

# GEF-8 PPG REQUEST FOR GBFF PROJECTS

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## General Project Information

Project Title:

Conservation of Biodiversity, its Sustainable Use, Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits in India (CONSERVE)

Region:

India

GEF Project ID:

11784

Country(ies):

India

Type of Project:

GBFF

GEF Agency(ies):

UNDP

World Bank

GEF Agency Project ID:

9953

Anticipated Executing Entity(s):

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Anticipated Executing Type:

Government

GEF Focal Area (s):

Biodiversity

Submission Date:

9/29/2024

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Forest, Forest and Landscape Restoration, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Ecosystem Approach, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Biodiversity, Financial and Accounting, Conservation Finance, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Biomes, Wetlands, Tropical Rain Forests, Mainstreaming, Forestry - Including HCVF and REDD+, Species, Threatened Species, Climate Change, Climate Change Mitigation, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Nationally Determined Contribution, Sustainable Development Goals, Influencing models, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Indigenous Peoples, Private Sector, Capital providers, Beneficiaries, Communications, Education, Behavior change, Awareness Raising, Public Campaigns, Local Communities, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Academia, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Access to benefits and services, Participation and leadership, Capacity Development, Access and control over natural resources, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Women groups, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Adaptive management, Theory of change, Indicators to measure change, Knowledge Exchange, Enabling Activities, Knowledge Generation, Innovation

Type of Trust Fund:

GBFF

Project Duration (Months)

60

GEF Project Financing: (a)

12,378,900.00

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

1,114,100.00

Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant: (d)

0.00

Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Total Co-financing:
13,493,000.00	100,000,000.00
PPG Amount: (e)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)
300,000.00	27,000.00
PPG total Amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)
327,000.00	13,820,000.00

Project Tags:

GBF Target 1, GBF Target 2, GBF Target 3, GBF Target 14, GBF Target 18, GBF Target 19, GBF Target 22, GBF Target 23

### Indicative Project Overview

To enhance NBSAP implementation in India through integrated spatial planning, a robust monitoring system and sustainable finance to advance transformative biodiversity conservation outcomes and effective ecosystem management.

### Project Components

#### Component 1 (UNDP) Strengthening biodiversity governance through harmonized frameworks for important ecosystem and habitat protection and management

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
3,257,886.00	28,500,000.00

Project Outcomes:

#### Outcome 1: (UNDP)

Protection and management of terrestrial biodiversity and habitat integrated into the national and state spatial planning frameworks to accelerate implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

#### INDICATORS:

- 1) An updated national map of key terrestrial biodiversity areas and ecosystems developed**
- 2) Three spatial plans for biodiversity and critical ecosystems mainstreamed into state's land use plan in Nagaland and Tripura.**
- 3) 200,000 hectares of high biodiversity / critical ecosystems outside PAs in Nagaland, Tripura & Uttarakhand brought under improved management through implementation of innovative management models, which will benefit 25,000 people (with 50% women).**

Project Outputs:

**Output 1.1:** Key Biodiversity areas and terrestrial ecosystems are mapped spatially at the national level and mainstreamed into national conservation planning.

**Output 1.2:** State-level spatial plans for biodiversity and critical ecosystems (based on Output 1.1) developed and mainstreamed into the state’s land use plan.

**Output 1.3:**

Innovative management models and strategies developed (in reference to the results of Output 1.2) and implemented for conservation of high value biodiversity areas in the three target states.

**Component 1 (UNDP) Strengthening biodiversity governance through harmonized frameworks for important ecosystem and habitat protection and management**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,986,308.00	22,000,000.00

Project Outcomes:

**Outcome 2:  
(UNDP)**

Strengthened capacities for monitoring NBSAP implementation through the development of an integrated biodiversity information system.

**INDICATORS:**

- 1)** *An integrated national biodiversity MIS and data portal is developed and operationalized*
- 2)** *At least three biodiversity monitoring reports generated and disseminated.*
- 3)** *Three Knowledge products generated and disseminated via knowledge-exchange conference/ events and social media, contributing to the integration of biodiversity insights into biodiversity governance frameworks or decision-making processes.*
- 4)** *At least 50% increase in institutional capacity<sup>[1]</sup> (score) of the NBA, SBBs, BMCs and other relevant agencies from the baseline (to be assessed at PPG).*

<sup>[1]</sup> Using UNDP's capacity assessment score card

Project Outputs:

**Output 2.1:**

A National biodiversity MIS (Management Information System) and data portal established for monitoring and reporting on biodiversity protection, management and restoration.

**Output 2.2:** Annual monitoring reports produced by MIS-data portal on biodiversity protection, management, and restoration.

**Output 2.3:** Knowledge products (policy briefs, case studies) generated utilizing MIS-data portal's monitoring reports and disseminated to public.

**Output 2.4:** Capacity building for at least 150 key personnel from government agencies<sup>[1]2</sup> at national, sub-national and local levels enhanced to operationalize the MIS and data portal for NBSAP implementation.

<sup>[1]</sup> National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), the State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs)/ Union territory Biodiversity Councils (UTBCs), Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs), and other relevant agencies

**Component 2 (World Bank) Advancing Tools for Strengthening Community-Level Biodiversity Conservation**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
3,890,511.00	20,000,000.00

Project Outcomes:

**Outcome 3:  
(World Bank)**

Enhanced biodiversity protection, management and monitoring (MRV) achieved through community co-management approaches in Nagaland & Tripura.

**INDICATORS:**

**1) 5 OECMs notified harboring globally significant biodiversity.**

**2) Comprehensive management plans developed and implemented to at least 5000 Ha for improved habitat/biodiversity management**

**3) At least 5000 TPLC<sup>[1]</sup> members (of which 50% are women) participated in decision making for identifying and management of OECMs.**

**4) At least 2 knowledge products from OECM implementation, emphasizing the roles of TPLCs in OECM management, produced and disseminated**

**[1] Tribal People** in India are constitutionally recognized as **Scheduled Tribes (STs)**. They are Indigenous communities with distinct cultural identities, traditions, and governance systems. **Local communities** in India refer to rural populations who rely heavily on natural resources for their livelihoods. They may not necessarily be classified as Indigenous but are nonetheless integrally involved in conservation and resource management.

Project Outputs:

**Output 3.1:**

Management plans developed for identifying, declaring and managing OECMs (based on Output 1.2 and in alignment with Output 2.1).

**Output 3.2:** Knowledge products and lessons from OECM identification, establishment and management produced and disseminated to public.

**Component 3: (UNDP & World Bank) Enhancing innovative financing instruments for supporting NBSAP implementation**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
414,731.00	15,000,000.00

Project Outcomes:

**Outcome 4:  
(UNDP)**

Enhanced efficiency in biodiversity resource allocation through the adoption of updated biodiversity budget frameworks.

**INDICATORS:**

**1) One national and three state-level biodiversity budget plans for implementation of the NBSAP, and SBSAPs (Nagaland, Tripura & Uttarakhand).**

Project Outputs:

**Output 4.1: (UNDP)**

National and state-level biodiversity action plans budgeted [\[1\]](#)<sup>4</sup>, and results (the budget plans) adopted by relevant governments to improve the efficiency in resource allocation for implementation of the NBSAP and SBSAPs

[\[1\]](#) Budget plan development will incorporate the results and recommendations of the biodiversity spatial plans and monitoring procedures under Outcomes 1 and Outcome 2.

**Component 3: (UNDP & World Bank) Enhancing innovative financing instruments for supporting NBSAP implementation**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
1,768,415.00	10,000,000.00

Project Outcomes:

**Outcome 5:  
(World Bank)**

New financing instruments mobilized for funding biodiversity management and monitoring for community-level OECMs.

**INDICATORS:**

*1) At least \$2 Million additional funds mobilized for community level biodiversity conservation activities including for OECMs from market-based instruments (carbon/biodiversity/ green credits etc.) and/or from ABS mechanism.*

Project Outputs:

**Output 5.1:**

**(World Bank)**

Additional revenue streams activated for funding community-level OECM conservation

**M&E**

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GBFF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)



471,578.00

3,500,000.00

Project Outcomes:

**INDICATORS:**

**1) Environmental and Social Management Plan/ESMP, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Strategic Social and Environmental Assessment (SESA), TPLC Plan, Gender Analysis & Mainstreaming Action Plan, Stakeholder Analysis & Engagement Action Plan prepared.**

**2) Project monitoring and evaluation (annual PIRs, MTR and TE) facilitated and delivered, and recommendations taken on board to improve project management and for the development of the project sustainability plan.**

Project Outputs:

**Output 6.1:** Inclusive and gender-responsive participation of TPLCs facilitated through effective implementation of the environmental and social management plans (ESMP) and other required socio-environmental and gender action plans.

**Output 6.2:** Project implementation coordinated and monitored through proactive steering committee functions and inclusive annual monitoring and evaluation (M&E), as well as project MTR and TE.

**Component Balances**

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1 (UNDP) Strengthening biodiversity governance through harmonized frameworks for important ecosystem and habitat protection and management	3,257,886.00	28,500,000.00
Component 1 (UNDP) Strengthening biodiversity governance through harmonized frameworks for important ecosystem and habitat protection and management	1,986,308.00	22,000,000.00
Component 2 (World Bank) Advancing Tools for Strengthening Community-Level Biodiversity Conservation	3,890,511.00	20,000,000.00
Component 3: (UNDP & World Bank) Enhancing innovative financing instruments for supporting NBSAP implementation	414,731.00	15,000,000.00
Component 3: (UNDP & World Bank) Enhancing innovative financing instruments for supporting NBSAP implementation	1,768,415.00	10,000,000.00
M&E	471,578.00	3,500,000.00

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>11,789,429.00</b>	<b>99,000,000.00</b>
Project Management Cost (PMC)	589,471.00	1,000,000.00
<b>Total Project Cost (\$)</b>	<b>12,378,900.00</b>	<b>100,000,000.00</b>

Please provide justification

## PROJECT CONCEPT DESCRIPTION

**Project Concept Description (No more than seven pages total, including 5 pages of text maximum. Concepts longer than 7 pages will be returned. Please note the portal entry will be limited to up to 19,400 characters of text and up to two figures.)**

### A. Project Rationale

India, a megadiverse country, possesses rich biodiversity (BD) and traditional knowledge across various ecosystems and habitats. With just 2.4% of the world's geographical area, India harbors 8% of known global floral and faunal species. Its varied ecosystem holds a good proportion of global species, including 13.7% of birds, 8.6% of mammals, 7.9% of reptiles, 11.7% of fishes, and approximately 11.8% of plants. It is also home to four of the 34 globally recognized BD hotspots: the Himalayas, Western Ghats, Indo-Burma Region, and Sundaland. However, BD faces significant threats, particularly due to (i) unsustainable land use, (ii) over-harvesting of natural resources including illegal hunting, logging, and extraction of important species, and (iii) inadequate valuation of BD and knowledge on importance of BD for local socio-economic-cultural wellbeing. These drivers of BD loss and degradation are rooted in the following issues (baseline situation):

- Fragmented and outdated spatial planning (Barrier 1): BD data is poorly integrated into land-use frameworks, resulting in unsystematic spatial planning and insufficient mapping of critical ecosystems.
- Insufficient management of non-protected areas (Barrier 2): high BD regions outside PAs are inadequately managed, lacking formal conservation approaches.
- Limited community engagement (Barrier 3): communities, especially TPLCs, are often excluded from conservation decisions, undermining grassroots support for BD.
- Inadequate BD monitoring systems (Barrier 4): weak frameworks and the absence of a unified BD information system impede effective tracking of NBSAP targets.
- Insufficient and inefficient funding mechanisms (Barrier 5): financial resources for BD conservation are inadequately allocated and underutilized, especially in non-PA areas, with limited innovative funding solutions for community-led initiatives.

The identified barriers highlight the urgent need for improved BD governance and sustainable financing to address BD loss in India. The project aims to close systemic gaps, particularly the lack of BD integration in spatial planning and insufficient financing and co-governance in conservation efforts. Focusing on the vulnerable BD hotspots of Nagaland, Tripura and Uttarakhand, the project aims to **enhance NBSAP**

**implementation in India through integrated spatial planning, a robust monitoring system and sustainable finance to advance transformative biodiversity conservation outcomes and effective ecosystem management.** This objective is aligned with the government's commitment towards the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

To achieve the above objective, the project will leverage existing government commitments, and tap into the current support and investments from both government and non-governmental entities. The project will build upon the Government of India (GoI)'s pledges and efforts reflected in (a) the country's commitments to **Global Environmental Conventions** (as demonstrated in its **NBSAP and Biodiversity Financing Plan**), such as the CBD, UNCCD, UNFCCC & Paris Agreement, (b) **Sustainable Development Goals**, (c) **Biological Diversity Act 2002** and (d) **Mission LiFE (2022-2028)**, which seeks to mobilize one billion individuals for environmental conservation and ensure that at least 80% of India's villages and urban areas become environmentally sustainable. Additionally, the project will leverage on the existing biodiversity investments and programs:

- Government programs: National Afforestation Program; National Mission for a Green India; Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme; and the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (Project Tiger, Project Elephant and preservation of Wildlife Outside Protected Areas) and Conservation of Natural Resources and Ecosystems.
- ELEMENT<sup>[3]<sup>5</sup></sup> Project: This GBFF project will strategically build on the investments of the World Bank's ELEMENT Project to enhance the implementation of activities under Outcomes 3 and 5 in Nagaland and Tripura. The partnership between these two projects will maximize the impact, and foster a cohesive approach to landscape management and community benefits in the two states.
- Other initiatives: BIOFIN Phase II, North-East India Bio-Cultural Conservation Initiative, Global Biodiversity Framework – Early Action Support, Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Securing Biodiversity Conservation Commitment.

The project's approaches and activities aim to support India's global and national BD commitments and programs.

## **B. Project Description**

The Theory of Change (ToC) for this project (Figure 1) is designed to address the underlying drivers and barriers of BD governance in India, based on the assumption that it can mitigate, or at least prevent, further BD loss, particularly in the target geographies (Figure 2). The ToC outlines national and sub-national interventions focused on Nagaland, Tripura and Uttarakhand, selected for their global BD significance, substantial forest cover, and potential for enhanced management through TPLC participation in conservation, such as OECMs, Conservation Reserves, and Community Reserves. These areas, home to TPLCs, underscore the importance of their active participation and the respect for their traditional knowledge. Additionally, there is strong potential for mobilizing private sector investments and government co-financing through state programs to tap into the GBFF project's investments.

### ***Project's Geography:***

**Tripura:** part of the Indo-Burma BD Hotspot, with forests covering around 73.64% of its land. It is home to 379 bird species, 90 mammal species, and significant fauna like the Asian elephant and clouded leopard. Tribal communities e.g., the Tripuri and Reang play a vital role in conserving forest resources. However, BD faces threats from habitat fragmentation, shifting cultivation, human-wildlife conflict, and invasive species.

**Nagaland:** part of the Indo-Burma BD Hotspot, is renowned for its rich ecosystems, including over 360 orchid species, the Great Indian Hornbill, Blyth's tragopan, and the rare pangolin. Its forests cover 73.89% of the

state, but are threatened by deforestation, shifting agriculture (Jhum), and hunting. Between 2019-2021, 23,526 hectares of forest were lost. Urbanization and agriculture also fragment habitats, intensifying species decline.

**Uttarakhand:** part of the Western Himalayas and a Himalayan Global BD Hotspot, has over 45% forest cover. It hosts 693 bird and 109 mammal species, including tigers, leopards, elephants, snow leopards, and musk deer. Tribal communities include Jaunsari, Bhotiya, Raji, Tharu, and Buksa. Major biodiversity threats are habitat loss, forest land conversion, unsustainable tourism, invasive species, climate change, and human-wildlife conflict.

<sup>[3]</sup> The Enhancing Landscape and Ecosystem Management Project in the North Eastern Region (ELEMENT) is a World Bank-led initiative with a total loan portfolio of USD 242 million, focusing on the two target states of Nagaland and Tripura. The project aims to improve landscape management and increase benefits for forest-dependent communities in these regions. It seeks to bring 50,000 hectares of land under sustainable landscape management practices and to improve the livelihoods of 100,000 people through enhanced benefits from landscape-based value chains.

The ToC follows three causal pathways to achieve the goal and intended impact of the project:

1. *Strengthen BD governance through harmonized frameworks and data system for ecosystem and habitat protection:* The project will integrate terrestrial BD protection into national and state spatial planning, developing a national map of key BD areas to guide sustainable management outside PAs. A national BD MIS and data portal will centralize BD data for comprehensive monitoring and analysis. The project also emphasizes knowledge sharing and capacity building at multiple governance levels to ensure long-term BD monitoring and adaptive management through training and system integration.
2. *Enhance community-level BD protection through co-management approaches:* The project will promote community co-management of BD through the identification and management of OECMs by TPLC in Nagaland and Tripura. By developing management plans that engage TPLC in decision-making, the project fosters stewardship and sustainable conservation practices. Additionally, it will facilitate knowledge-sharing and dissemination of best practices at both state and national levels to strengthen community-based biodiversity conservation.
3. *Enhance innovative financing for BD conservation:* The project will enhance BD financing by developing national and state budget plans aligned with the NBSAP and SBSAPs, integrating BD priorities into financial planning. It will also mobilize innovative financing instruments, such as carbon and BD credits, to create revenue streams that support TPLC-led conservation.

The project will prioritize gender equity, private sector engagement, and the involvement of TPLCs in biodiversity governance. Gender and indigenous knowledge mainstreaming will be embedded in the project's design and interventions.

Figure 1. Project's Theory of Change (ToC)

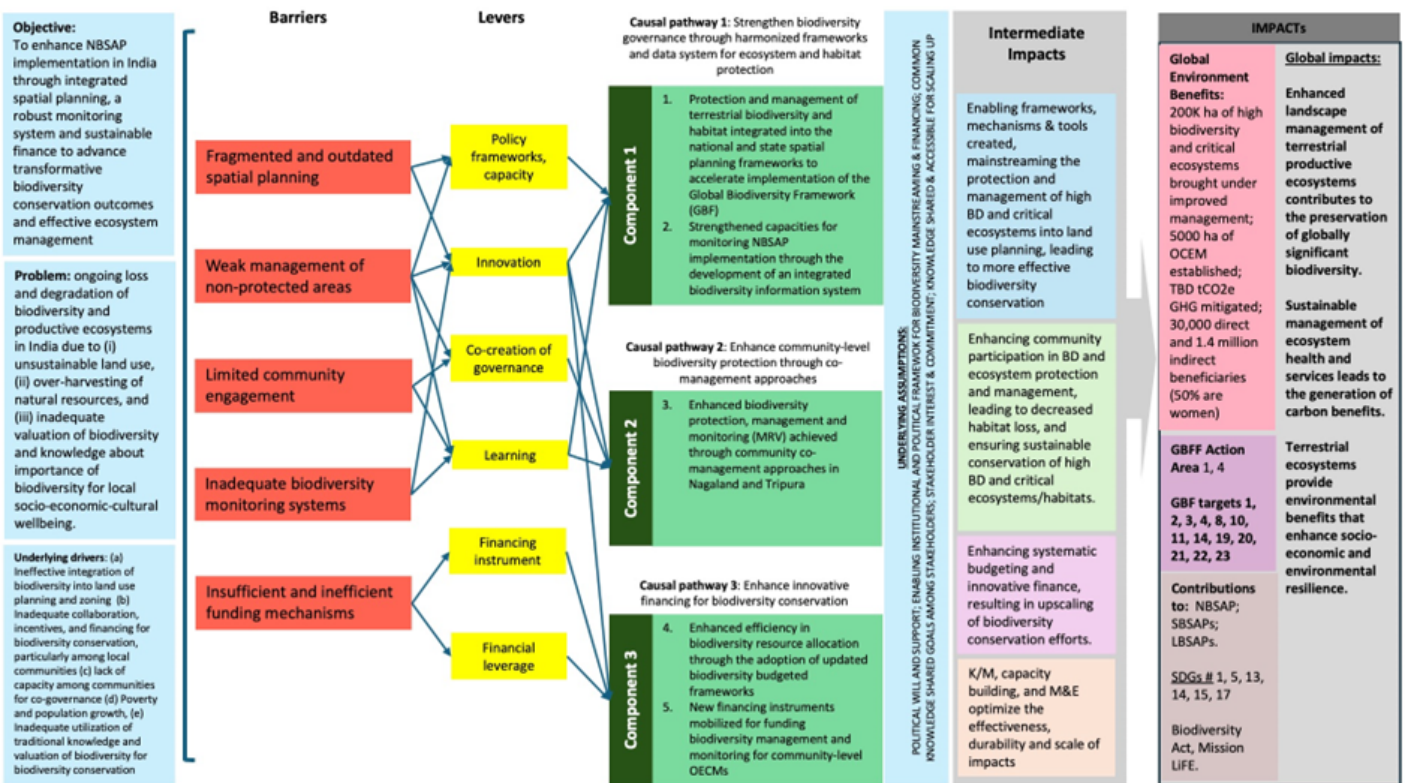
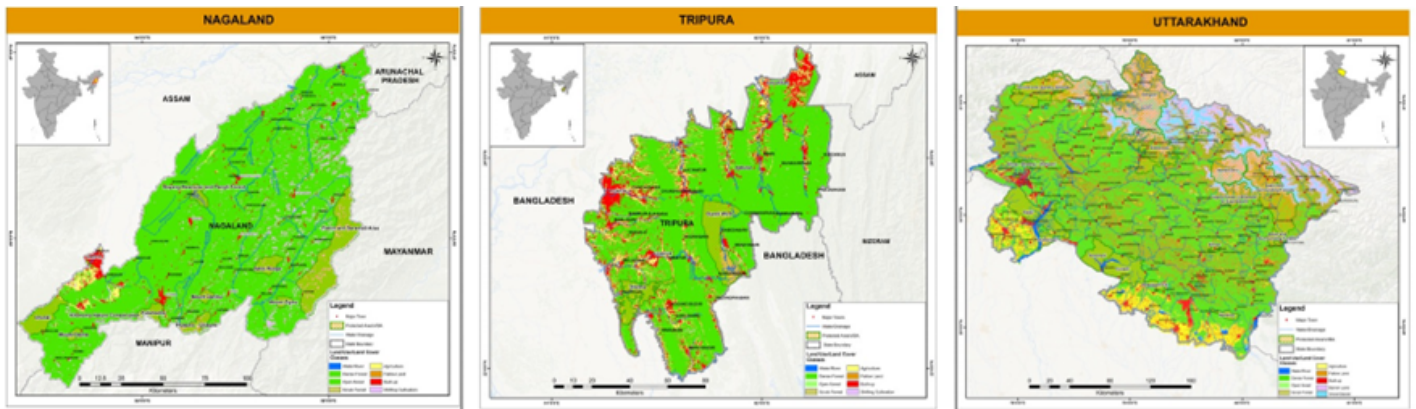


Figure 2. Project's Target States



### Component 1. Strengthening biodiversity governance through harmonized frameworks for important ecosystem and habitat protection and management

#### **Outcome 1: Protection and management of terrestrial biodiversity and habitat integrated into the national and state spatial planning frameworks to accelerate implementation of the GBF**

The project will integrate terrestrial BD protection and management into national and state spatial planning frameworks. A national map of key BD areas and ecosystems will guide spatial plans in Nagaland, Tripura & Uttarakhand. By improving management of 200,000 ha of high BD and critical ecosystems outside PAs through innovative models e.g., Conservation and Community Reserves, the project will benefit 25,000 people (50% women). The project aims to achieve these targets by implementing a systematic approach to spatial planning and management. Output 1.1 focuses on mapping key BD areas and terrestrial ecosystems at the national level and incorporating this data into national conservation plans. Building on this, Output 1.2 will develop state-level spatial plans for BD and critical ecosystems, integrating them into Nagaland, Tripura & Uttarakhand's land use frameworks. Output 1.3 will use these spatial plans to create innovative management

models and strategies that will be implemented to conserve high-value BD areas in these states, ensuring improved, sustainable management practices.

***Outcome 2. Strengthened capacities for monitoring NBSAP implementation through the development of an integrated biodiversity information system***

Under this outcome, the project will strengthen capacities for monitoring NBSAP implementation by developing an integrated information system, which will facilitate comprehensive tracking of BD conservation progress. It will also enhance institutional capacity across national, sub-national, and local agencies to utilize this information system. Key interventions under this outcome include the establishment of a National BD MIS and data portal under Output 2.1. This system will centralize data on BD protection, management, and restoration. Output 2.2 ensures the production of annual monitoring reports, providing insights on progress and challenges in BD conservation. Output 2.3 generates knowledge products utilizing MIS-data portal's monitoring reports for dissemination to public. Output 2.4 will focus on capacity building by training at least 150 key personnel from national, state, and local agencies to effectively operate the MIS and data portal, ensuring comprehensive NBSAP implementation.

**Component 2. Advancing Tools for Strengthening Community-Level Biodiversity Conservation**

***Outcome 3: Enhanced biodiversity protection, management and monitoring (MRV) achieved through community co-management approaches in Nagaland and Tripura***

The project focuses on enhancing BD protection, management, and monitoring through TPLC co-management in Nagaland & Tripura. It will notify 5 OECMs harboring globally significant BD and develop comprehensive management plans for at least 5000 ha. The project will also engage 5000 TPLC members (50% women) in decision-making processes for OECM management, fostering local stewardship. Key interventions to achieve these targets include the development and implementation of comprehensive management plans for identifying, declaring, and managing OECMs under Output 3.1. These plans will be informed by spatial BD data from Output 1.2 and aligned with the National BD MIS established under Output 2.1. Additionally, Output 3.2 will focus on disseminating knowledge products and lessons learned from OECM management, ensuring that best practices and insights are shared to inform broader conservation efforts across states and national levels.

**Component 3. Enhancing innovative financing instruments for supporting NBSAP implementation**

***Outcome 4: Enhanced efficiency in biodiversity resource allocation through the adoption of updated biodiversity budget frameworks***

This outcome will focus on the formulation and adoption of national and state-level BD budget plans that allocate financial resources for the implementation of the NBSAP and SBSAPs (in Nagaland, Tripura & Uttarakhand). The budget plan development will incorporate the results and recommendations of the BD spatial plans and monitoring procedures under Outcomes 1 & 2. By integrating BD considerations into formal budgetary processes, the project ensures that both national and state governments have harmonized budget reference documents needed to effectively implement these plans. This approach will enhance the alignment of resource allocation with BD conservation priorities, leading to more strategic and sustained funding for BD initiatives.

***Outcome 5: New financing instruments mobilized for funding biodiversity management and monitoring for community-level OECMs***

Under this outcome, the project aims to activate additional revenue streams to support community (TPLC)-level OECM conservation efforts. This will be achieved by leveraging market-based financial instruments such as carbon credits, BD credits, and green credits, alongside mechanisms like Access and Benefit-Sharing. The project will mobilize at least \$2,000,000 funds, creating a sustainable financial foundation for BD management and monitoring, particularly in TPLC-led conservation areas, enhancing long-term BD outcomes and local livelihoods.

**M&E**

The project's M&E system will ensure the inclusive and gender-responsive participation of the TPLCs by effectively implementing key socio-environmental frameworks that will safeguard local communities and promote equitable participation in BD governance. This system also supports project implementation and monitoring by strengthening the role of the steering committee and ensuring the inclusion of diverse stakeholders in project monitoring and evaluation.

### Stakeholder Engagement

The project will engage diverse stakeholders, e.g., national ministries, state and local natural resource agencies, international development agencies (UNDP, the World Bank, and IUCN), private sector companies, academic institutions, CSOs, and TPLCs. At the national level, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) will be the Implementing Partner, offering consultation on project design, management, co-financing, and coordination. The project focuses on three states where TPLCs are primary natural resource users, emphasizing inclusive stakeholder engagement and empowerment. Collaborative decision-making and capacity development for TPLCs and marginalized groups will be prioritized by the project to enhance their roles in BD management. The project will collaborate with existing local governance structures, like Joint Forest Management Committees and Farmer Producer Organizations, to ensure broad support. Additionally, private sector will be engaged for biodiversity planning, management, and financing, utilizing their resources and expertise. The project is committed to the meaningful inclusion of TPLCs, with consultations throughout design and implementation phases to identify pilot sites for TPLC-based conservation, develop management strategies, and incorporate traditional knowledge.

### Alignment with GBFF Action Area

The project focuses on GBFF's Action Areas 1 and 4, with the following contributions:

- **Action Area 1:** it will mainstream BD and habitat management into national and sub-national spatial planning, integrating priority BD areas into land-use frameworks and plans. This approach aims to improve the management of high BD / critical ecosystems outside PAs. A national integrated MIS and data portal will also be established to effectively monitor BD protection, management and restoration. The project will also facilitate pilot implementation of enhanced management practices in three target states, serving as a model for broader national application. All these interventions will reduce BD loss, and facilitate conservation and restoration of critical terrestrial ecosystems in India, and especially across target states, which will contribute to the 30x30 target achievement.
- **Action Area 4:** it will strengthen national and sub-national BD budgeting and fund mechanisms and mobilize at least \$2,000,000 for BD management. *Leveraging innovative financing mechanisms from related projects (e.g., ELEMENT) will also enhance resource mobilization efforts.*

### Global Environment Benefits

The project will support India's BD commitments and contribute to GEBs targets. By improving management of 200,000 ha of high-BD ecosystems outside PAs and establishing 5 OECMs (emphasizing on TPLC co-management) over 5,000 ha, the project aims to enhance conservation in the target states. These actions will help mitigate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (TBD at PPG) and directly benefit 30,000 people, with indirect benefits for 1.4 million, 50% of whom are women. Additionally, scaling best practices will align with India's NBSAP and support KMGBF objectives, with capacity-building initiatives to ensure sustainability beyond the project's duration. The project will also actively involve women and marginalized groups, especially within TPLCs, to ensure they benefit from outcomes. TPLCs will play a crucial role in the design and implementation of project's interventions (particularly under Component 2), leveraging their local knowledge and expertise to inform sustainable practices.

### Policy Coherence

1. Strengthen spatial planning by systematically embedding BD into national and state frameworks. This includes developing updated maps and incorporating BD into land-use plans for the three target states, ensuring alignment in planning;

2. Create a centralized BD MIS for streamlined data-sharing and tracking of NBSAP progress, promoting cohesive management; and

3. Optimize resource allocation by harmonizing BD budgeting and introducing innovative financial mechanisms and instruments, ensuring coordinated financing efforts across national and state levels.

## Core Indicators

### 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)
200000	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)
200,000.00			

### 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)

### 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 <sub>2</sub> e (direct)	0	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (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 <sub>2</sub> e (direct)	0			
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

**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 <sub>2</sub> e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (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)
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**Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments**

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	15,000			
Male	15,000			
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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 4: 200,000 hectares of high biodiversity / critical ecosystems outside PAs in Nagaland, Tripura & Uttarakhand will be brought under improved management through implementation of innovative management models.
- Core Indicator 6: Mitigation target will be calculated at PPG stage.
- Core Indicator 11: the project will directly benefit 30,000 people (of whom 50% are women) through improved management of 200,000 ha of high-BD ecosystems outside PAs and establishment of 5 OECMs (emphasizing on TPLC co-management) over 5,000 ha in the target states.

## ANNEX A: PROJECT FINANCING TABLES

### GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
UNDP	GBFF	India	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 1	4,604,587.00	414,413.00	5,019,000.00
UNDP	GBFF	India	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 4	1,584,863.00	142,637.00	1,727,500.00
World Bank	GBFF	India	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 1	4,604,587.00	414,413.00	5,019,000.00
World Bank	GBFF	India	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 4	1,584,863.00	142,637.00	1,727,500.00
<b>Total GEF Resources (\$)</b>					<b>12,378,900.00</b>	<b>1,114,100.00</b>	<b>13,493,000.00</b>

### Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

300000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

27000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	PPG (\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
UNDP	GBFF	India	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 1	Grant	112,500.00	10,125.00	122,625.00
UNDP	GBFF	India	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 4	Grant	37,500.00	3,375.00	40,875.00

World Bank	GBFF	India	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 1	Grant	112,500.00	10,125.00	122,625.00
World Bank	GBFF	India	Biodiversity	GBFF Action Area 4	Grant	37,500.00	3,375.00	40,875.00
<b>Total PPG Amount (\$)</b>						<b>300,000.00</b>	<b>27,000.00</b>	<b>327,000.00</b>

Please provide justification

### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

(Only for Multi-Trust Fund projects where GEF TF is included)

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

### Indicative Action Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
GBFF Action Area 1	GBFF	9,209,174.00	70,000,000.00
GBFF Action Area 4	GBFF	3,169,726.00	30,000,000.00
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>12,378,900.00</b>	<b>100,000,000.00</b>

Amount of resource allocated to support actions by IPLCs for the conservation, restoration, sustainable use and management of biodiversity:

Amount

2,475,780.00

### Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Government of India	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	55,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Government of India	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	14,000,000.00
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
GEF Agency	World Bank	Loans	Investment mobilized	30,000,000.00
<b>Total Co-financing</b>				<b>100,000,000.00</b>

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

N/A

## ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

### GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Nancy Bennet	9/29/2024	Tashi Dorji		nancy.bennet@undp.org
Project Coordinator	Tashi Dorji	9/29/2024	Tashi Dorji		tashi.dorji@undp.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Neelesh Jumar Sah	Joint Secretary and GEF OFP India	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	9/27/2024