility and increase yields, the project will channel FAO's proven Farmer Field School (FFS) approach[4]28 to help farmers demonstrate for themselves the benefits of water and soil management practices and improved crop varieties applied to the different crop systems, namely staples, agroforestry and rice. Conservation agriculture encourages permanent crop cover, crop rotations and intercropping, while proscribing ploughing, intensive tilling, and stubble burning, which would otherwise contribute to soil erosion.

This output will benefit from 2 complementary activities co-financed by the GCF to establish or rehabilitate rainwater catchments, the rehabilitation of existing irrigation canals, the installation of rainwater collection and storage systems and the installation of gravity drip irrigation systems on household and community rainwater storage systems and to establish six nurseries for the production of seeds and saplings to be used in the restoration process established in the restoration plans developed in Component 1.

Output 3.1.2 Targeted SLM-friendly value chains fostered through market linkages, enhancing resilience and socio-economic benefits
Activities that will be implemented under Output 3.1.2 will be co-financed by the GCF and will promote the regeneration, diversification and intensification of mixed agroforestry systems in an effort, to, combined with soil and water management techniques learned in output 3.1.1, diversify livelihoods and generate profits from non-timber forest products, therefore reducing the pressure on natural ecosystems and reducing land degradation. Direct and conditional financial support will be provided to farmers to choose agricultural goods from pre-selected options in pre-approved stores to be used in climate resilient agricultural practices. The incentive will be provided in the form of an electronic voucher (e-voucher) to purchase adaptation packages of inputs from pre-approved local implementing partners. The project will use the FFS approach to raise farmers' awareness about the operationalization of the incentive mechanism.

Component 4- Knowledge management and communication strategy

Outcome 4.1 Knowledge management and lessons learned disseminated to improve awareness
The project will include knowledge sharing mechanisms to improve awareness of and dissemination of information related to land degradation, the impact of poor farming practices and the benefits of sustainable land management at the department and national levels. Mid-term and final evaluations will be conducted as well as an assessment and analysis on the project's contribution to achieving global environment benefits, SLM benefits and lessons learned.

Output 4.1.1 Communication strategy developed and implemented to support SLM scaling up to meet LDN targets

Activity 4.1.1.1 Design and implement a communication strategy focused on LDN

The activity to be implemented under this output includes the development and implementation of a gender-responsive communication strategy focused on supporting the scaling up of SLM practices to meet LDN targets. The knowledge generated and disseminated by the project will provide an enhanced evidence base to support further promotion and investment in interventions to achieve land degradation neutrality. This activity will be implemented in close coordination with Output 4.1.2, which will be financed by the GCF (please see below).

Output 4.1.2 Knowledge management products developed and disseminated

Activity in output 4,1,2 is co-financed by the GCF and includes the design and implementation of a knowledge management plan, which will consist of capturing, documenting and disseminating lessons learned from the project co-financed activities both at the local and institutional levels and contributing to an effective knowledge management for developing an integrated approach including land degradation neutrality and climate change adaptation and for promoting the opportunity to scale up the adoption of resilient and sustainable land management practices at the national level to achieve LDN. Knowledge management products will be developed with a gender-sensitivity and responsiveness approach.

Monitoring and Evaluation

M&E - A dedicated M&E specialist will be responsible for the design of a comprehensive M&E system that, among others goals, will ensure that the actions in the field are being implemented according to plan. The theory of change, further developed and validated during the CEO endorsement request phase, will be used to identify impact pathways and develop and identify key indicators for monitoring and data needs, prioritize data collection steps and provide a structure for data analysis and reporting. Project components will be monitored separately as well as in relation to the achievement of higher-level projects results and overall GEF Core Indicators and to assess the project's contribution to achieving Global Environment Benefits (GEB) The project will pay particular attention to ensuring the monitoring of differential impacts by sex, age and vulnerability. The monitoring structure will allow adjustments and will rely on the following building blocks: a database including a list of households defined by multiple criteria (such as level of vulnerability, cultural group, female headed household, sustainable land management and climate change adaptation practices records, in farm production, household, etc.) income, resilience measures, and training. The FAO Country Office will commission to an external company the development of initial baseline, carried out at project inception phase, as well as of the mid-term and of the completion surveys. Mid-term and completion surveys will be inputs to preparation of semiannual reports as well as to the mid-term and the final evaluation.

Incremental cost reasoning

In a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario in Haiti, the lack of alternative livelihood opportunities will put further pressure on forest resources and stimulate unsustainable agricultural practices. Deforestation will lead to flooding and soil erosion, and subsequent declines in agriculture. In addition, the livelihoods and food security of farm families will be increasingly affected by climate change-induced drought, and the increased frequency and strength of tropical storms hurricanes. Without landscape restoration and climate change adaptation measures, already reduced soil fertility and water availability will be exacerbated, leading to a deterioration in ecosystem services, reduced crop yields and diminished resilience of rural livelihoods.

The proposed project will build on baseline projects and government plan to deliver global environmental benefits using a landscape approach. Please refer to page 13 on how project outcomes contribute to the GEF Land Degradation focal area.

Under Component 1, GEF project activities will support the strengthening of the enabling environment. Specifically, the project funds will be used to support assessments to support establishing Haiti's targets for LDN, planning actions to achieve LDN and

strengthening the institutional framework in order to implement the prioritized activities. GEF resources will also be used to strengthen governance mechanism and the coordination among different stakeholders at national and local levels to avoid, reduce and restore land degraded areas.

Under component 2, GEF resources will contribute for the implementation of priority activities defined in Component 1. The GEF will support the implementation of woodlots and agroforestry techniques to be used in the restoration of degraded lands with a focus on providing sustainable sources of fuelwood while reducing soil erosion and increasing water infiltration. Activities will focus on the establishment of energy woodlots; the promotion of an appropriate grass and bush cover for soil conservation; the improved enforcement of protected forests; and agroforestry at the prioritized restoration sites.

Under component 3, the project will support the adoption of sustainable land management practices that can slow degradation while increasing biodiversity, soil health, and food production. GEF resources will support developing farmers' capacities on soil conservation and water management techniques improve their food security and livelihoods and enhance their resilience to climate change in an effort to reduce existing degradation and contribute to achieving LDN.

Finally, under component 4, GEF will support knowledge production and dissemination to provide an enhanced evidence base to support decision making and further promotion and investment in interventions to achieve land degradation neutrality.

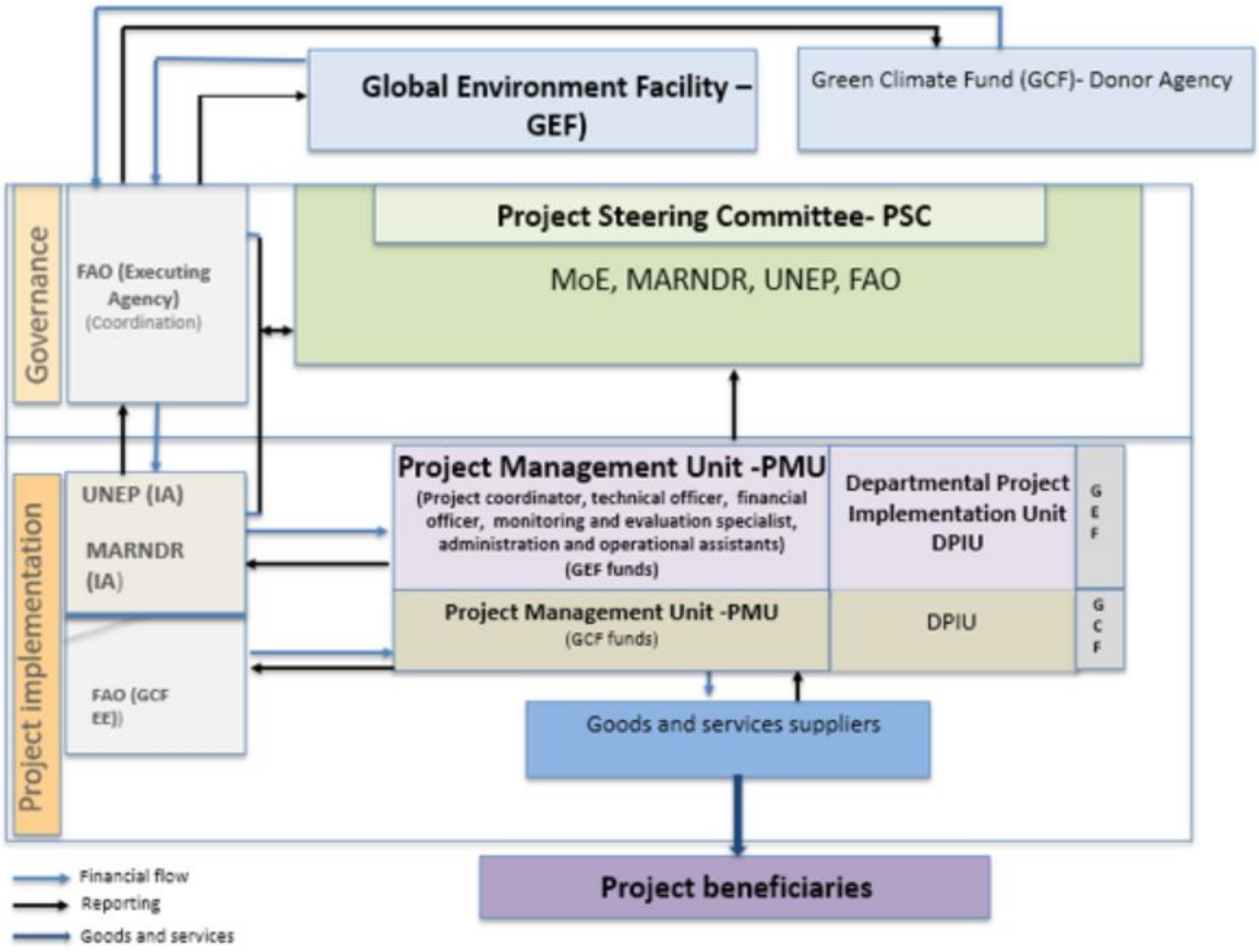
Innovation and scaling-up potential

Trainings will be provided to local authorities to improve their technical capacities on sustainable land management practices; on how to plan, design and promote LDN strategies beyond the life of the project, thereby contributing to innovation, sustainability and scaling up of impacts. Landscape restoration requires the application of sustainable and climate resilient agricultural practices which can only be sustained on the long-term with the active participation of local organizations and communities. The proposed participatory and community-based approach promoted by the project will maximise the likelihood of ownership and uptake at the local scale. The project will engage local farmer associations and organizations to promote and implement a participatory landscape restoration planning. These landscape restoration plans will be grounded in the understanding that addressing climate risks and the drivers of land degradation requires a participatory landscape restoration approach that may last, evolve and be upscaled in the territory under the lead of farmers organizations and local and municipal institutions. This approach will establish the foundations for a transformational path towards sustainable and resilient land use and water resources management planning. This approach is innovative for the context of Haiti and has the potential to be replicated in other municipalities of the South and other departments. In addition, the FFS trainers and Master Farmers will be voices for the dissemination of sustainable and resilient practices. At the plot level, the Master Farmers will promote the replication of good agricultural practices for the purpose of popularization and adoption of these practices at the community level. As members of the local farming community, these Master farmers will be able to leverage their existing knowledge and experience with learnings from the FFS program to apply this know-how to local farming conditions. It is expected that the application of these agricultural adaptation measures will deliver significant co-benefits to nearby communities and that the support to local and existing FFS work will contribute to a transformational change in agricultural extension services across the department.

Implementation arrangements

FAO is the GEF implementing Agency (IA) and will be responsible for the overall quality assurance and oversight of the project. UNEP will act as Executing Agency (EA) for all the project activities financed by the GEF (with the exception of activity related to the FFS, to be executed by the MARNDR) as well as for some activities co-financed by the GCF where it has a comparative advantage, in particular in reef-level ecosystem restoration and management of mangrove fishing areas and in strengthening governance and institutional systems to integrate restoration and climate resilient agricultural practices into policies. The MARNDR will be the Executing Agency for activity 3.1.1.1 that aims at promoting soil conservation and water management practices using FAO's Farmer Field Schools approach.

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) is the highest level of project governance and will guide the overall project implementation and ensure inter-institutional coordination and consistency of the outputs with the strategic framework. The PSC will be comprised of high-level representatives from MoE, MARNDR along with UNEP and FAO. Both MoE and MARNDR are mandated to coordinate and oversee the implementation of the project through the PSC. The MoE will chair the PSC and will be responsible for managing and overseeing the proposed integrated landscape approach and its continuation after the project. FAO will act as Secretariat.



[1] United Nations Convention to combat desertification- UNCCD. Scientific conceptual framework for Land Degradation Neutrality. A report of the science-Policy interface. Scientific conceptual framework for Land Degradation Neutrality. A report of the Science-Policy Interface | UNCCD

[2] FAO. Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN). https://www.fao.org/europe/knowledgesharing/naturalresourcesbiodiversityandgreenproduction/landdegradationneutrality/fr/

[3] Best practices as described in FAO Sustainable Forest Management database. Accessible here.

[4] Farmer Field School (FFS) is an approach based on people-centred learning. Participatory methods to create an environment conducive to learning: the participants can exchange knowledge and experience in a risk-free setting. Practical field exercises using direct observation, discussion and decision making encourage learning-by-doing. https://www.fao.org/farmer-field-schools/en/

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

This project will be co-financed by the GCF project "Increasing Resilience of Vulnerable Farmers in Southern Haiti" which is being developed for an amount of USD 20,175,990. The GCF project will finance activities to strengthen the climate resilience of

coastal ecosystems (beach, mangrove and reef) with restoration activities to be implemented in close coordination and in a complementary way in the same intervention area. It will also enhance the adaptive capacity of vulnerable farmers and build climate resilience of agricultural value chains. It will achieve this by strengthening the resilience of production systems through diversification, market access and storage facilities. The project will provide additional sources of income for poor rural households and diversify rural incomes, thereby contributing to reduced vulnerability and longer-term planning to address climate risks. It will also aim to create the institutional enabling environment for continued transformation by providing climate information, strengthening governance and institutional systems, and strengthening the capacities and awareness of local and national institutions.

The GEF7 project "Building Resilience in the Wake of Climate Disasters in Southern Haiti" for which UNEP is also as GEF Agency, was approved in 2022 for an amount of USD 4,327,857 (GEF) and USD 12,650,000 of co-financing. The project scope includes the reforestation of riverbanks; the implementation of climate smart agriculture including soil conservation practices; the construction of small-scale water capture and storage infrastructure; the implementation of woodlots to replace destruction of mangroves and native trees for charcoal production; a climate change risk and vulnerability assessment and the development of participatory climate-resilient management plans and Climate change risks and policy tools to respond to risks identified. The project will be implemented in a different zone (Grand'Ans and Nippes Departments in the Barraderes and Caymites marine managed area). Both projects will coordinate to share information and best practices, particularly regarding soil conservation practices and restoration activities.

The multicountry project "CSIDS-SOILCARE Phase1: Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) multicountry soil management initiative for Integrated Landscape Restoration and climate-resilient food systems" is a GEF project approved in 2021 for an amount of USD 893,242 (LD STAR Allocation) and USD 25,797,816 of co-financing to be implemented in Haiti, Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Barbados. In Haiti, the project will focus on the rehabilitation of the Quisqueya Fond-Parisien Natural Park including Lake Azuei and environs and the Rio Marion Watershed. The project includes an assessment of land and soil degraded areas and the formulation of an intervention plan to address the drivers of land degradation and participatory strategies for the rehabilitation and restoration of degraded landscapes to productive use and the enhancement of ecosystem services. It will also restore soil productivity through climate smart agriculture model farms and will also promote a cooperation network including the development of a regional and South-South platform for the exchange of experiences on soil, SLM methodologies and practices within the region and with other countries regions and SIDS. The proposed project and SOILCARE will be implementing similar activities but in different geographical areas. This GEF8 project will finance the restoration of degraded lands, the implementation of soil conservation and water management techniques and practices at the farm level, and the development and implementation of land restoration plans which will include the mapping of degraded areas, the implementation of LDN target settings, and development of a LDN landscape impact monitoring system. Both projects will coordinate to share information and best practices.

The GEF7 project "Improving the flow of ecosystem services in biologically-rich watersheds of the Southern region of Haiti" will intervene in five watersheds of Southern Haiti, namely Aquin-Saint Louis du Sud, Cavaillon, Les Cayes and Tiburon-Port Salut (South Department) and the Corail-Anse à Veau watershed (between the Nippes and Grand'Anse Departments). The project was approved in 2022 for an amount of USD 5,055,479 (GEF) and USD 26,320,000 of co-financing UNDP is its GEF Agency. The project includes technical training and inputs for the development of under-cover coffee culture in degraded areas; the development of restoration plans involving local authorities, extension services and local communities; the restoration of vegetation cover in degraded watersheds; the strengthening of the governance framework at the watershed-level; the development of tools for spatial planning in watersheds, environmental monitoring, and information management systems developed at the watershed level. The project also includes an assessment of the value of ecosystem services and branding of agroforestry products including training of selected cooperatives in the region with a focus on marketing and agribusiness skills. Although the two projects have different approaches and will be implemented in different areas (actually neighboring areas), both projects will coordinate specially and exchange information on the development of restoration plans and restoration of degraded areas.

The Programme "Agriculture and Agroforestry Technological Innovation Programme- PITAG"; funded by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for a total amount of USD 76,859,305, began in 2017 and will be extended until 2023. The programme is implemented in the North, Northeast, Artibonite, South and Grand'Anse Departments. The project aims at increasing smallholders'

income and food security through the promotion of sustainable technologies. The proposed project will coordinate with IDB's team on the PITAG project to share successes and lessons learned on the management and implementation of agricultural packages while ensuring there is no duplication of efforts.

The UNDP project "Enhanced climate resilience in the Trois-Rivières region of Haiti through Integrated Flood Management" will be funded by the GCF (USD 34,000,000) and co-financing of USD 37,000,000. The project will be implemented in the North West region of Haiti and has a disaster risk reduction approach as it intends to reduce flooding through agroforestry and watershed management measures. Both projects will be implemented in parallel and will coordinate to share information and best practices in particular in terms of sustainable land management practices.

The UNEP Enabling Large-Scale Ecosystem Restoration in Haiti through the Piloting and Implementation of Payments for Environmental Services Schemes has as objective to enable large scale restoration of ecosystems of importance in Haiti by addressing policy deficiencies, promoting a PES mechanism tailored to the local context, and piloting community-driven restoration models through an integrated management approach in three priority landscapes. The project is financed by the GEF (USD 5,166,499), co-financed by Restoration IP (USD 34,600,000) and will also be implemented in some districts in the South Department (in addition to Grand'Anse and Sourçailles Landscapes). However, this project will be targeting different communes to avoid duplicity and so that both projects complement each other. UNEP Haiti will be implementing both projects and will work closely with FAO during the assessments conducted during the PPG phase for defining the specific project intervention areas and ensure the two projects will be implemented to scale-up results. In addition, the UNEP/IP Restoration Child project will benefit from activities under Component 1 of the proposed project, which aim at strengthening the enabling environment for LDN target setting at landscape level for continued transformation in prioritized basins which entails developing a LDN baseline and target settings with a monitoring, verification and reporting system that will be used and applied by the Government of Haiti, at a national level

Core Indicators

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
3338	0	0	0

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

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

Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

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

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Woodlands	3,338.00			

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

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

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
16378	0	0	0

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

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

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

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
16,378.00			

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

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (direct)	1254147	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (direct)	1,254,147			
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2024			
Duration of accounting	20			

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

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

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

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

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

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	1,928			
Male	5,785			
Total	**7,713**	**0**	0	**0**

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

Core indicator 3: In activity 2.1.1.1, the GEF will finance the restoration of 3,338 ha of degraded lands at watershed levels through woodlots and agroforestry. This correspond to 9% of the total surface area targeted by landscape restoration activities (Total surface area six municipalities: 57,567ha – Total project agricultural land area 20,473ha).

Core indicator 4: In activity 3.1.1.1, the project will promote and implement soil conservation and water management techniques and practices contributing to the maintenance and improvement of ecosystem services and the resilience of rain-fed agricultural production systems. It is expected that sustainable management land practices will be implemented in an area of 16,378 ha.For the six municipalities, in terms of agricultural land area, taken together, the six communes account for 26% (20,473 ha) of the total agricultural land area of the South Department (78,602 ha). The total surface area directly benefiting from the project interventions related to agriculture (Component 3) is 16,368 ha (80% of number of farms with less than 1,29ha).

Core indicator 6: As a result of the restoration activities in 3,338 ha of degraded lands at watershed level through woodlots and agroforestry woodlots and agroforestry techniques, and sustainable management land practices 16, 378 has (including 131 ha in mangroves and 250 ha of coastal ecosystems -tidal marsh) the total of GHG avoided will be -1,254,147 ton Co2eq, according with EXACT preliminary calculations. Further EXACT exercise confirmation will be developed during PPG stage in order to confirm this number.

Core indicator 11: - It is expected that this project will directly benefit 7,713 people (1,928 female) . In Component 1, activity 1.1.2.1- LDN restoration committees created/strengthened in selected landscapes for LDN target setting, to formulate and implement restoration plans, it is estimated 90 beneficiaries. The landscape restoration committees will be made of approximately i) 20 representatives from each farmer organization -around 10 per commune; ii) 2 people from each municipality; iii) 5 people DRR from groups; iv) 2 technical advisors from FAO and UNEP working with the project and v) 4 people from Haiti's Government (MoE, MDA, etc.). Activity 1.1.3.1- Cross-sectoral collaboration and dialogue for the implementation and promotion of ecosystem restoration, 3000 direct beneficiaries are estimated which corresponds to 500 people per municipality targeted by the project. In Activity 1.1.3.2 - Capacity building for the integration of LDN targets and climate resilient agricultural practices at landscape level in the national and regional action plans, the project will build the capacities of MoE and MARNDR and other relevant actors (123 people trained) on how to integrate landscape vision for ecosystem-based adaption and land degradation neutrality into policy and actions plans. In activity 3.1.1.1- Promotion and implementation of soil conservation and water management techniques and practices contributing to the resilience of rain-fed agricultural production systems, it is expected that 4,500 smallholders will be applying sustainable and climate resilient agricultural practices on farmer fields schools (in the South department, women-led farms represent a quarter (24.5%)) of inventoried farms.

In addition, it is expected that the project will indirectly benefit all the population that depends on agricultural production for their livelihoods in the project intervention areas. They will benefit indirectly from increased food security resulting from restored land use and enhanced and more stable production, and increased opportunities for employment in agricultural tasks and value addition. They will get access to inputs, services and knowledge to adopt sustainable land management and resilient agriculture practices. Indirect beneficiaries would include charcoal value chain actors, marketers and consumers of agroforestry products, smallholder farmers, as well as watershed residents and fuel-wood users. Their participation and behavior change are necessary to achieve the project results.

Risks to Project Preparation and Implementation

Summarize risks that might affect the project preparation and implementation phases and what are the mitigation strategies the project preparation process will undertake to address these (e.g. what alternatives may be considered during project preparation- such as in terms of consultations, role and choice of counterparts, delivery mechanisms, locations in country, flexible design elements, etc.). Identify any of the risks listed below that would call in question the viability of the project during its implementation. Please describe any possible mitigation measures needed. (The risks associated with project design and Theory of Change should be described in the "Project description" section above). The risk rating should reflect the overall risk to project outcomes considering the country setting and ambition of the project. The rating scale is: High, Substantial, Moderate, Low.

Risk Categories	Rating	Comments
Climate	Moderate	Project implementation is vulnerable to disruption from natural disasters like flooding, earthquake and hurricanes which can produce substantial damage to investments. The southern peninsula where this

		project operates is prone to natural hazards. On average, every two years, a hurricane passes by the region with high winds, floods and storm surges that can damage roads, installations/investments of the project office, agriculture and fishing communities, Ministerial premises and Municipalities. Some damage to the roads can also isolate the project staff in the region and prevent them from liaising and travelling to the capital to facilitate synergies between the national and the local levels. The project has been designed to improve local adaptive capacity. The project will promote climate resilient approaches relating to livelihood diversification activities and invest in public awareness and knowledge sharing activities to mainstream knowledge about climate resilience.
Environment and Social	Moderate	Unexpected negative impacts on ecosystems / increase in land degradation. To sustainably managing and restoring land, local farmers associations will be engaged in landscape restoration committees and will have their capacities strengthened to develop and implement a participatory landscape restoration plan. In addition, the project aims at demonstrating to private sector actors how investing in more resilient practices will benefit them by increasing their agricultural productivity. This is expected to support behavior change.
Political and Governance	High	Haiti has been facing several years of conflicts and political instability resulting in conflicts, violence and a lack of confidence in the government structures. With a lack of government structures, institutions are unable to coordinate actions

		which exacerbates pressure on natural resources and increases the impacts on / of land degradation. Political instability may compromise the sustainability of the project as radical changes in Government leadership and direction can severely impact the project delivery plan. The project has been designed to create a sufficiently strong enabling environment to improve the probability of withstanding changes in government. To limit operational risks, the project will: involve, in addition to the GoH, other players who are well anchored locally (eg NGOs, community-based organizations) and UNEP which has a local office in Port Salut; support and strengthen the value chains that are some of the most significant in Haiti, including for the target region, to provide local communities with financial independence and autonomy to support their own livelihoods resilience activities; communicate and promote the successes gained at local level to encourage continuity of existing activities in case of change in government leadership.
Macro-economic	Low	Haiti is the Western hemisphere's poorest country with more than half of its population living below the poverty line. Several years of facing a scenario of political instability, corruption, conflicts, violence and natural disasters have limited the country’s development. In Haiti, sustaining results after completion has proven challenging, in a context of absence of stable financing mechanisms. The project design includes an exit strategy based on institutional strengthening to ensure the sustainability of the capacities

		acquired at national and local levels, combined with incentive mechanisms that create behavioral change.
Strategies and Policies	Moderate	Low involvement of governmental institutions in the implementation process: Lack of expertise or interest in the Government might lead to misunderstanding of progress and challenges on the ground and to a certain extent to the lack of recognition of best practices for sustainability and replication. The Government of Haiti through the MoE and the MARNDR has expressed high interest in this project and is committed to the sustainability of the activities supported by it beyond its execution period, since it is aligned with the Road Map of the current administration, the 2010-2025 Agriculture Policy Document, the 2010-2016 and 2016-2021 National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP), the 2011-2016 Agricultural Extension Plan, and Haiti's Intended National Determined Contribution (INDC, 2015).
Technical design of project or program	Low	Inadequate technical solutions to address the challenges identified. The project builds on lessons learned from past projects implemented in Haiti. Previous experiences from FAO and other development partners in Haiti have shown that if the project is to deliver long-term results, a participatory approach is needed and a meaningful engagement of local populations, organizations and authorities in the planning and implementation of SLM practices is a key to success. Furthermore, the project activities were validated through stakeholder consultation undertaken during the PIF preparation. The project design also

		includes a strategy to ensure the sustainability of the project success.
Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability	High	High staff turnover within local governments involved in the implementation of the project may compromise the effectiveness of interventions and make difficult to anchor training efforts and building long-lasting capacity within local government institutions. One lesson learned from UNEP's experience is to work closely with the more permanent and technical municipal government staff and strengthen their capacities and ownership of the project. Recruitment will prioritize hiring local staff living in or near the communities of the project interventions sites. Additionally, extensive consultative planning with beneficiaries will be leveraged to employ committed and reliable staff who are more likely to fulfil the role for the duration of the project and beyond.
Fiduciary: Financial Management and Procurement	Low	Insufficient administrative oversight, resulting in failures to adequately procure goods and services needed. UNEP will work closely with the PMU and the DPIU to ensure financial management and procurement are done in appropriate and timely manner. In addition, thematic experts (PMU), implementing partners and the project team will be prepared to provide information and answer all questions service providers may have. Service providers will be familiarized with the overall project objectives, with clear roles, responsibilities and timelines explained.
Stakeholder Engagement	Moderate	Lack of up-take of activities: farmers are uninterested and unwilling to

		invest time and effort to implement the project. The project interventions were validated through a stakeholder consultation which will be continued during the CEO endorsement request phase and during the project implementation. The community-based approach promoted by the project will maximise the likelihood of ownership and uptake at the local scale. The key strategy of the project is to strengthen the adaptive capacity of farmers using the FFS approach. This approach has proved to be successful in previous FAO projects in Haiti and will be replicated for this project. This FFS approach fully draws on local knowledge and inputs from farmers. This will increase the motivation and engagement of farmers. Through the FFS, the mitigation strategy will be to demonstrate to private sector actors how investing in more resilient practices will benefit them by increasing their agricultural productivity. This is expected to support behavior change as the benefits from project investment will provide incentives for engagement.
Other		
Financial Risks for NGI projects		
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	

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 has been designed in alignment with GEF-8 programming strategies to invest in nature and systems transformation. The project is focused on Land Degradation, is structured around transformation levers such as governance, policies and

multistakeholder dialogues and adopts an integrated and cross-sectoral approach including nature-based solutions, behaviour change, circular economy and gender. This project is fully aligned to the goal of the Land Degradation Strategy Focal Area as the activities to be implemented under its components aim at contributing to avoid, reduce, and reverse land degradation, aligned with GEF's vision to achieve healthy and resilient ecosystems by promoting sustainable land management and supporting the achievement of LDN (please refer to page 13 on how project outcomes aim at contributing to the GEF Land Degradation Focal Area). The project focus on addressing the drivers of land degradation in production landscapes where agricultural, forestry and rangeland management practices underpin the livelihoods of rural communities. It focuses on innovative interventions that can be scaled to maximize global benefits for the environment and simultaneously address the issues of local livelihoods and poverty. In addition, the project GEF applies a comprehensive landscape approach to address the broad nature of land degradation across different areas and to promote the connectivity and integrity of socio-ecological systems.

The project was also designed to be aligned with national development policies, strategies and plans pertaining to agriculture and food security, climate change and the environment, and socio-economic development.

Land degradation

Haiti is signatory of the UNCCD and the Government has developed its National Plan to Fight against Desertification (NAP). In accordance with article 10 of the UNCCD, the NAP 2009 had the general objective of identifying the factors that contribute to desertification and land degradation and factors to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought. However, since then, Government of Haiti hasn't been able to apply LDN target- setting yet due to, among others, knowledge and capacity constraints. There is also a lack of knowledge and capacity to plan and implement the three concurrent actions necessary to achieve LDN– avoid, reduce and recover- in an integrated way. In 2015, the Government of Haiti, in its Aligned Programme of National Action to fight against desertification- aligned to the National Action Plan to Fight Against Desertification (PAN-LCD), developed a framework with the overall objective to enhance the livelihoods of the Haitian people through the improvement and restoration of ecosystems. The PAN-LCD (whose development process initiated in 2009) established as specific objectives to i) improve knowledge on land degradation and systematize models and experiences to improve knowledge on land degradation; ii) influence mechanisms and actors for the adequate integration of the fight against desertification into public and sectoral policies; iii) develop and strengthen local and national capacities; iv) improve the institutional and legislative framework for combating land degradation; v) create synergies between actors and stakeholders; and vi) rehabilitate areas affected by land degradation. Five areas of intervention were prioritized: 1) strengthening national capacities to combat desertification; 2) the development and strengthening of scientific, technical and technological capacities; 3) sustainable management of natural resources; 4) restoration/rehabilitation of degraded soils and ecosystems; and 5) improving the income and living conditions of affected populations.

The project will support the Government of Haiti improving knowledge on land degradation and establishing their LDN targets and indicators monitoring system. It will also support the government on concrete actions to sustainably manage natural resources and rehabilitating areas affected by land degradation. In addition, it will support strengthening capacities at national and local level and improving LDN framework by helping mainstreaming SLM and LDN into policies and plans. In addition the project will support the assess and systematize experiences and lessons learned to combat land degradation.

Climate change

Haiti has developed and implemented a number of plans, policies, strategies, directives and frameworks in response to climate change. Today the country has an "Intended Nationally Determined Contribution" (INDC), a "Plan Stratégique de Développement d'Haïti" (PSDH), a National Adaptation Action Plan (PANA), a National Strategy on Climate Change (Second National Communication on Climate Change). The INDC identified four priority areas: (i) the integrated management of water and watershed resources, (ii) the integrated management of coastal zones and the rehabilitation of coastal infrastructure, (iii) the protection and enhancement of food security and (iv) information, education and awareness-raising.

By proposing an integrated, participatory and community-led approach to landscape management, the proposed project feeds into the INDC's objectives to protect, restore and rehabilitate agroecological zones, including landscapes, from the ridge to the reef level. By restoring the landscape, which is intrinsically linked to food production systems, and promoting climate resilient, sustainable agricultural practices, the project contributes to the agricultural sector's transition towards a more resilient path.

Another cornerstone of the country's strategy to combat climate change risks and impacts is the National Adaptation Action Plan (NAPA) which lays out the most urgent risks from climate change and proposes a way forward. It points to soil erosion and its relationship with the agricultural sector's vulnerability as a key risk. Some of Haiti's main development challenges include agricultural productivity and food security and are noted as priority areas (I, III, IV) in the NAPA. NAPA priorities include watershed management, soil conservation, use and conservation of natural resources as well as preservation and improvement of food security which are all the focus on this GEF project.

Agriculture and food security

The Ministry of Environment (MoE) and the Ministry of Agriculture Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR) recognize the interdependency between natural resources management and agricultural production. In its Agricultural Development Policy framework for 2010-2025, MARNDR identifies watershed degradation as a major issue and establishes the reduction of environmental vulnerability as a long-term objective requiring the protection of the environment and natural resources. It also establishes preparedness to and management of natural disasters as a priority.

Overall, the operationalization of climate change and agriculture action plans has not yet unfolded. There is a lack of sectoral coordination and limited government capacity to mainstream climate change into watershed management and agricultural development. The need for stronger cross-sectoral collaboration is mutually recognized, but little concrete action has taken place in a context of institutional weaknesses, absence of joint planning and insufficient budget to operationalize actions plans. To remedy this, the proposed project is aligned with and feeds into the objectives of the Government of Haiti as stated in the national policy frameworks pertaining to agriculture and food security by:

- Enhancing agricultural productivity by promoting climate resilient agricultural practices and the valorization of high value-added agricultural value chains;
- Contributing to an increase in revenues and an improvement of farmers and fishermen livelihoods;
- Promoting agricultural value chains by reducing post-harvest losses through the creation of storage infrastructure;
- Restoring degraded land and watersheds by promoting ground cover crops, re-planting forests to secure wood supply for energy needs, and promoting agroforestry;
- Providing institutional support at the local and national level to promote a cross-sectoral and integrated approach to agricultural production and environmental protection.

In sum, the proposed project aims to provide a significant contribution to a number of key national strategies and objectives with regards to agriculture, food security, environment, climate change, gender and socioeconomic development.

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:

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector:

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

Institution	Acronym (French)	Position	Focal point
Government			
Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development/ National Coordination for Food Security	MARNDR/CNSA	Coordinator	Harmel Cazeau, Abnel Desamour
Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development/ Studies and Programming Unit	MARDNR/UEP	Director	Pascal Bien Aimé
Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development/ South Departmental Directorate of Agriculture	MARNDR (DDA_S)	Departmental Director	Aubourg Marcelin
Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development/ Agricultural Statistics and Informatics Unit	MARDNR/ USAI	Director	Rideler Philius
Ministry of Public Health and Population / Department of Health Promotion and Environmental Protection	MSPP-DPSPE	Director DPSPE	Dr Joceline B.Pierre Louis
National Agricultural Development Bank	BNDA	Responsible for credits	Agro Nahum
Ministry of Environment / South Departmental	MDE (DDE-S)	Departmental Director	Cherizier Jean Marc

Directorate of Environment			
Ministry of Environment / National Observatory for Environmental Quality and Vulnerability, Climate Change Directorate	MDE (ONQEV, DCC)	Director ONQEV	Vital Raoul
Ministry of Trade and Industry	MCI	General Director	James Monazard
Ministry of Economy and Finance	MEF	General Director	Michelet Comeau
Ministry of the Interior and Territorial Communities / General Directorate of Civil Protection	MICT/DGPC	General Director	Jerry Chandleur/Moise Jn Pierre
Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation	MPCE	General Director	Wilfrid Trenard
Interdepartmental Planning Committee	CIAT	Director	Michele Oriol
Donors			
Inter-American Development Bank	IADB	Agriculture Specialist	Géraud Albaret
French Embassy/ Expertise France		Representant	Telfort Serge David
French Development Agency	AFD	Director	Gaëlle LETILLY
World Bank	WB	Agriculture specialist	Christophe Grosjean
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation	SDC	Agriculture specialist	Letang Gardy/ Rachelle Lexidort
Spanish Cooperation for the Development	AECID	General Coordinator	Manuel Alba Cano
ONU Agencies/ International Organisations			
World Food Program	PAM	Deputy Director for Programs	Marc André Prost
International Fund for Agricultural Development	FIDA	Director	Paolo Silveri

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture	IICA	Representant	Rachele Pierre Louis
Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)			
Solidarités internationales (Grand Anse)		Director	Paul d'Anglejan
CESAL	CESAL	Representant	Clara Revuelta
ACTED	ACTED	Director	Marion Mouton / (Louise)
Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières	AVSF	National Coordinator	Sardou Jean Denis
ITECA	ITECA	Director	Chenet Jean Baptiste
CECI	CECI	Project manager	Félix Jr RONY
Welt Hunger Hilfe	WHH	Director	Annalisa LOMBARDO
Fondation Nouvelle Grand'Anse		Representant	Saint Gilles Jude
Research/ Universities			
Faculty of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine	FAMV	Representant	Jocelyn Louissaint
Quisqueya University		Director	Gael Pressoir
Episcopal University of Haiti-Faculty of Agronomy	UNEPH	Representant	Harold Corantin
Notre Dame		Agrolab Director	Junior Aristil
Ex-minister MARNDR		PDG Agro Consult	Philippe Mathieu
Konsèy Nasyonal Finansman Popilè	KNFP	Coordinator	Lionel Fleuristin
Experts			
Expert		Environment rights expert	Jean André Victor
Expert		Climate change expert	Kenel Delusca
Expert		Animal production and health expert	Dr Max François Millien

Ex MDE staff		Climate change expert	Odré Valbrun
Expert		Local organisations expert	Jean Emilson Joseph
Ex MDE Minister		Environment expert	Joseph Ronald Toussaint
Ex Director of Innovation		Innovation expert	Garry Augustin

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

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

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/	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant($)	Agency Fee($)	Total GEF Financing ($)

		Regional/ Global						
FAO	GET	Haiti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-1	Grant	3,558,202.00	338,029.00	3,896,231.00
FAO	GET	Haiti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-4	Grant	1,019,154.00	96,820.00	1,115,974.00
FAO	GET	Haiti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-2	Grant	840,005.00	79,800.00	919,805.00
Total GEF Resources ($)						**5,417,361.00**	**514,649.00**	**5,932,010.00**

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($)
FAO	GET	Haiti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-1	Grant	98,522.00	9,360.00	107,882.00
FAO	GET	Haiti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-4	Grant	28,219.00	2,681.00	30,900.00
FAO	GET	Haiti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-2	Grant	23,259.00	2,209.00	25,468.00
Total PPG Amount ($)						**150,000.00**	**14,250.00**	**164,250.00**

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total($)

		Regional/ Global			
FAO	GET	Haiti	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	3,381,083.00
FAO	GET	Haiti	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	715,177.00
FAO	GET	Haiti	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	2,000,000.00
Total GEF Resources					**6,096,260.00**

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Co-financing($)
LD-1	GET	3,558,202.00	3763306
LD-4	GET	1,019,154.00	10588429
LD-2	GET	840,005.00	5824255
Total Project Cost		**5,417,361.00**	**20,175,990.00**

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
Recipient Country Government	Green Climate Fund: Increasing Resilience of Vulnerable Farmers in Southern Haiti	Grant	Investment mobilized	20175990
Total Co-financing				**20,175,990.00**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The project will benefit from co-financing from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project “Increasing the resilience of vulnerable farmers in Southern Haiti” targeting the same intervention area and whose activities are complementary.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

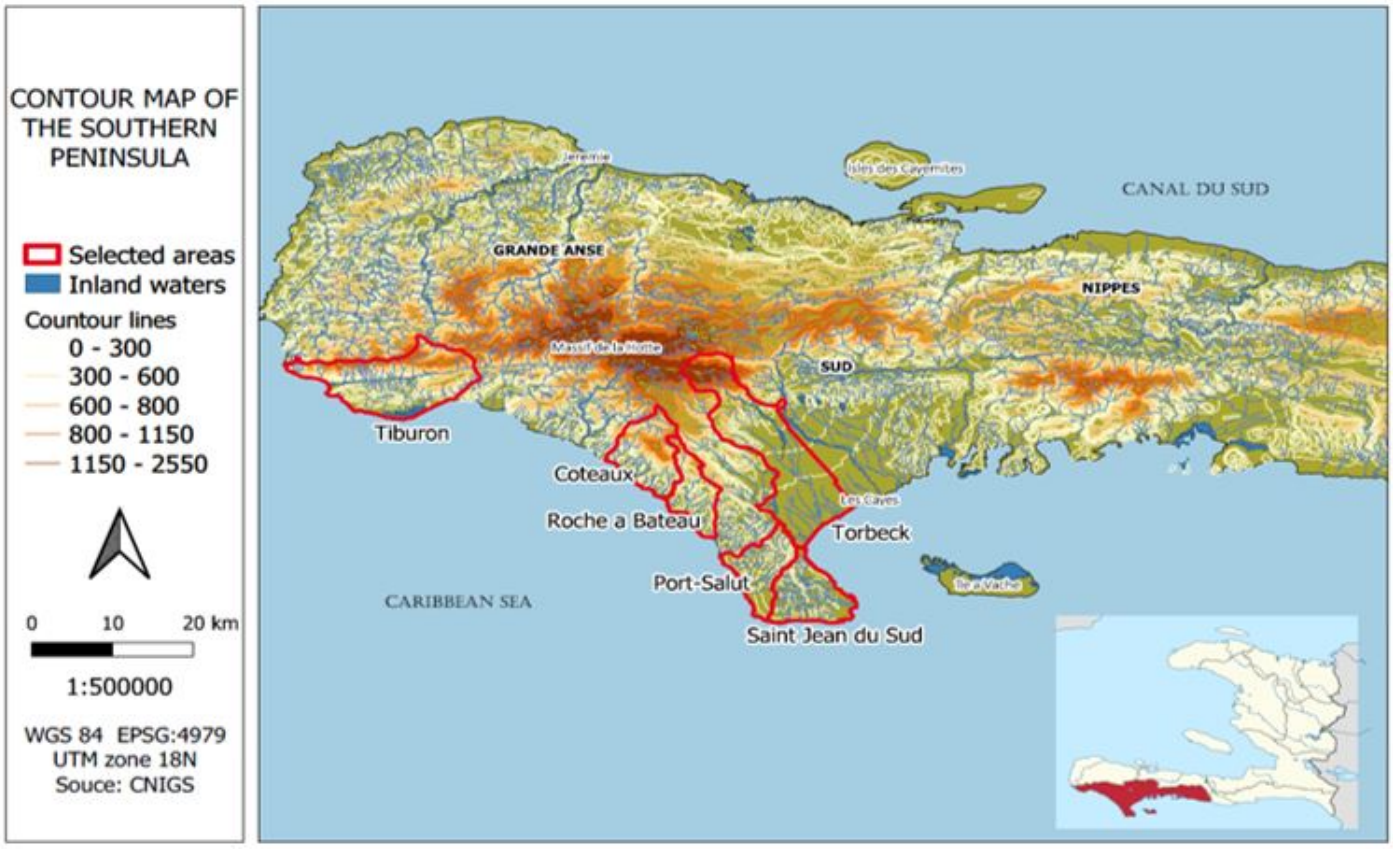
GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Jeffrey Griffin	4/7/2023	Hernan Gonzalez		hernan.gonzalez@fao.org
GEF Agency Coordinator	Jeffrey Griffin	4/7/2023	Nadia Mujica		nadia.mujica@fao.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Mr. Joseph Astrel	General Director	Ministry of Environment	4/7/2023

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

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



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
Haiti Climate Risk Screening ESS Haiti

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

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

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Influencing Models	X Strengthen institutional capacity/decision-making		
Stakeholders	X Beneficiaries		
	XLocal Communities		
	X Civil society	X Community-Based Organization	
	X Private sector	X Individuals/Entrepreneurs	
	X Beneficiaries		
	X Type of engagement	Information Dissemination	
		Consultation	
		X Participation	
Capacity, Knowledge and Research	Enabling Activities		
	X Capacity Development		
	Knowledge Generation and Exchange		
	Learning	Theory of Change	
		Indicators to Measure Change	
	Knowledge and learning	Capacity development	
		Learning	
Gender Equality	X Gender Mainstreaming	X Beneficiaries	
		X Women groups	
		X Sex-disaggregated indicators	
	Gender results areas	Participation and leadership	
		X Capacity development	
		X Awareness raising	
		Knowledge generation	
Focal Area/Theme	Land Degradation	X Sustainable Land Management	X Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands
			X Community Based Natural Resource Management.
			X Ecosystem Approach
			Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach
			X Sustainable Livelihoods
			X Sustainable agriculture
			X Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques
		Land Degradation Neutrality	X Land Productivity
			X Carbon stocks above or below ground
			X Land productivity
		X Food Security	
	Climate Change	X Climate Change Adaptation	
			X Climate Resilience
			X Livelihoods

			X Community-based adaptation.
			X Small island developingstates.