



Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10444

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT No

NGI No

Project Title

Development of an integrated system to promote the natural capital in the drylands of Mauritania

Countries

Mauritania

Agency(ies)

IUCN

Other Executing Partner(s)

Direction de la Protection de Restauration des Espaces et des Milieux (DPREM)

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Land Degradation

Sector

AFOLU

Taxonomy

Biodiversity, Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Mainstreaming, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Financial and Accounting, Conservation Finance, Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting, Species, Invasive Alien Species, Biomes, Desert, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Demonstrate innovative approach, Stakeholders, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Partnership, Consultation, Participation, Private Sector, SMEs, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Local Communities, Civil Society, Community Based Organization, Communications, Education, Awareness Raising, Public Campaigns, Behavior change, Beneficiaries, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Access to benefits and services, Capacity Development, Access and control over natural resources, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Women groups, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Innovation, Knowledge Exchange, Knowledge Generation, Enabling Activities, Learning, Adaptive management, Theory of change, Indicators to measure change

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Significant Objective 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Significant Objective 1

Biodiversity

No Contribution 0

Land Degradation

No Contribution 0

Submission Date

12/4/2021

Expected Implementation Start

1/1/2023

Expected Completion Date

12/31/2026

Duration

48In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

352,226.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
LD-1-1	Land and ecosystem are restored by communities	GET	2,371,452.00	5,089,859.00
LD-1-4	Effective land use planning and land and ecosystem restoration	GET	339,331.00	209,596.00
LD-2-5	Institutional and technical capacity building on LDN Local governance and financing of scaling up	GET	1,202,843.00	2,198,994.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			3,913,626.00	7,498,449.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

Improve well-being, livelihoods and the environment of rural communities in the wilayas of Adrar, Inchiri and Dakhlet Nouadhibou in Mauritania through sustainable land and ecosystem restoration and management

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
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Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Institutional and technical capacity building on LDN	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 1.1: Enable Environment to support the voluntary implementation of LDN objectives</p> <p>Outcome 1.2: Operational monitoring system and related capacity for LDN</p>	<p>Output 1.1.1: Voluntary LDN framework policy is adopted</p> <p>Output 1.1.2: Integration of LDN objectives into national Strategy and Program</p> <p>Output 1.1.3: LDN technical framework is defined</p> <p>Output 1.2.1: A national Arid lands observatory within DEPREM is operational</p> <p>Output 1.2.2: national and local experts trained for the implementation/use of dryland assessments</p> <p>Output 1.2.3: An online data platform in place and operational for land assessment data storage and sharing</p>	GET	377,951.00	592,148.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Land and ecosystem restoration	Investment	<p>Outcome 2.1 Assessments support adequate and effective land use planning and land and ecosystem restoration</p> <p>Outcome 2.2 Land and ecosystem are restored by communities</p>	<p>Output 2.1.1: Increased awareness and coherency on LDN multisectorial cooperation through regular Regional Coordination</p> <p>Output 2.1.2 Local assessment carried out and validated</p> <p>Output 2.1.3: Local management plans are elaborated integrating LDN processes and mechanisms</p> <p>Output 2.2.1: Arid landscapes rangeland vegetation restoration</p> <p>Output 2.2.2: Water holistic management reducing soil depletion and degradation</p>	GET	2,192,843.00	4,852,952.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3: Local governance and financing of scaling up SLM	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 3.1 An inclusive and stronger local governance on LDN</p> <p>Outcome 3.2 Identification and valuation of marketable ecosystems services for livelihoods diversification</p> <p>Outcome 3.3: Identification of external financing opportunities for LDN</p>	<p>Output 3.1.1: Adoption and implementation of local agreement for inclusive and participatory sustainable use of shared natural resources by communities and stronger involvement of women and marginalized groups</p> <p>Output 3.1.2: Secured tenure rights for women and marginized groups on project investment areas through community leader sensitization and local agreements</p> <p>Output 3.2.1 CBA and economic evaluation study on major opportunities in LDN</p> <p>Output 3.2.2 Market analysis and private investors workshop for oasis ecosystems products value chain</p> <p>Output 3.2.3: Financing production and IGA of products participating to a sustainable land management and targeting women and marginalized groups</p>	GET	887,272.00	1,504,033.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 4: Knowledge management on LDN, communication, monitoring and evaluation of the project	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 4.1: Lessons learned are replicated in a larger dryland landscape</p> <p>Outcome 4.2: Adaptive project monitoring and evaluation system is implemented</p>	<p>Output 4.1.1: Publications on LDN and gender aspects lessons learned</p> <p>Output 4.1.2: Inclusive National and Wilaya knowledge sharing on LDN best practices and gender mainstreaming</p> <p>Output 4.1.3: LDN and gender lessons learned are spread among regional actors through GCF/NAP regional exchange</p> <p>Output 4.2.1: Global Environmental Benefit monitored and assessed</p> <p>Output 4.2.2: Project monitored and evaluated</p>	GET	270,200.00	83,000.00
Sub Total (\$)					3,728,266.00	7,032,133.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
		GET	185,360.00	466,316.00		

Project Management Cost (PMC)

Sub Total(\$)	185,360.00	466,316.00
Total Project Cost(\$)	3,913,626.00	7,498,449.00

Please provide justification

The project operates in remote areas and requires coordination on site

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	MEDD	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	966,904.00
Recipient Country Government	DPREM	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	219,400.00
Recipient Country Government	DPCIE	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	200,000.00
Recipient Country Government	ProPEP	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	4,125,912.00
Recipient Country Government	GCF/NAP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	15,000.00
Recipient Country Government	PARIIS	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	1,060,000.00
Recipient Country Government	PDDO	Public Investment	Investment mobilized	911,233.00
Total Co-Financing(\$)				7,498,449.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

ProPEP : Water and Soil conservation investments PARIIS : Investment on irrigation systems for oasis production, above all palm grooves and part of the water access. PDDO: Investment on Palm grooves establishment including all topographic management and part of the water access. Both PARIIS and PDDO will support the project by putting the baseline investment for livelihoods diversification (waterpoint access for production, palm groove creation and irrigation scheme creation and equipment). GEF will build on these investment to further emphasize the ecosystem approach, working on socio-environmental issues such as salinization, integrated practices, fodder production, etc.

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
IUCN	GET	Mauritania	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	3,913,626	352,226	4,265,852.00
Total Grant Resources(\$)					3,913,626.00	352,226.00	4,265,852.00

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount (\$)

150,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

13,500

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

Core Indicators

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	67440.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Cropland		940.00		

Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	500.00		

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)
Natural grass		66,000.00		

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)
70000.00	70000.00	0.00	0.00

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations			

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems			

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)
70,000.00	70,000.00		

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

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

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

Title	Submitted

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 ₂ e (direct)	24500	235000	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ 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 ₂ e (direct)	245,000	235,000		
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2023	2023		
Duration of accounting	20	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 ₂ e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ 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)

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	2,860	6,400		
Male	2,600	6,400		
Total	5460	12800	0	0

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

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

1a1 global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Complementary information since PIF

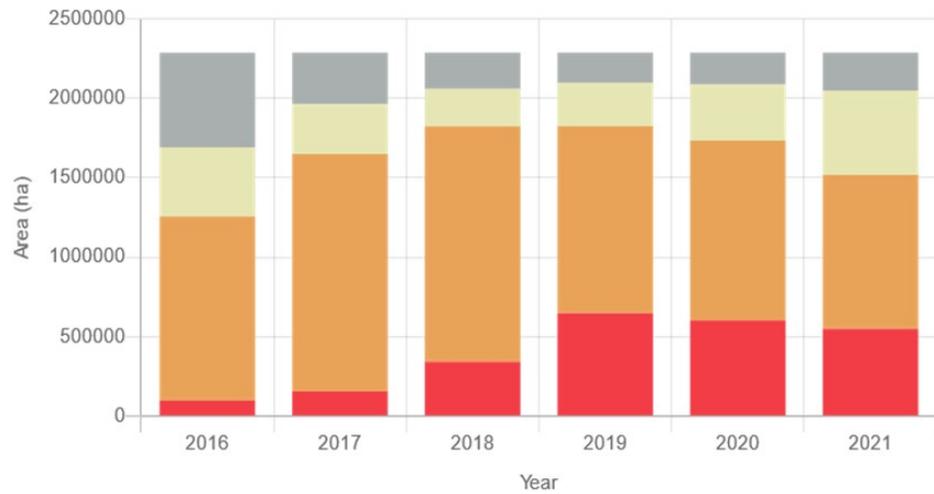
PPG build on the LDN TSP program as well as complementary satellite analysis to better identify land degradation trends and current situation (see ProDOC 3.1p. 13): (i) Most of the arid zone of Mauritania is bare land due to the predominant presence of ergs and desertic areas, which is represented by 81.21% of superficies under the 'other areas' category in the LDN TSP; (ii) An acceleration of the land productivity decline in the overall country and especially in the project intervention area. Historical analysis between 2015 and 2021 for the 3 Wilaya underlines major concerned with an increase area of declining productivity for +410%. Considering each Wilaya, Inchiri register the most proportional increase in declining category with +1157% but the Adrar is registering the most absolute increase in declining category with 6,800,000ha more; (iii) A decrease in Soil Organic Carbon Stock due to the increase in 'other lands' category. The change in vegetal cover is also underlining a change in carbon organic soil. The LDN TSP is underlining a strong change from rangeland to Other terrains and from cropland to Other land which is highly contributing tot he reduction of Soil organic carbon

Table 2: Land Productivity dynamic (source: Autor 2022 from EarthMap analysis)

	Wilaya	Total Area 2016 (ha)	Total Area 2021 (ha)	Change (%)	Category change (%)
Declining	DN	96 198	547 914	+470%	+438%
	I	75 721	951 857	+1157%	
	A	1 688 768	8 503 087	+404%	
Early Signs of Decline	DN	1 160 448	970 352	-16%	-29%
	I	1 457 059	2 033 724	+40%	
	A	14 421 966	9 046 614	-37%	
Stable but stressed	DN	435 837	532 253	+22%	+22%
	I	713 447	792 318	+11%	
	A	2 866 588	3 558 729	+24%	

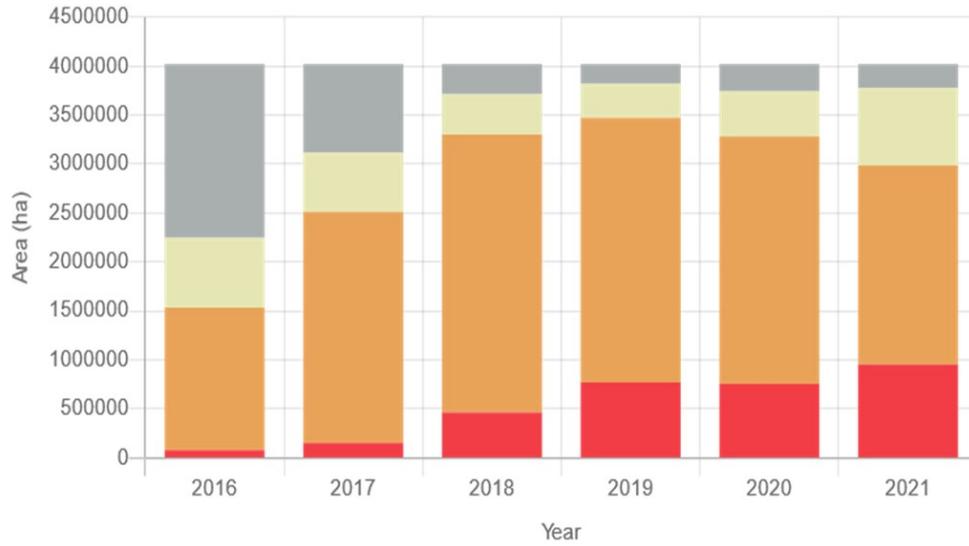
Stable	DN	596 441	238 572	-60%	-70%
	I	1 776 415	244 823	-86%	
	A	3 332 103	1 201 427	-64%	
Increasing	DN	212	139	-34%	-26%
	I	123	41	-67%	
	A	1 910	1 479	-23%	

Figure 1: Dakhlet-Nouadhibou - LDN - Land Productivity Dynamics LPD 2016-2021



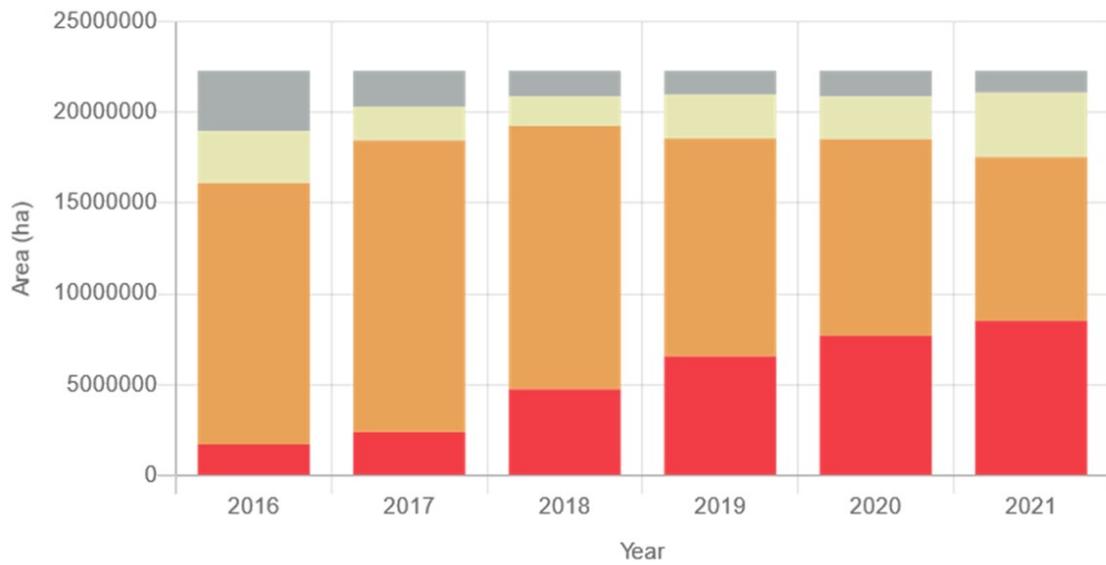
(source: EarthMap analysis)

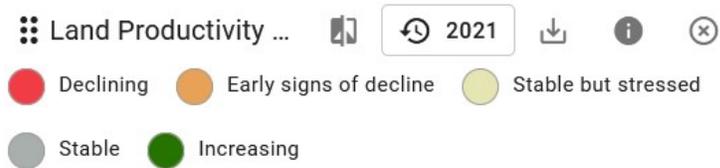
Figure 2: Inchiri - - LDN - Land Productivity Dynamics LPD 2016-2021



(source: EarthMap analysis)

Figure 3: Adrar -- LDN - Land Productivity Dynamics LPD 2016-2021





(source: EarthMap analysis)

The climate analysis underlines its main contribution with in the overall land degradation current situation (see ProDOC ?3.1.1.5 p.20). Climatic conditions are one of the main root causes of the decline of natural capital but may also catalyse additional human-driver degradation. The climatic conditions are very harsh: hot, dry, and windy. Aridity is downward degradation of land since aridity means minimal moisture in the soil which leads to less vegetation which in turn makes the soil friable even sparse though exposed to wind. The wind moves easily the soil which silts human habitat, valleys, and other features. In other words, aridity causes more aridity and the degradation of the landscape. The strong wind resulting from these conditions is also a major source of land degradation in the project area with the silting up of the landscape features, mostly rangeland and oasis ecosystems. Moreover, the responses undertaken by man to curb these climate impacts had led to mal-adaptation and contribute to degradation. Other combinations can lead to the same result, such as rapid demographic growth accompanied by massive sedentarization; or even employment and access to new but non-resilient techniques and working methods.

The CNOEZA Agency, established in 2013 has been since the PIF reintegrated within the Directorate for the Protection and Restoration of Species and Environments (DPREM) (see ProDOC ?3.3 p.49). The Observatory of Arid zone is therefore currently under DPREM. While this aspects strengthen the operability of field assessment with a easier and stronger involvement of DREDD and IEED Civil agents, there is still need to strneghten these institutional bodies and the systematic way of monitoring and capitalizing on LDN and ecosystem approaches over years.

Efforts to combat desertification and land degradation have to date been few and isolated. While some work on dune stabilization has been implemented in the three target wilayas, this has been on a very small scale and has not been properly integrated into comprehensive plans. As these interventions were mainly urgency measures, the complementarities with other dune stabilization and related non-stabilization interventions were rarely exploited.

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A major threat for Land degradation and desertification is the existing feedback loop between land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change (see ProDOC 23.3.1 p49). The extremes events of climate contributes to soil erosion, soil organic carbon decrease and GHG emission which indirectly contribute to climate change. Biodiversity losses and land degradation are also highly connected as losses in agrobiodiversity and ecosystem biodiversity lead to reduced soil conservation, increase soil erosion and the depletion of nutrient and losses in moisture and soil biodiversity losses. The bellow figure underlines all these interlinkages.

Figure 4: Feedback loop between land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change[1]¹

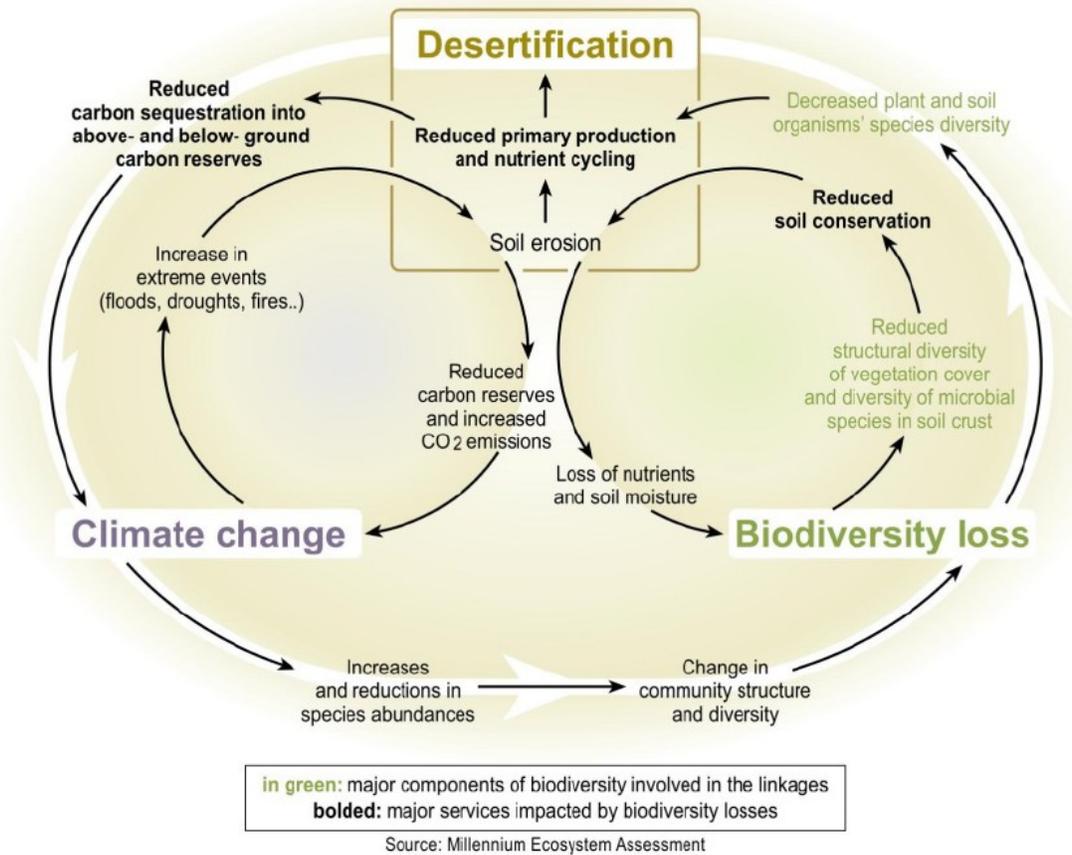


Figure 1: Feedback loop between land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change

The PPG Field Mission was able to confirm preliminary assessment on the roots causes of land degradation and therefore the relevancy of project intervention (see ProDOC?3.3.2 p.50). Anthropogenic root causes which are catalyzing land degradation. Environmental root causes are led by (i) dune mobility and encroachment, (ii) decrease in water availability; (iii) Overall reduction in vegetation; (iv) climate change.

1a2 baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects

Complementary information since PIF

Land Degradation policy framework under change and missing support for LDN process implementation (see ProDOC ? 3.1.3.2.2 p.43). The PPG also better analyse the current process from MEDD on its UNCCD commitment. Current policy rely on 2002 National Action Plan to Combat Desertification in Mauritania (PAN LCD). Mauritania. Mauritania commits to further align its PAN/LCD with the Strategy 2018-2030 of the UNCCD, define its National Action Programme (NAP) to fight against desertification and to elaborate its National Drought Plan. In this regard, the MEDD decided with the support of UNEP to develop this year a strategy that includes the three enabling documents of the UNCCD in one gently reflecting the country's commitment to the fight against desertification. In May 2019, 122 countries including Mauritania had committed to setting voluntary national targets for an LDN world and had received support from the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Program (LDN TSP). Nevertheless, LDN process is still undergoing. There is a need to move forward especially according to the LDN Scienfii framework and further build on subnational LDN indicators, defining neutrality and counterbalancing mechanism as well as involving the different sectors and reports to UNCCD.

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PIF baseline and partnership preidentification built on a hypothesis of strong interest from private sector within the LDN process (see ProDOC ?3.5 p.59). Nevertheless, the field mission and PPG phase face a different reality. Mauritanian Coppers Mining (MCM) mining company will stop its activities and withdraw form the project intervention area. Tasiast Mauritania LTD was not supporting an open discussion on collaboration. Nouadhbou Free Zone (NFZ) was low reactive to project presentation as they are mostly waiting for precise understanding of proper linkages between infrastructure development under world bank financing and water resource management. Moreover political changes in all Ministeries since PIF and PPG field mission lead to additional withdraw from initial partner such as the Ministry of Livestock under its PRAPS program. Even if these activities are not integrated in the cofinancing rule, the project will highly build on them and strongly technically esure cohenrency with them. Current partner from PIF are now: (i) Ministry of Agriculture and its two programs: PARIIS and PDDO; (ii) Ministry of Environment and sustainable development with broader inclusion of internal division (DPREM, DPCS, DREED, IEDD, Arid Observatory), the GEF NAP Readiness project and the ProPEP program. Additionnal concertation with private actors and

communities have been led during PPG and Field mission which underline the relevancy of the intervention but its pre-coe consideration for the private sector.

Therefore the PPG decided to divide its intervention in two different strategy: (i) reinforce capacity and collaboration of actors which are currently working on Land Degradation (see ProDOC ?3.5 p.58). This will deeper involve Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Livestock and Ministry of Environment and sustainable development, local authorities, local SME, organization and communities. It aims to raise interest in all sector and actors on LDN; **(ii) strengthen the innovative approach and definition of key mechanism that would raise interest of the private sector and leverage finance on LDN.** This implies establishment of Environmental Services Payment mechanism (PSE) for the NFZ and AGPO, as well as establishing LDN Fund Proposal, reinforcing Agricultural value chain.

1a3 Proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project

Complementary information since PIF

GEF focal area strategies. Through its alignment with the international commitment on LDN from UNCCD, the project is further aligned with the Land Degradation GEF Focal area. The low interest of the private sector on LDN lead to restructure the project to ensure strong implementation of LDN within Arid areas. LD1.1 has been reinforce as a key focal area to raise interest for Agriculture and Livestock Ministries and Program and private sector. In fact, these restoration activities contribute directly to increasing production and revenues for communities. Nevertheless, LD1-4 is still present but with a broader consideration of planification and ecosystem approach in all the activities of the project. In alignment with the LDN Scientific Framework, enabling the LDN environment and raising strategic interest among actors has been reinforce under LD2-5. Due to the low interest of private sector, the project target its scaling up strategy through two mains aspects: (i) increasing knowledge management and communication to all actors; (ii) increasing pilots intervention and innovative mechanisms (environmental services payments, mining compensation, LDN mechanisms) to further raise interest of private sector (Tasiast, NFZ, etc.) also as prepare further financing mobilization (LDN Fund proposal).

Project objectives, approach and structure have been slightly changed to ensure coheny with the most relevant document on LDN (see ProDOC ?4.1 p.65). Project Objective is now considering well-being and environment of rural communities as important as the livelihoods to reach LDN objectives. Project Theory of change has been highly working on environmental and human barriers as much as hypothesis for effective changes in the current situation. Project structure has been further

aligned with (i) the scientific LDN Framework and methodologies (ii) a mainstream of the ecosystem management approach and; (iii) a maintain of an operating structure in link to DPREM resources. The Mauritania has already engaged with the target setting activities of LDN and the modules A and B of the Scientific Framework. The following diagram underlines how each of the project component and outcomes are contributing to Module of the Scientific Conceptual Framework for LDN.

Figure 5: Theory of change.

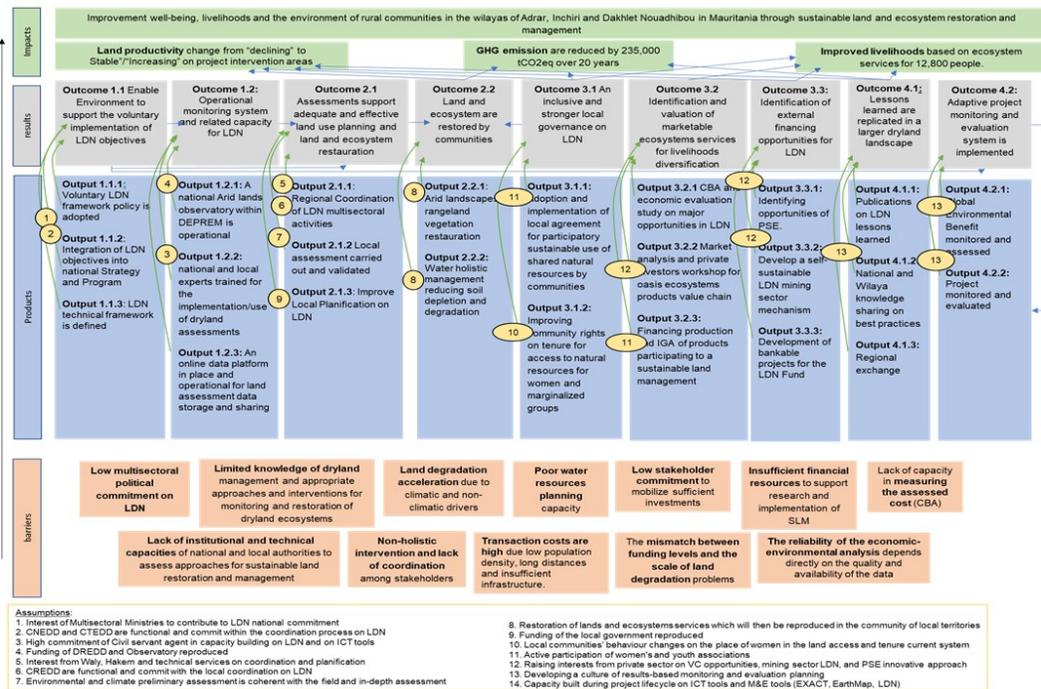
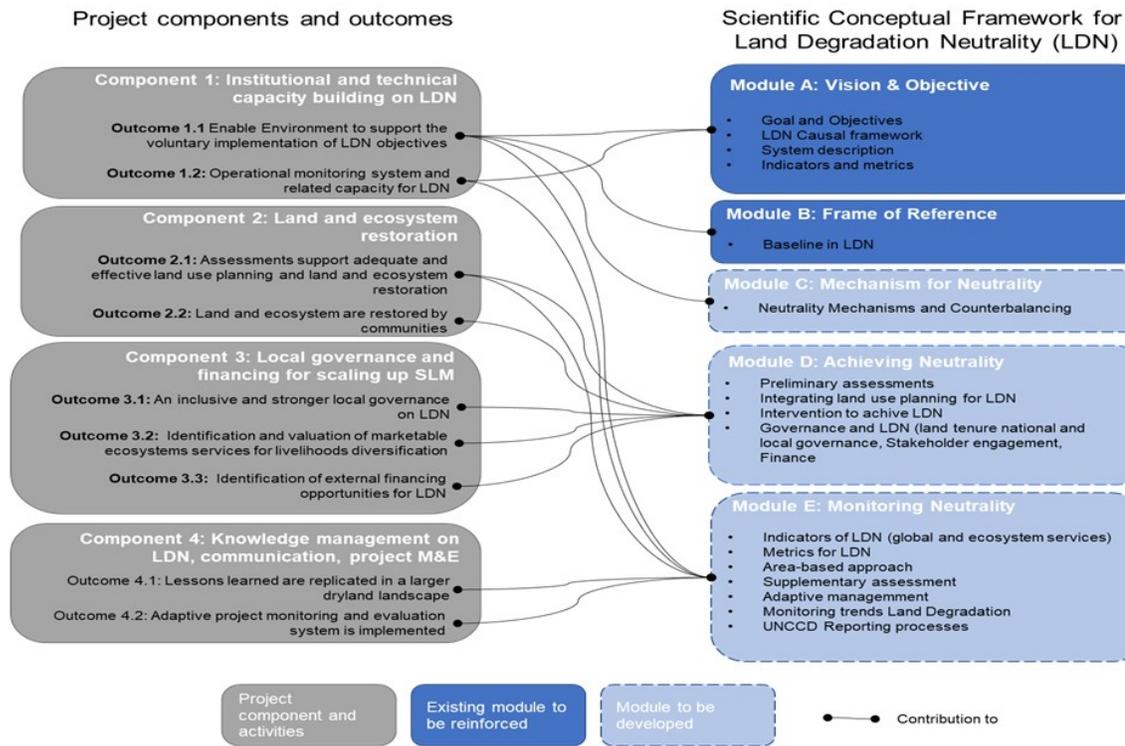


Figure 6: contribution of project components and outcomes to LDN Scientific framework



Project structures changes. The bellow table synthesize the major changes since PIF stages in the project structure. The ProDOC is detailing the different outputs and activities of the project and relative incremental costs reasoning for GEF financing (see ProDOC ?4.3 p.72).

PIF Stage	CEO Stage	Changes
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<p>Component 1: Capacity building and governance</p> <p><u>Outcome 1.1 :</u> Key stakeholders are trained and equipped for evidence based decision making for SLM in arid lands</p> <p><u>Outcome 1.2:</u> Enabling environment to support voluntary LDN target implementation</p>	<p>Component 1: Institutional and technical capacity building on LDN</p> <p><u>Outcome 1.1</u> Enable Environment to support the voluntary implementation of LDN objectives</p> <p><u>Outcome 1.2:</u> Operational monitoring system and related capacity for LDN</p>	<p>Component firstly support a stronger LDN policy environment establishment with further support on technical definition of LDN neutrality and counterbalancing mechanism</p> <p>Project rely on existing CNEDD and CTEDD, central interministerial strategic and technical committee on environment and sustainable development to spread LDN across ministries and program.</p> <p>Sensitization and training of actors on LDN include ICT tools to anticipate training and further enhance digital collection of field data for increase effectiveness of the Atar Observatory and data analysis.</p> <p>Training capacities and methodologies will assess current use of PRAGA, ROAM methodologies and also consider RAPTA for Arid landscape as well as already on-going methodology such as GMES-MISLAND platform to evaluate desertification vulnerability.</p> <p>Integrate ICT tools for training practices from videos, MOOC to digital data collection and assessment.</p> <p>Local governance and land tenure assessment has been included in the Component 3 as a key element to enhance scaling up of SLM financing.</p>
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<p>Component 2: Land and ecosystem restoration</p> <p><u>Outcome 2.1:</u> Key resource areas in targeted wilayas are under improved ecosystem restoration by communities and local government</p>	<p>Component 2: Land and ecosystem restoration</p> <p><u>Outcome 2.1</u> Assessments support adequate and effective land use planning and land and ecosystem restoration</p> <p><u>Outcome 2.2</u> Land and ecosystem are restored by communities</p>	<p>Separating the previous outcome to further underline the need of strong concertation and planification at Wilaya level to ensure effective intervention and impact for land restoration and management.</p> <p>Reinforcing field assessment with ecosystem approach, CBA and digital data collection for stronger decision ppower at Wilaya level.</p> <p>Better identifying the roots of degradation prior to defining the activities for restoration (i.e. salinization due to wrong water management; pasture degradation due to overgrazing and lack of boreholes for additional pasture access)</p> <p>Households are broader engaged in sustainable land management and restoration, they not only take part in seedling, but also in dykes and gabion threshold creation, in ANR, IGA and Green SMEs, as well as in committee management.</p>
<p>Component 3: Financing scaling-up of SLM</p> <p><u>Outcome 3.1:</u> Investment strategies are developed and funds are leveraged to finance up-scaling of good practices for sustainable land management</p>	<p>Component 3: Local governance and financing of scaling up SLM</p> <p><u>Outcome 3.1</u> An inclusive and stronger local governance on LDN</p> <p><u>Outcome 3.2</u> Identification and valuation of marketable ecosystems services for livelihoods diversification</p> <p><u>Outcome 3.3:</u> Identification of external financing opportunities for LDN</p>	<p>Reintegration in the Component 3 of the previous output1.2.3 (measures to address land degradation and good governance on land tenure) to ensure within this first outcome to target the major barrier for land management (land access for women, lack of local governance structure, etc.)</p> <p>Reinforce small and local private sectors (Green SMEs and IGA) which is contributing to land restoration and sustainable management.</p> <p>Identifying additional innovative financial mechanism for LDN financial leverage (PSE, LDN Fund, etc.)</p>

<p>Component 4: Project-specific knowledge management and M&E</p> <p><u>Outcome 4.1:</u> Lessons learned and replicated in wider dryland landscape</p>	<p>Component 4: Knowledge management on LDN, communication, monitoring and evaluation of the project</p> <p><u>Outcome 4.1:</u> Lessons learned are replicated in a larger dryland landscape</p> <p><u>Outcome 4.2:</u> Adaptive project monitoring and evaluation system is implemented</p>	<p>Reinforce partnership with UNCCD Knowledge Hub and sharing information within strategic level (ministries) and regional level (GCF NAP)</p> <p>Reinforce dedicated monitoring of Global Environmental Benefits (GEB)</p> <p>Integrate an adaptive project monitoring and evaluation system interlinked with the Atar observatory tasks.</p>
<p>Component 5: Project Management</p>	<p>Component 5: Project Management</p>	<p>Further involvement of MEDD and DPREM in mobilizing human resource (components coordinators, etc.) and equipment (informatics, drones, vehicles, etc.) for project implementation</p>

1a4 incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and co-financing

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Complementary information since PIF

Without the GEF (see ProDoc 4.7.1 p.96). From the baseline scenario, current activities would be led by the following aspects: (i) An official validation of current LDN national targets and with limited multisectoral commitment and coherency; (ii) Limited knowledge on the arid agroecological zone which standardized planification and activities for sustainable land management; (iii) Local actor capacity building on environment to better integrate LDN and its components; (iv) A weak coordination among actors mostly made by sector; (v) Implementation of landscape approaches with limited information on ecosystems; (vi) A contribution to livelihoods improvement with limited sustainability; (vii) Limited sustainability of intervention due to missing local social structure to manage natural resource; (viii) Remaining gaps in effective monitoring and evaluation of global environmental benefit as well as supporting global reporting and high commitment with the UNCCD conventions.

With the GEF (see ProDoc 4.7.2 p.97). The GEF is playing a key role in the project to strengthen to proposal on the following elements: (i) Strategic contribution in upscaling impacts on LDN and environment; (ii) Alignment of technical and political proposal with the LDN Scientific Framework

and methodologies; (iii) Deeper knowledge on ecosystems and their monitoring to ensure an effective contribution to global environmental benefit; (iv) Integrating the Ecosystem Approach as the keystone in the methodology to reach LDN; (v) Alignment of local restoration activities; (vi) Reinforcing innovative approach for scaling up financing; (vii) Strengthen local natural resource management such as AGPO, pasture management structure; (viii) Supporting Mauritania reporting duty to the Global UNCCD; (ix) Scaling Up sharing opportunities.

1a5 global environmental benefits

Complementary information since PIF

The PPG has been able to reinforce the definition of the key indicators and contribution from the project to the the three Global Environmental Benefit on Land Degradation, Carbon emission and Beneficiaries (see ProDOC ?4.1 p65). The proposed project is to address land and ecosystems degradation in arid regions of Mauritania, which contributes to environment and livelihoods depletion from local communities. The project will promote the ecosystem approach to inclusively reach the 12 800 beneficiaries of the area of intervention, through in sustainable management of natural resources. This project will generate global environmental benefit through the restoration and the sustainable management of 70,000 hectares of degraded land and contribute to the sequestration of 235,000 metric tons of CO₂, which are highly related to the potential of the communes and the oasis within the key product value chains of the area. This will contribute to the preservation of arid ecosystems, which are critical for livelihoods in the area. The project aims to develop innovative approach such as PSE and diversification of mean of livelihoods which will ensure sustainable land management and therefore ensure the long-term contribution to global environment benefit. Reaching this GEBs will be done by strengthening the effectiveness of SLM interventions on the ground and in policy and will improve synergy between multiple sustainable development targets. The project will link stakeholders to improve recognition of and support for the multiple benefits of SLM including poverty reduction, food security, and protection of ecosystem services. It will also enhance national environmental governance through the engagement of key stakeholders from multiple sectors, government levels and ministries. The project will enhance the capacity of Mauritania to implement MEAs and especially the LDN commitment (especially SDGs15.3) and mainstream them into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks. With this regards the project had within its structure a dedicated output within the Knowledge and management component to strongly monitor effective contribution to GEBs (Output 4.2.1 ? Global Environmental Benefit monitored and assessed). By doing so, the project will therefore contribute to achieving the shared obligations of the Rio and other Conventions in Mauritania. The project is design to contribute to combatting drought and desertification through drought smart land management practices scaling up.

1a6 innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Complementary information since PIF

Innovation (see ProDoc ?4.8 p.98). The PPG mission reinforced (i) the ecosystem approach from local assessment to analysis within the observatory and broader consideration within the overall LDN mechanism and implementation; (ii) Cumulative approach to ensure overall LDN objectives support on livelihoods, environment and well-being improvement and further alignment with the LDN Scientific Framework; (iii) Coordination and planification as the key element to multiply impacts; (iv) Innovative mechanism to raise interest of private sector and ensure sustainable financing of SLM.; (v) Assessment methodologies; (vi) Training innovation on ICT tools uses and target public

Sustainability (see ProDoc ?4.9 p. 99). The sustainability of the proposed project will be enhanced by: (i) the governance approach for SLM.; (ii) strengthening the technical and institutional capacities to continue planning and implementing SLM; (iii) supporting the implementation of private providers; (iv) Interventions and measures will be adapted to arid conditions; (v) integrating land restoration and smart land management into local and national policies and strategies; (vi) providing a knowledge base and guidelines for designing and implementing land restoration and SLM in dryland ecosystems; (vii) providing a knowledge base and guidelines for designing and implementing land restoration and SLM in dryland ecosystems. The project aims to support and finance certain land restoration projects. These projects will be selected on the basis of transparent and fair criteria, including their expected impact, sustainability and potential for restoration and expansion. The sustainability of the project will also be enhanced through the sharing of data and lessons learned from the project and through the learning process that will influence behaviour changes. The project also innovates to identify and develop financial mechanism on LDN, including Environmental Service Payment mechanism, compensation mechanism and specific leverage of the LDN Fund. The project build on small and local private sector which are directly involve on Land Degradation to further involve additional private sector. The project proposes to put in place a management plan and private investment plans and the strengthening of land ownership; which will strengthen the sustainability of its action.

Potential for scaling up (see ProDoc ?4.10 p.100). The proposed project is designed for national and global scale-up. At the national level, 77% of Mauritania are arid zones and the intervention model for the restoration and sustainable management of land is reproducible in other regions of Mauritania. The proposed activities will improve knowledge on interventions in arid regions in order to increase the resilience of communities. It will also strengthen the capacities of local actors in better planification and ecosystem assessment to enhance replication of intervention in Arid zones. Outreach activities, publications and follow-up efforts will be communicated to relevant stakeholders in the country and in doing so will promote the scaling up of best restoration and SLM approaches. Innovative mechanisms will raise interest of the private sectors to engage and finance activities on LDN.

Adrar wilaya coordinates: 20° 30' North, 10° 04' West

Inchri coordinates 20° 04' North, 15° 04' West

Daklet Nouadhibou coordinates 20° 57' North, 16° 14' West

(Three further maps available in the CER word format and Prodoc - portal not allowing for more to be uploaded)

1c. Child Project?

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

N/A

2. Stakeholders

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

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

Complementary information since PIF

Stakeholder engagement during PPG Phase (see ProDoc 6.1 p.105 and ProDoc Appendix 12).

After consultations at the central level, the formulation team conducted field visits to the three Wilayas (regions) targeted by the project and detailed discussions were held with grassroots community associations with the participation of farmers/breeders as well as with the administrative and municipal authorities, the deconcentrated technical services of the MEDD, MDR and MHA at the level of the three Wilayas (Adrar, Dakhlet-Nouadhibou and Inchiri). The consultations were held at the community location, and put attention in ensuring meaningful, effective, and informed participation of stakeholder. It also ensures inclusiveness of consultation by ensuring the presence and possibility for women, youth to pronounce themselves during sessions. Focus group have also been realized targeting either workers family (herder, farmers, etc.) and vulnerable groups (women, youth, etc.). During these consultations, the problems of land degradation and desertification were identified; implementation modalities, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders were discussed and clarified.

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Stakeholder engagement Plan for project implementation (see ProDoc ?6.2 p.105 and Appendix 12). The project is following GEF policy and IUCN Standards with regards to SEP. It is aligned with the core following principles: (i) early engagement of stakeholders; (ii) engagement actions defined multiples channel of communication to ensure reaching target audience; (iii) focus on local level as key stakeholder level; (iv) define continuous action during project cycle; (v) defined numerous means for ensuring disclosure and dissemination of information; (vi) adapt social methodology to ensure non-discriminatory activities; (vii) put a focus on vulnerable groups with dedicated engagement means; (viii) develop a complaint mechanism to encourage local stakeholder feedback. The Stakeholder Engagement analysis and Plan are available in Appendix 12

Table 2 : specific vulnerable stakeholder engagement plan (Vulnerable SEP)

Vulnerable stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
Women	4	Increase local financial opportunities, representativeness in decision organisation, and	Mass local media communication Public disclosure at	PMU (M&E) DREDD DREDD	Included in project resources	Continuous

Vulnerable stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
Youth	4	secure access to land	<p>authority offices</p> <p>Physical sensitization on SEP (Complaint mechanism, validating means of communication and engagement)</p> <p>Physical consultation prior to activities</p> <p>PRAGA methodolgoies for consultations</p> <p>Continuous consultant during project implementation</p>	field staff		

Table 3 : stakeholder engagement plan (SEP)

Stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
Government agencies (national, provincial, local)						
MEDD	4	Budget Project implementation LDN commitment implementation	IUCN agreement PSC meetings Publication of quarterly and annual reports Sites visits under PSC	IUCN PMU (PM) PMU (M&E) PMU (PM)	Included in project resources	Project start Annual Quarterly Annual
DPREM	4	Project implementation. Reinforcing staff capacity Increase functionality of Atar Observatory	Financing agreement PSC meetings Publication of quarterly and annual reports Sites visits under PSC CNEDD meeting CTEDD meetings	MEDD PMU (PM) PMU (M&E) PMU (PM) MEDD MEDD	Included in project resources	Project start Annual Quarterly Annual Bimensual Bimensual
DCEV	3	Capacity building on LDN and coordination among projects. Ensuring proper consideration of their thematic in	PSC meetings	PMU (PM)	Included in project resources	Annual
DPCS - DCPIE	3		Publication of quarterly and annual reports	PMU (M&E)		Quarterly
Ministry of Rural Development (MDR)	4		Sites visits	PMU (PM)		Annual Bimensual

Stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
Ministry of Women and Child (MASEF)	3	the project.	under PSC CNEDD meeting CTEDD meetings	MEDD MEDD		Bimensual
Department of Development of Sectors and Agricultural Council	4					
Department of Development of Animal Sectors and Pastoralism	2					
Ministry of Hydraulics and Sanitation (MHA)	2					
ONDFP	3					
GEF/NAP	4					
ANGWMV	1					

Stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
DREDD	4	Field major implementing partner. Technical capacity building of staff.	Human Resource mobilisation	MEDD	Included in project resources	Annual Regularly Monthly Quarterly Annual Bimensual
			Mass media communication	PMU (M&E)		
			Website disclosure (SEP and public)	IUCN / PMU		
			Publication of quarterly and annual reports	PMU (M&E)		
			Regional workshop	PMU and Waly		
			Regional coordination (CREDD)	PMU and Waly		
DRHA	2	Regional investment in water sanitation and water access. Studies on oasis water management	Mass media communication	PMU (M&E)	Included in project resources	Regularly Monthly Quarterly Annual Bimensual
MDR Regional Delegations	4	Implementation of Agriculture program and coordination among actors for rural development	Website disclosure (SEP and public)	IUCN / PMU		
			Publication of quarterly and annual reports	PMU (M&E)		
			Regional workshop	PMU and Waly		
PRAPS	2	Implementation of Pastoral activities in the regional areas	Regional coordination (CREDD)	PMU and Waly		

Stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
PIADEA North	2	Planification of water access for rural communities. Complementary with priorities of investment raised by communities and sustainable use of water resource				
PDDO	4	Co-financing for complementary investments of the two projects. Increase support to AGPO.				
BET	4	Co-financing for complementary investments of the two projects. Increase sustainable management of water and livelihoods diversification on palm grooves				

Stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
The Nouadhibou Free Zone Authority (AZFN)	1	Running a common program Capacity building on LDN On the development of the bay of the star	Mass media PSE note submission Consultations for establishing a collaboration agreement and joint execution of activities on the peninsula	PMU (M&E) PMU (M&E) PMU (PM)	Included in project resources	Quarterly review
Civil society organisation						
National NGOs	3	Informed and ensure coherency of activities with national NGO standards	Mass media information Public disclosure on website (SEP, stakeholder consultation, project document)	PMU PMU / IUCN Waly / Major	Included in M&E plan	Quarterly / at report publication
AGPO	4	Capacity building of AGPOs on land degradation neutrality. Research of new techniques to fight against land loss. Improving the production of palm groves and crops under palm trees	Partnership and service agreement, respecting the principle of subsidiarity Training on SEP Public disclosure at authority	PMU (PM) PMU (M&E Officer) DREDD, Waly, Hakem, Mayor PMU (M&E)	Included in project activities	Quarterly

Stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
Local NGOs	4	Informed and ensure coherency with NGOs support Field execution	offices Regional Workshop			
Women Association	4	Expertise on women local situation. Implementation partners	Mass media information Public disclosure at authority offices Physical consultations on SEP and project implementation Regional Workshop	PMU DREDD, Waly, Hakem, Mayor DREDD (Field staff) PMU (M&E)	Included in project activities	Monthly
Local stakeholder						
Administrative authorities (Walis, Hakems, heads of arrondissements)	4	Improving livelihoods of local actors and citizen. Ensure fair and equitable implementation of activities	Public disclosure at authority offices Regional Workshop	DREDD PMU(M&E)	Included in project activities	Regular
Local elected officials (Mayors, municipal councilors)	4		CREDD meetings	PMU (PM)		

Stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
Local communities	4	Capacity development for the fight against land degradation Improving land productivity and income improvement	Mass media local communication Public disclosure at authority offices Physical sensitization on SEP PRAGA methodolgoies for consutlations with 3 Phases Participatory monitoring and evaluation)	PMU (M&E) DREDD DREDD field Staff	Included in project activities	Continuous
Private sector						
Private sector	3	Realize LDN options with the private sector Mobilization of funds for the restoration of degraded lands	Mass media communication Regional Workshop	PMU PMU	Included in project resources	Monthly Annual
SMEs	3	Support the value chain of local products through the production, processing and distribution	Mass media communication Local consultation	PMU DREDD	Included in project resources	Monthly As needed
International Organisation						

Stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	4	Implementation of LDN commitment for Mauritania	Quarterly and Annual reports	IUCN	Included in IUCN Fees	Quarterly
International union for conservation of the Nature (IUCN)	4	Increase Ecosystem Approach in MEDD activities	Country and Regional coordinator Exchange	PMU (PM)	Included in Project resources	As needed (at least monthly)
Technical and financial partners (TFP: EU, WB, ADB, FAO, UNDP, WFP, IFAD, IDB)	2	Coordination among projects and activities Lessons learned and expertise on LDN	Mass media communication Project workshop on LDN Technical and Financial partners platform Informal regional exchange on others projects	PMU PMU MEDD MEDD/GEF	Included in project resources	Quarterly
UNCCD Knowledge Hub	3	Sharing experiences. High collaboration with the Project on sharing information on the Knowledge Hub (notices on LDN targets, mechanism, LDN implementation, PSE mechanism on LDN, etc.)	Capitalization notes submission Sharing Arid Zones data	PMU (M&E) DCPIE	Included in project resources	As notes and data are available

Stakeholder engagement during implementation						
Stakeholders	Level	Purpose of engagement (interest and reason)	Mechanism / process of Engagement	Responsible entity	Resources	Frequency /Timing
LDN Fund	1	Scaling up activities. Fund directly in charge of LDN implementation and financing specific project on LDN	LDN Proposal submission	PMU	Own funds	Termination phase of project
Research institution and University						
Faculty of Sciences and Techniques (Al Asrya University, Nouakchott)	3	Providing high-level scientific personnel	Mass media communication Publication of job opportunities for national consultant Lessons learned publication shared	PMU (M&E) PMU (RAF) PMU (M&E)	Included in project human resources	At report or ToR publications

Complaint mechanism (see ProDoc Appendix 12). A complaint mechanism has been integrated based on the IUCN standards, which rely either on local structure and on international ones.

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

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

Complementary information since PIF

The PPG led a gender analysis underlining the key aspects (see ProDoc Appendix 13): (i) Women take care of household chores and are not counted as an employment sector despite their contribution to the welfare of the family; (ii) The rural exodus leads to an increase in the workload of rural women; (iii) women are still strongly dependent on the weight of traditions that establish hierarchical relations between men and women, limiting a free discussion and real understanding of local dynamics; (iv) women play an important role in the oasis ecosystem while agriculture and livestock production are mainly led by men; (v) Women continue to be held back by structural constraints and gender norms related to access and control over land, water, other productive assets, and biological resources; (vi) Gender norms, women's increased time constraints and other structural constraints continue to prevent women from the same opportunities as men to make decisions related to the management and sustainable use of natural resources; (vii) women do not have the same access to income generation opportunities, credit and technology.

Gender analysis

A. Introduction

Mauritania has been engaged for more than two decades in a vast program for the promotion of women which is part of its international commitments in terms of sustainable human development, promotion and fight against discrimination against women, and girls.

With this in mind, in 2015 the country adopted a gender institutionalization strategy, the two main axes of which are (I) the systematic integration of the gender dimension into policies, laws, programs, budgets, institutional structures, and cultures; and (II) the implementation of specific measures and positive actions intended for women (or men) as a catch-up exercise to correct the distortions that generate these discrepancies.

In line with IUCN's commitments to gender equality, including those set out in the IUCN Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (2018), all interventions and project activities will be gender-sensitive and focus on women and marginalized members of project beneficiary communities by promoting their contribution to the sustainable management of drylands and ensuring equitable sharing of benefits derived from investments.

The field visits and gender-specific interviews (with focus groups) will allow discussions with the beneficiaries to better understand the relations between women and men in the wilayas of Inchiri, Adrar and Dakhlet Nouadhibou as well as between the elderly and the young in decision-making processes.

B. Socio-economic data of the three Wilayas

The population of the three targeted wilayas amounts to 236,047 inhabitants, including 130,864 men and 105,183 women, or 5.66% of the country's population. Overall, women represent 44.56% of the population of the project intervention wilayas (table). In Adrar, they are dominant in number.

Table 4: Population of the targeted wilayas (Source: RGPH, 2020 projection)

Wilayas	Men	Women	Total
Inchiri	14,307	10 956	25,263
Adrar	29 670	31 314	60 984
Dakhlet Nouadhibou	86 887	62 913	149,800
Total Wilayas	130,864	105,183	236,047

C. Traditional occupations of women in the target wilayas

Women take care of household chores (upkeep of children, cooking, upkeep of the house, education of children in general and young girls in particular, etc.), and are not counted as an employment sector despite their contribution to the welfare of the family. In Adrar, a politically more evolved wilaya, only men have the right to cultivate palm trees; women's activities relate mainly to crops under palm trees (market gardening, barley, wheat, cowpeas, alfalfa, and henna). Some women are also involved in the cultivation of cereals in the Graras.

The rural exodus, in particular in the wilayas of Inchiri and Adrar, leads to an increase in the workload of rural women. She has less time to allocate to new activities. Attending certain meetings, for example, can pose problems for women if the schedule is not compatible with their domestic and family responsibilities.

Particularly important differences should be noted between men and women with regard to access to factors of production (land ownership), financial capital, product promotion and marketing channels, as well as access in decision-making positions (weak leadership capacity of elected women who are often illiterate) despite the law establishing a quota of 20% of elective positions for women.

D. Participation of women in decision-making in the household

In the 3 targeted wilayas, women are still strongly dependent on the weight of traditions that establish hierarchical relations between men and women, thus perpetuating dependence on men. Some women may have difficulty expressing themselves in front of their husbands or elders. They may also believe that family discussions (even those about workloads) should not be displayed in public. Outside the home (to varying degrees from one community to another), only the husband is empowered to make commitments, most often without consultation with his wife, when it comes to community affairs.

E. Women's access to agricultural land in the target Wilayas

In Mauritania, the status of women remains dependent on a certain number of perceptions, practices, and negative images conveyed within a society that has difficulties in reconciling tradition with

international standards whose aim is to establish gender equality and equity. In the wilayas of Inchiri, Adrar, and Dakhlet Nouadhibou, there are major challenges in this area, both in terms of gender equity, equality between men and women, strengthening of capacities of the latter as well as taking the gender dimension into account at the institutional level. Note, however, that this situation has tended to evolve in recent years in favor of women.

The oases of the target wilayas constitute one of the main agricultural production systems in Mauritania and women play an important role there. Agriculture and livestock are the main activities of the populations and the oasis system is generally patriarchal under the aegis of men unless the head of the family is a woman in the event of a divorce or a widow.

F. Constraints for the involvement of women in the management of natural resources

a. Equal access and control over natural resources

Women continue to be held back by structural constraints and gender norms related to access and control over land, water, other productive assets, and biological resources. Even when the law guarantees women equal rights with men, many women have less control over natural resources. Research shows that if women had the same access to productive resources as men, agricultural productivity in developing countries could increase by 20-30%; which would reduce poverty and improve women's ability to provide for their families, and sustainably manage and use natural resources.

b. Imbalanced participation and decision-making in environmental planning and governance at all levels

Gender norms, women's increased time constraints and other structural constraints continue to prevent women from the same opportunities as men to make decisions related to the management and sustainable use of natural resources. Addressing gender gaps in participation and leadership in decision-making processes, from local to a global level, can help make institutions and policies more representative, as well as help women to better engage in decision-making processes.

c. Unequal access to socio-economic benefits and services

Women, in many places, do not have the same access to income generation opportunities, credit and technology as men. In addition, women often face more barriers than men in accessing finance, training, and information. Broadening the socio-economic benefits of women can significantly contribute to improving the environment.

All in all, the difficulties of access to resources, the restriction of rights, the reduced mobility of poor women, their low participation in decision-making processes and the low diversification of their income, make them more vulnerable than men to climate change and land degradation. This situation widens existing inequalities, including gender inequality.

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment? (yes /no) If yes, please upload gender action plan or equivalent here.

d. Gender strategy

Involvement of women and other vulnerable groups in degraded land restoration activities

IUCN approaches tested in other countries (PRAGA and MEOR) indicate that it is possible to involve women and vulnerable and marginalized groups. The field team will strive to adopt a participatory and multi-sectorial approach, emphasizing the involvement of inclusive stakeholders, including groups of people marginalized due to their gender, age, ethnicity, caste, etc. To this end, it is important to ensure

the participation of men and women and the equitable sharing of costs. To do so, it is therefore necessary to take specific measures, as stipulated in the MEOR approach (2014):

? ?Carry out a gender analysis to shed useful light on the roles, responsibilities, uses, rights and practices that affect the way women and men from various socioeconomic / cultural groups in the target area use and manage the natural resources;

? Involve women in decision-making relating to restoration, as stakeholders and in practice, in order to tackle the underlying social and gender inequalities from the start of the project;

? Improve women's rights to property and natural resources, including within communities;

? Establish partnerships and alliances with national and regional restoration networks to improve the integration of women and marginalized groups;

? Develop gender-specific indicators and collect sex-disaggregated data to determine the extent to which results respond to gender inequalities;

? Facilitate dialogue between women and men to encourage greater equality of access, use, control, and management of land and natural resources?.

The present consultation will integrate these participatory and gender-specific dimensions, by constituting, by agglomeration, specific focus groups of women to carry out an in-depth diagnosis of their activities, and their involvement in land degradation. Subsequently, these focus groups will propose activities specific to them for the implementation of the project.

Income generating activities (IGA) involving women and young people

The involvement of women and young people in income-generating activities is manifested through:

? Skins and leathers production and processing activities (tanning of raw skins, the production of cushions and the making of mats using leather cords and plant materials (local plants and date palms));

? Picking forest products (from *Panicum turgidum*, *Stipagrostis pungens*, *Acacia tortilis*, *Ziziphus mauritiana*, *Maerua crassifolia*, etc.) practiced by women from poor households (making mats, vans, straps and saddle supports for dromedaries, traditional medicines, etc.);

? By purchasing lean small ruminants (sheep or goats) which are fattened before being resold

? Production and marketing of dairy products: groups of women are increasingly engaged in the breeding of maintained dairy camels which receive a food supplement in addition to coarse fodder;

? Aviculture: breeding of local chickens and imported breeds with cases of crossing the two breeds;

? Market gardening and henna cultivation: in addition to market gardening, women practice henna cultivation, the leaves of which, once dried and powdered, are used for tattooing the skin, and particularly for decorating women's hands during weddings and festivities but also in traditional therapy. The henna product is in high demand and this explains its development in culture generally associated with date palms in oases;

? Sewing and weaving: These two often coupled activities are practiced at home by professional embroiderers, seamstresses and weavers;

? Trade is an essential activity, carried out by a high proportion of working women in the villages.

As the results of restoration activities require time, it is important to develop a financing mechanism for the above-mentioned IGAs in favor of women and other vulnerable actors in order to improve their level of commitment and their resilience.

Awareness raising, training and popularization relating to good practices in sustainable land management, knowledge sharing through information and communication techniques and improvement of land governance are likely to promote the involvement of the gender dimension in the restoration of the arid zones of Mauritania.

The Gender Action Plan of the Project (see ProDoc Appendix 13) build on existing practices and target the previous identified gaps and barriers for inclusiveness of women within sustainable land management and increase access in socio-economical benefits. The project will first consider the gender dimension while looking after the strategic integration of LDN within strategic documents and program by putting a focus on the importance of women to reach LDN. The project will value tested methodologies which highly consider gender inclusiveness (PRAGA and MEOR). It also dedicate activities on supporting stronger sensitization of local authorities on women equal access to natural resource and land tenure to ensure inclusive and sustainable use of natural resource. It specifically target women in productive activities in agriculture such as palm grove as well as complementary income generating activities. It will also integrate women in land restoration activities such as seeds collection. The project integrate within its monitoring system sex disaggregated indicators and verify the effectiveness of GAP implementation.

Gender Action plan

DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM TO PROMOTE THE NATURAL CAPITAL IN THE DRYLANDS OF MAURITANIA	
PROJECT OBJECTIVE:	Improve the livelihoods of rural communities in the wilayas of Adrar, Inchiri and Dakhlet Nouadhibou in Mauritania through sustainable land restoration and management
PROJECT INDICATOR:	number of beneficiaries ? with gender disaggregation -
TARGET BENEFICIARIES:	12 795 beneficiaries, of which 50% are expected to be women

OUTPUT	ENTRY POINT	ACTION POINT	TARGET
COMPONENT 1:	Capacity building and governance		
OUTCOME 1.1:	Outcome 1.1: Key stakeholders are trained and equipped for evidence-based decision making for SLM in drylands.		

OUTPUT	ENTRY POINT	ACTION POINT	TARGET
<p>1.1.1 Land degradation assessments undertaken in the targeted wilayas Drylands observatory and platform in place</p>	<p>Land degradation assessments are essential to chart effects on natural resource-dependent sectors, economic losses, as well as asset-loss and vulnerabilities of different communities.</p> <p>These are analytical outputs that will inform the project context and will be fundamental in understanding the gendered impacts of land degradation</p>	<p>The socio-economic assessment seeks to identify and analyze the perception that communities have of land conditions (degradation or conservation) and their trends, causes and impacts, as well as measures implemented to improve them. The tools used are those proposed by the LADA project, namely: (I) the focus group, (II) the classification of wealth, (III) participatory mapping of the land with 4 to 5 members of the community who participated in the focus group, (iv) interviews on household livelihoods.</p> <p>Women and youth will be part of all focus group either by doing separately (three first points) or be part/lead for households? interviews in one hand. In the other 50% of the assessment team shall be female</p> <p>The PROJECT COORDINATOR, HEAD of the assessment will ensure that researchers and technical specialists to incorporate both gender analyses in socio-economic assessment and team composition</p> <p>The PROJECT COORDINATOR HEAD OF THE ASSESSMENT is expected to undertake mixed methods qualitative as well as quantitative analysis, involving focus group discussions (particularly with women?s groups), key informant interviews and consultations with volunteer groups, CSOs, national gender machineries and regional gender forums (such as: the African Union ? Women, Gender and Development Directorate and the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States or ECOWAS Gender Development Centre).</p>	<p>? Gender-responsive Land degradation mapping conducted REPORT</p> <p>? Gender Action Plan updated to include inception phase findings and priorities from the three wilayas WORKPLAN</p>

OUTPUT	ENTRY POINT	ACTION POINT	TARGET
<p>1.2</p> <p>Voluntary LDN policy or law adopted and implemented</p> <p>1.2: Enable the environment to support the voluntary implementation of LDN objectives</p>	<p>This output focuses on development of voluntary land degradation neutrality policy or law.</p> <p>The law or policy shall include women's concern about land degradation neutrality</p>	<p>THE PROJECT DIRECTOR shall ensure that gender concern are included in the policy. In particular the policy shall stresses how women are capacitated to carry-out the LDN and he/she as well it shall not marginalize further women and youths and vulnerable groups.. an action plan to make it happen shall developed and implemented</p>	<p>LDN Law or policy</p> <p>REPORT</p>
<p>Outcome 1.3: Establishment of sustainable land degradation management frameworks</p>	<p>Stakeholders around share natural resources, mainly graras, have developed tools such as local agreements and management committees for sustainable management</p>	<p>THE PROJECT DIRECTOR as well as The regional project coordinators shall ensure the presence of women and youth during negotiation process, They shall have focus group to express their concern. Their concerns shall be included in the sustainable use agreement of shared resources. 50% of management committee members shall be women.</p>	

OUTPUT	ENTRY POINT	ACTION POINT	TARGET
COMPONENT 2: OUTCOME 2.1. Result 2.1: The main resource areas in the targeted wilayas are subject to improved ecosystem restoration by communities and local government			
Output 2.1.1. By targeted wilayas, an updated landscape management plan informed by available assessments	Identification et sensibilisation de toutes les parties prenantes	All actors are taken into account, including women, young people and transhumant people. The project will place particular emphasis on women and young people based on the experience of the PDDO Project which set up Associations for the Participatory Management of Oases (AGPO).	50 % of women will be targeted
2.1.2 Output 2.1.2. Improving community rights and access to natural resources, paying particular attention to the rights of women and marginalized groups	Support for access of women and marginalized groups to land within the framework of the extension of palm groves by the PDDO Support for the legal recognition of the land rights of local communities based on customary and modern land rights to promote a right of equitable, secure and sustainable access to these resources, ensuring in particular that women enjoy equitable access	The project will facilitate women's access to new palm groves and contribute to equipping them with water-saving irrigation systems (California system, drip). The project will ensure that women have equitable access to land Particular attention will be paid to securing the land rights of women and young people, without which these actors would have little incentive to participate in the restoration.	30% of the beneficiaries shall be women

OUTPUT	ENTRY POINT	ACTION POINT	TARGET
<p>2.1.3 Output 2.1.3. : 66,500 ha of arid landscapes (including forests, pastures and riparian wetlands) are subject to better governance and smart land management interventions against drought</p>	<p>Supporting on-the-ground actions for land and ecosystem restoration using validated best practices for land restoration and sustainable land management as well as drought-smart land management interventions.</p>	<p>Women and young people will be mobilized for the production of seedlings (putting in bags, sowing, planting). They will also be involved in the collection of local plant material, namely <i>Leptadenia pyrotechnica</i> (Titarek) and <i>Euphorbia balsamifera</i> (Ivernane in the local language), their weaving and their establishment. They will accompany the project as labor paid by the task.</p>	<p>aerial seeding: 65,000 hectares Assisted natural regeneration (ANR): 500 ha Dune fixation: 1000 ha around the oases (palm groves and market gardening: 200 ha), graras (300 ha), wadis and watersheds (200 ha) and dwellings (300 ha).</p>
<p>2.1.4 Output 2.1.4. : Improvement of water management interventions implemented in the three targeted wilayas, following established guidelines for nature-based solutions to drought</p>	<p>Support for improving water resources management through integrated land and water resources planning. <i>Fight against water erosion and gullies (filtering bunds, dry stone thresholds, gabions)</i></p>	<p>The project will set up the drip irrigation system and the Californian system to support vegetable production under palm trees in support of the PDDOs. Involvement of women and young people organized in association in the fight against water erosion</p>	<p>130 ha 50 % shall be women</p>
<p>2.1.5 Output 2.1.5.: 2133 households supported to implement sustainable land management and land restoration projects through seed funding</p>	<p>Livelihood building support to implement sustainable land management and land restoration projects through seed funding (with a focus on gender equality).</p>	<p>Payment mechanisms for the promotion of restoration activities will be put in place. Women and young people organized associations will be paid by the task. The main purpose of this activity is the development of economic incentives for the sustainable restoration of degraded ecosystems, by providing alternative income from the management of these ecosystems.</p>	<p>2 133 households shall be targeted</p>

OUTPUT	ENTRY POINT	ACTION POINT	TARGET
COMPONENT 3: Component 3: Financing of scaling up SLM OUTCOME 3.1: Result 3.1: Investment strategies are developed and funds are mobilized to finance the scaling up of good sustainable land			
3.1.1 Output 3.1.1: By targeted wilaya, a total economic evaluation study and cost benefit analysis is published		Ensure that the economic valuation will include women and youth concerns. Specific questionnaire for women shall be designed	
3.1.2 Output 3.1.2: In the targeted wilayas, three main arid zone products and the value chains of these products are improved in order to take advantage of environmental sustainability		Women value chains products are the first objective of this output. The project shall discriminate positively for women	90% of the targeted persons
3.1.3 Output 3.1.3: Establishment of a forum of active investors to build capacity in value chain development and improve investments in the dryland ecosystem		Ensure that at least 30% of the participants are women	
3.1.4 Output 3.1.4: Compensation options for environmental impacts in the targeted wilayas are identified through consultations with the government and mining companies		70% of the beneficiaries shall be women. The benefit for a households shall be given as women income generating or development activities	

OUTPUT	ENTRY POINT	ACTION POINT	TARGET
Output 3.1.5: For each targeted wilaya, an investment plan proposal is developed		The plan design period shall take into account women concerns and the proposed plan shall reflects balanced gender program of activities	

OUTPUT	ENTRY POINT	ACTION POINT	TARGET
COMPONENT 4:		Component 4: Project-specific knowledge management and M&E	
OUTCOME 4.1:		Outcome 4.1: Lessons learned and replicated in a larger dryland landscape	
4.1.1 Output 4.1.1: Lessons learned from land restoration and best practices in sustainable land management deployed in the three targeted wilayas are published and scaled up across the country	.	The lessons collection process shall fully involve women and the publication of lessons shall reflect women views and concerns	
4.1.2 Output 4.1.2: Knowledge sharing activities on the restoration and conservation of the natural capital of arid lands are carried out		Likewise	
4.1.3 Output 4.1.3. A monitoring and information system on land degradation neutrality achievements using LDN indicators developed and implemented		Indicators shall be desegregated to show the impact on women.	

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

Yes

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

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

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

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

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

Complementary information since PIF

The PPG mission faced multiples changes since PIF stage with regards to private sector involvement (see ProDoc Appendix 12 Annex C). Preliminary key private actors for mining company were MCM and Tasiast. Unfortunately, MCM is closing its intervention in Mauritania and will not be able to collaborate with the current project. Tasiast Ltd was solicited by the team but did not raise interest due to the lack of direct link and mechanism between LDN and Mining at the exception of compensation mechanism. Moreover Tasiast Ltd already engage with GEF AMSTRA project which makes this fund not available for the project. Strong discussion with NFZ have been realized but limited interest from the company were link to the fact that direct financing mechanism were not explicit.

The project decided therefore to rely more on the local private sector (see ProDoc ?3.4 p. 48 and ?4.3 p.69), and highly involve individual under IGA, or small enterprises under green SMEs, cooperatives and producers, as well as gold panners. The project also consider as a priority to raise the private sector interest on LDN through elaborating pilots and innovative financial mechanism which ally natural resource restoration and natural resources uses under the structure of environmental service payment mechanisms.

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

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

Complementary information since PIF

Additional risks since PIF. Two main considerations has been integrated in the proposal, considering (i) COVID risks (see ProDoc Appendix 16 p. 219). A dedicated analysis on COVID has been led during PPG to preidentified related risk and most operational mitigation measures; (ii) Climate risks (see ProDoc ?3.1.1.5 p.20). In depth local climate risk analysis has been integrated in the PPG phase to ensure a strong climate rationale of the preidentified activities and also avoid maladaptation.

Table: Risk analysis and risk management measures

Risk description and potential consequences		Level of Risk				Mitigation measures
Description of the risk	Potential consequences	Probability	Magnitude impact	Significance of the risk	Risk category	
		(1?5) 1 = Low; 5 = high	(1-5) 1 = weak; 5 = high	Low, Moderate, High	Economic Social Technical Environmental	
The current climate and seasonal variability and / or vagaries prevent the implementation of planned activities.	Economic losses or physical damage in restoration areas is a challenge for the timely implementation of project activities	2	3	Low	Economic	? Take into account the current variability in the occurrence of droughts and bushfires during the restoration process. ? Focus on species and climate resilient techniques ? Take into account weather forecasts for droughts, winds, rains and seasonal variability to reduce the risk of plant damage.
Refusal / disagreement [1]between stakeholders from the same environment	? Breaks in trust between communities ? Delays in the implementation or even termination of the project	3	3	Moderate	Social	? A good definition of the framework made during the preparation of the project ? The project will develop and implement income-generating activities that stimulate community understanding.

Risk description and potential consequences		Level of Risk				Mitigation measures
Description of the risk	Potential consequences	Probability	Magnitude impact	Significance of the risk	Risk category	
		(1-5) 1 = Low; 5 = high	(1-5) 1 = weak; 5 = high	Low, Moderate, High	Economic Social Technical Environmental	
High staff turnover within the project steering committee, project management team and line ministries	Frequent changes in public bodies and unstable institutional memory lead to interruption and/or delays in implementation and may compromise the sustainability of the project.	2	4	Moderate	Institutional	? A main focal point and a substitute will be identified in each government institution concerned during the start-up phase of the project. ? Dialogue between stakeholders will be promoted during the implementation phase. ? The decision-making, design and implementation processes within the framework of the project will be well documented.
Staff required to conduct land degradation assessment not available	Technical Environmental and organizational	3	5	Moderate	Technical and environmental	Focus on training

Risk description and potential consequences		Level of Risk				Mitigation measures
Description of the risk	Potential consequences	Probability	Magnitude impact	Significance of the risk	Risk category	
		(1-5) 1 = Low; 5 = high	(1-5) 1 = weak; 5 = high	Low, Moderate, High	Economic Social Technical Environmental	
Limited technical capacity to conduct mapping and implement best practices for land restoration and sustainable management. Dedicated to monitoring and evaluation activities on NDT achievements	Unsustainability of the field activities and reducing global environmental benefits	1	2	Low	Technical and environmental	? The capacities of national and local public services will be considerably strengthened to enable the planning and implementation of appropriate measures aimed at LDN. ? International experts will provide support if necessary
The plant material requirements for the construction of palisades in mechanical dune fixing work may face stock shortages in arid environments.	Operational and organizational	3	5	Moderate	Environmental and organizational	Particular emphasis must be placed on the protection or conservation of neighboring sites which could be used as borrow pits. Ensure a good follow-up of the good execution of the work of fixing dunes and breezes where a special agent will be dedicated to it. A special periodic report produced and monitored; and Decision making timely corrections made.

Risk description and potential consequences		Level of Risk				Mitigation measures
Description of the risk	Potential consequences	Probability	Magnitude impact	Significance of the risk	Risk category	
		(1-5) 1 = Low; 5 = high	(1-5) 1 = weak; 5 = high	Low, Moderate, High	Economic Social Technical Environmental	
The management plans of the project areas may lead to restrictions on the use of resources which may affect the living conditions of vulnerable groups who depend on them.	Technical and operational	2	3	Low	Social and Economic	The participatory approach should make it possible to avoid this type of error
COVID-19 prevents or delays the project	Operational	3	3	Medium	Social	The project will take the necessary barrier and sanitary measures for its implementation. A dedicated analysis is provided in annex.

[1] This state of affairs is more and more frequent since the advent of democracy in the country leading to rivalry and competition for leadership.

6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

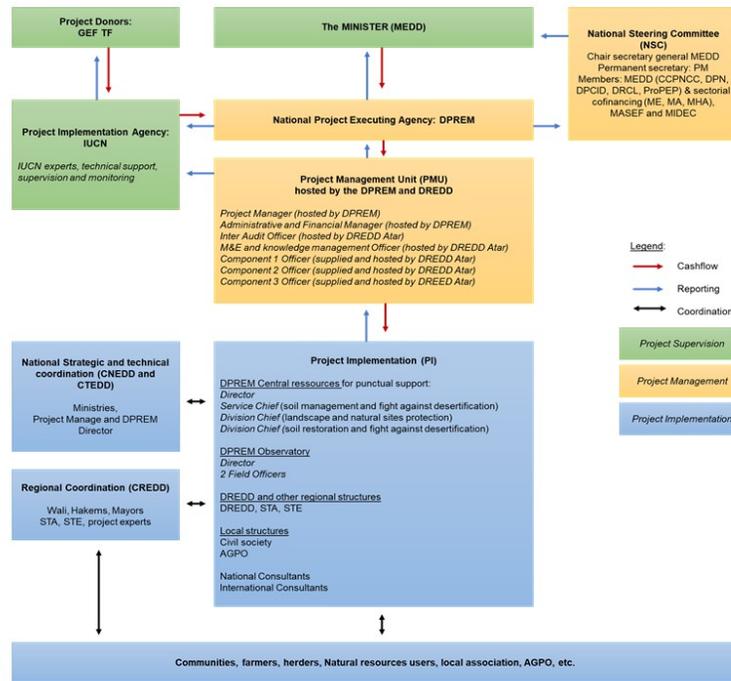
Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

Complementary information since PIF

PPG mission established the institutional Arrangement and Coordination (see ProDoc ?5.1 p.103). CNOEZA mandate has been reintegrated within the DPREM division which will therefore become the Executing Agency (EA). The IUCN remain the Implementation Agency (IA) for the project. Project

management structure has been developed with a high involvement of local environmental service (DREDD and IEDD). Dedicated resources for the project will be mostly technical and locally based in Atar to ensure a strong linkages with local actors and activities.

Organogram of the Project management structure



7. Consistency with National Priorities

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

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

Same as PIF (see ProDoc ?4.5 p.93).

The Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Shared Prosperity (SCAPP, 2016-2030). By tackling land degradation and sustainable water management, the project supports the first pillar on the promotion of a sustainable agriculture and a sustainable management of extensive livestock systems. By supporting women decision role at within local association and structure, it contributes to the third pillar on the promotion of the citizen women participation and the fights against discrimination. By strengthening the institutional capacity on LDN at central and local levels, by enhancing a strong coordination among LDN sectors, the project also contributes to the third pillar and the development of the Administration and its electronics services as well as the improvement of the management and training of State personnel, the

Strengthening of the decentralization policy and Updating of the land use planning policy. By mainstreaming an ecosystem approach, the project also contributes to the pillar 3 and a better environmental governance, rational management of natural resources and disaster risk reduction.

The Rural Sector Development Strategy for 2025. The project will contribute to the strategy through interventions in the project areas towards the development of several production lines, including those for vegetables, dates, NTFPs, and the protection of production sites against sand encroachment, land degradation and water erosion.

The National Strategy for the Environment and Sustainable Development 2017-2021 (SNEDD) and its action Plan (PANEDD). The project is fully aligned with all of the principle of the SANEDD. It ensures transversality of LDN consideration within policy and local implementation (1st Principle). It valorises the local knowledge in arid ecosystems and support an inclusive and participatory management of the resource (2nd principle). It ensures a sustainable use and management of productive assets (3rd principle). It reinforces the knowledge through adequate and integrated social-environmental and economic assessment and the establishment of strong observatory (4th principle). It fully supports the Mauritanian international commitment on LDN (5th principle).

ProPEP Alignment. The project is contributing to the Expanded Priority Program of the President of the Republic (ProPep), above all on its "Environmental preservation and green jobs" axis which aims to reduce the depletion of agro-sylvo-pastoral resources and environmental degradation inclusively and create green jobs and fully integrate activities in strengthening environmental authorities' capacities as well as field activities to restore land.

National Strategy for Sustainable Access to Water and Sanitation by 2030 (SNADEA -2030). The project through its collaboration with the PIADEA will directly contribute in the Axis 3 of Improve access to water for agriculture and livestock. It will contribute in reinforcing the ecosystem analysis and consideration under the (i) Result R3.1: Preliminary technical studies for the rehabilitation and the implementation of surface improvements are carried out; (ii) Result R3.3: Water structures and resources for pastoral use are better known and (iii) Result R3.4 - 600 new pastoral water points are built.

The project is consistent with the 3 major international conventions on land degradation, climate, biodiversity: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1994; United Nations Convention to combat desertification (UNCCD) in 1996; Biodiversity Convention (CBD) in 2005; and the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2005.

The project is fully aligned with the high commitment of Mauritania to strengthen its LDN framework through the consolidation and validation of its LDN Policy, building on existing target setting program results. Through an increase knowledge on arid landscape and technics to combat desertification, it also contributes to advise technically on-going process under UNCCD of Drought Plan definition and the alignment of PAN/LCD with the UNCCD 2018-2030 Strategy. The project is fully aligned with the National Action Program (NAP) within the framework of the UNCCD;

The project is also consistent with the climate mitigation and adaptation political documents. The project is supporting the Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 2021-2030), through addressing the

priorities on Land degradation Neutrality by 2030 through silting reduction, aerial seeding, Land defence and restoration. It also contributes to agriculture and livestock adaptation sectors through restoring the fertility of arable land, increasing the organic cover of soil, supporting conservation agriculture, increasing reforested areas, supporting forest assisted regeneration, and a sustainable management of pastoral resource and the establishment of transhumance corridors. The project also contributes to the objective of absolute emission reduction. The project will also support the PANA (2004), through the improvement of the resilience of agriculture practiced in the *graras* (wadis water spreading plains during the rainy season), water-saving technologies in oases, support for capacity building of producer organizations and knowledge management for better management of natural resources. The project also supports efficient use of water and contributes to the PANA climate adaptation strategy.

The project supports the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 2011-2020) through an ecosystem approach in managing land restoration and reaching land degradation neutrality. It also contributes to preserve and restore functions of ecosystems and their ability to adapt and evolve. It ensures sustainable use and management of biological resources. Finally, it also increases knowledge on arid ecosystems and associated traditional knowledge to preserve biodiversity and support its sharing among stakeholders.

The project is also aligned with the following international conventions: Convention on the Protection of Cultural and Natural World Heritage (World Heritage Convention) in 1981; Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) in 1983; Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1998; Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) in 1998.

At the regional level, Mauritania is a signatory to the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources of 1968 and the Convention on Cooperation for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Zones of West and Central Africa (1981).

The project is also aligned with the main principles of the Decennial Priority Investment Plan 2021-2030 of the Great Green Wall Initiative as it will technically collaborate on the sustainable management of soil and water resources and protection of biodiversity and will also highly contribute to the establishment and operationalisation of Information and Observatory systems.

The project is also aligned with multisectoral plans and strategies. The project is gender mainstreamed and address equal access to decision and activities as well as reinforcing the economic opportunities for women. It therefore contributes to the National Strategy for gender equality between women and men (SNIG, 2006). Through a landscape and watershed approach, improved access of water resource, field monitoring of the resource and strong support to social structuring for sustainable use and management of the water resource, the project contributes to the new National Strategy for Sustainable Access to Water and Sanitation (SNADEA) by 2030. The Water and Sanitation Sector Development Strategy (SDSEA, 2009). The project will support the restoration of ecosystems services related to land and therefore directly contribute to productive assets for agriculture, livestock and non-timber forest products activities. It contributes to improve a balanced and healthy food for the most vulnerable and is aligned with the National Food Security Strategy (SNSA, 2012-2015, vision 2030).

8. Knowledge Management

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

Complementary information since PIF

PPG Mission reinforce the component 4 (see ProDoc ?4.3 p.89) with structuring the previous activities in PIF within the following outputs and activities: (i) reinforces the production of knowledge products on lessons learned from project, (ii) reinforces partnership with UNCCD Knowledge Hub and sharing information within strategic level (ministries) and regional level (GCF NAP). Output and activities on knowledge management are the following: (i) Output 4.1.1: Publications on LDN and gender aspects lessons learned ; (ii) Output 4.1.2: Inclusive National and Wilaya knowledge sharing on LDN best practices and gender mainstreaming (Activity 4.1.2.1. Annual sensitization sessions at Wilaya levels and Activity 4.1.2.2. Pilot sites visits); (iii) Output 4.1.3: LDN and gender lessons learned are spread among regional actors through GCF/NAP regional exchange.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

Complementary information since PIF

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget (see ProDoc ?7 p.110 & ProDoc Appendix 4). The project established a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan to ensure adaptive monitoring of project implementation, as well as project results and impacts. The overall budget of the M&E and knowledge management plan is US\$ 353 200 from which US\$ 270 200 under GEF Financing and US\$ 83 000 under cofinancing. A dedicated Monitoring and Evaluation, knowledge management Officer has been integrated in the project team to ensure the daily management of the plan. The monitoring system will also use KoboToolbox system to facilitate data collection and aggregation at project level and the observatory. The main activities under the project monitoring and evaluation are the following: (i) Inception Workshop and Report (ii) Project Baseline study, including global environmental benefit baseline; (iii) Strategic Result Framework continuous compilation and update; (iv) Quarterly progress report (v) Annual project report; (vi) Annual regional engagement with Wilaya level authorities, civil society and targeted local actors; (vii) Annual Tripartite Review (TPR) at national level through Steering committee; (viii) Independent External Evaluation at mid-term; (ix) Independent External Evaluation at termination of the project; (x) Terminal project report; (xi) Annual budget revisions; (xii) Dedicated human resource through a Monitoring and Evaluation Knowledge management Officer. The Monitoring and evaluation plan also includes Knowledge management activities as well as engagement means: (i) Knowledge and lessons learned publications considering the publications of numerous notes on around 10 topics on the project intervention; (ii) Stakeholder engagement through information and communication (medias, publications in administrative offices, etc.); (iii) Project steering committee annual field mission on representative and pilots sites for lessons learned; (iv) Mobilization of regional and national project through the GCF NAP project.

Project M&E and knowledge management work plan and detailed costed

M&E activity	Description	Frequency	Responsible	Budget (GEF funded)	Budget (Cofinancing)
Inception Workshop and Report	The Inception Workshop gathering the stakeholders involved in the project, and resulting Inception Report, provide the occasions and means to finalize preparations for the implementation of the proposed project, involving the formulation of the first annual work plan, the detailing of stakeholder roles and responsibilities, and that of reporting and monitoring requirements. Considering the consultation process at PPG, only minor adjustments are expected.	Within the first two months of project start up. Will be undertaken at the national and landscape scales.	PM M&E Officer	US\$ 5 000	None
Baseline study	The project logical framework will be fine-tuned where necessary.	At project inception.	PM M&E Officer	US\$ 4,000	None

Strategic Result Framework	<p>The Project Results Framework presented in section 2 includes SMART indicators for each expected outcome as well as mid-term and end-of-project targets. These indicators will be the main tools for assessing project implementation progress and whether project results are being achieved. Measurements of means of verification for project progress on output and implementation will be made throughout the implementation period.</p>	<p>Data collected continuously in order to have the required quantitative and qualitative data on the progress against each indicator prior to Annual Project Reports and to the definition of annual work plans.</p>	<p>PM M&E Officer</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Included</p>
Quarterly Progress Report	<p>Each quarter, the PMU will prepare a summary of the project's substantive and technical progress towards achieving its objectives. The summaries will be sent to the IUCN Regional Program Coordinator.</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>	<p>PM M&E Officer IUCN Regional Program Coordinator</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Publications costs included in MEDD expenses (US\$ 20 000)</p>

Annual Project Report	The APR covers performance assessments on project outputs and outcomes, major achievements, evidence of success, constraints, lessons learned and recommendations as well as an overall rating of the project. The APR will be prepared by the Project Coordinator after consultation with the relevant stakeholders and will be submitted to IUCN.	Annually	PM M&E Officer IUCN Regional Program Coordinator	None	Publications costs included in MEDD expenses
Regional engagement (Wilaya civil society workshops)	Regional workshops will be annually held to assess the progress of the project, raise any concern from local actors and improve operability of the project. They will annual workshop for each Wilaya involved.	Annually	PM	US\$ 14 400 (US \$1 200 per workshop)	None

Tripartite Review (TPR) (Steering committee)	The TPR members will meet annually to assess the progress of the project and make decisions on recommendations to improve the design and implementation of the project in order to achieve the expected results.	Annually	PM M&E Officer IUCN Regional Program Coordinator	US\$ 6,000 (US\$ 1,500 per meeting)	None
Independent External Evaluation at mid-term	A mid-term project evaluation will be conducted during the third implementation year, focusing on relevance; performance (effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness); issues requiring decisions and actions; and initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management.	At the mid-point of project implementation.	IUCN Coordinator/Evaluation Office	US\$ 40,000	None

Independent External Evaluation at termination of the project	A final evaluation, which occurs three months prior to the final TPR meeting, focuses on the same issues as the mid-term evaluation but also covers impact, sustainability, and follow-through recommendations, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental goals.	At least three months before the end of project implementation.	IUCN Evaluation Office	US\$ 60,000	None
Terminal Project Report	A Terminal Project Report will be prepared for the terminal meeting.	On completion of the terminal evaluation.	PM M&E Officer IUCN Regional Program Coordinator	None	Publications costs included in MEDD expenses
Budget revisions	Project budget revisions will reflect the final expenditures for the preceding year, to enable the preparation of a realistic plan for the provision of inputs for the current year. It is expected that significant revisions will be cleared with the IUCN/GEF Coordinator for consistency with the GEF incremental principle and GEF eligibility criteria before being approved.	At least every year and as necessary during the course of the project	PM Administrative and Financial Officer (RAF) M&E Officer IUCN Regional Program Coordinator	None	Included

Financial Audits	A financial audit will be undertaken every year. The PMU will develop and implement a strategy to address audit recommendations after each audit.	Annually	PM Administrative and Financial Officer (RAF) IUCN Regional Program Coordinator	Total indicative cost: US\$ 16,400 (US\$ 4,000 per year).	None
Knowledge and lessons learned publications	Publications of notes, interview, and project documents spread at regional, central and local level for knowledge management on 10 major topics of the Project intervention	Continuous	PM M&E Officer IUCN Regional Program Coordinator	None	Total indicative cost: US\$ 8 000 (US\$ 2,000 per year).
Mobilization of regional and national project	Through the GCF NAP process, a workshop will be develop under knowledge sharing for LDN process, land restoration and sustainable management as well as ecosystem approach. It will involve regional project.	Year 4	GCF / NAP	None	US\$ 15 000
Stakeholder engagement through information and communication	National and local information and communication on the project through national and local media, publications in administrative offices	Continuous	PM M&E Officer IUCN Regional Program Coordinator	None	Total indicative cost: US\$40 000 (US\$ 10,000 per year).

PSC Pilot project intervention sites visits	Annual mission involving key official stakeholder for field visit within a selection of representative project intervention sites within the 3 Wilayas	Annually	PM M&E Officer IUCN Regional Program Coordinator Project Steering Committee representatives	Total indicative costs US\$ 64 000 (US\$ 16 000 per mission)	None
Human resource	A Monitoring and Evaluation, Knowledge management Officer will be dedicated to ensuring M&E Plan implementation as well as contribute in the overall analysis system	Continuous	PM	US\$ 86 400 (US\$ 21 600 per year)	None
TOTAL indicative COST				US\$ 270 200	US\$ 83 000

10. Benefits

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

Complementary information since PIF

The project main objective is now considering the overall improvement of well-being, livelihoods and the environment of rural communities through sustainable land and ecosystem restoration and management (see ProDoc ?4.1 p.66 and ProDoc ? 4.2 p. 68). Local socio-economic benefits are representing through increase livelihoods due to increase in productivity, connection to markets and dedicated value chain. Project supporting the role and access of women and youth in land and natural resource, which contributes in social local improvement. All of these practices, support the restoration of a natural resource and its more sustainable use, which contribute to soil organic carbon sequestration, increase land productivity and enhance livelihoods. Central level socio-economic benefit are related to strategic planning which reinforce current strategies and program with the integration of the overall ecosystem and LDN approach. Therefore, the project will indirectly reinforce socio-economic benefits through these planning, which is highly linked to GEBs.

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification *

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

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

The overall project objective is to improve well-being, livelihoods, and the environment of rural communities in the wilayas of Adrar, Inchiri and Dakhlet Nouadhibou in Mauritania through sustainable land and ecosystem restoration and management. It highly builds on the ecosystem approach, the LDN Scientific Framework and on coordination. Thus, the project is expected to have highly positive social and environmental impacts. Nevertheless, two distinct project intervention areas have been linked to social safeguard risks: 1) The distribution of project services and benefits, and 2) the promotion of changes in land management and governance.

The project foresees to provide a large range of services and benefits for local communities. In this context unjustified preferential treatment, elite capture and discrimination against women and/or vulnerable groups/individuals are social safeguard risks that need to be managed to avoid undermining of human rights and adverse impacts on women and other vulnerable groups. The promotion of changes in land management and governance practices could lead to social conflict and/or access restrictions that create economic displacement. Therefore, the Standard on Involuntary Resettlement and Access Restrictions has been triggered. Furthermore, access restrictions or other changes in management or governance practices may be discriminating against women and vulnerable groups.

All of these risks are relatively predictable and can be managed with known solutions and straight forward measures to avoid or mitigate negative impacts. Therefore, the project has been categorized as

one of moderate risk. An Environmental and Social Management framework, that includes a process framework, shall provide guidance on overarching measures for risk avoidance and mitigation.

To better understand potential impacts and define management measures socio-cultural and socio-economic assessments will be necessary that allow to understand social differentiation and the use and dependence of the resource to be restricted by different social groups. This will be important to understand who will be impacted, how significant the impact is (e.g. livelihood dependency on resources) and whether the affected people have legal or customary rights to the land.

The project builds heavily on participatory stakeholder engagement. Stakeholder engagement and participation, especially participation of local communities, will also be a crucial factor to ensure the project can achieve its objective and does not produce any unwanted negative social and environmental impacts. The basis for successful stakeholder engagement is the stakeholder analysis and the derived engagement strategy. These elements shall thus also be strengthened during the project inception period.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
ESMF IUCN GEF ID 10444 Mauritania 20oct2022	CEO Endorsement ESS	
GEF ID 10444 ESMS screening and clearance Sept 2022	CEO Endorsement ESS	

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

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
Impact level	Project Objective: improve well-being, livelihoods and the environment of rural communities in the wilayas of Adrar, Inchiri and Dakhlet Nouadhibou in Mauritania through sustainable land and ecosystem restoration and management		Direct beneficiaries with improved livelihood based on ecosystem services (nb of women) GHG emission reduction (tCO ₂ eq) Land productivity increase on project areas	0 (0) 0 ?Declining?	12;800 (6,400) 235,000[1] ?Stable? / ?Increasing?	Annual report EXACT EarthMap	<u>Assumptions:</u> Effectiveness of the theory of change causal pathway

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
Component 1 Institutional and technical capacity building on LDN	Outcome 1.1 Enable Environment to support the voluntary implementation of LDN objectives	Output 1.1.1: Voluntary LDN framework policy is adopted Output 1.1.2: Integration of LDN objectives into national Strategy and Program Output 1.1.3: LDN technical framework is defined	Voluntary LDN Framework Policy adopted	0	1	Annual report	<u>Assumptions:</u> Interest of Multisectoral Ministries to contribute to LDN national commitment CNEDD and CTEDD are functional and commit within the coordination process on LDN <u>Risk:</u> Political transition and new national orientations on LDN
			National rural sector documents updated	0	3		
			Extraordinary CNEDD & CTEDD convocations on LDN	0	2		
			Extraordinary CREDD convocation on LDN	0	1		
			Projects address LDN, namely PARIIS, PRAPS, PDDO, Nouadhibou zone UNCCD Communications reports on LDN baseline 2025 NDC communication integrating LDN	0	3		
				0	2		
				0	1		

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
	Outcome 1.2: Operational monitoring system and related capacity for LDN	<p>Output 1.2.1: A national Arid lands observatory within DEPREM is operational</p> <p>Output 1.2.2: national and local experts trained for the implementation/use of dryland assessments</p> <p>Output 1.2.3: An online data platform in place and operational for land assessment data storage and sharing</p>	An operational observatory National and local experts trained Online and Accessible Data Platform	0 0 0	1 90 1	Annual report	<p><u>Assumptions:</u> Funding of DREDD and Observatory reproduced High commitment of Civil servant agent in capacity building on LDN and on ICT tools</p> <p><u>Risk:</u> Civil servant agent changes and losses of LDN capacity among the DPREM Limited knowledge and barriers monitoring planning of appropriate approaches and interventions for dryland ecosystems</p>

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
Component 2 Land and ecosystem restoration	Outcome 2.1 Assessments support adequate and effective land use planning and land and ecosystem restoration	Output 2.1.1: Increased awareness and coherency on LDN multisectoral cooperation through regular Regional Coordination Output 2.1.2 Local assessment carried out and validated Output 2.1.3: Local management plans are elaborated integrating LDN processes and mechanisms	Socio-economic, biophysical and DSPIR assessment in each Wilaya Good practices identification Landscape Management Plans Simplified wooded areas development and management plans	0 0 0 0	3 1 3 TBD	Annual report	<u>Assumption:</u> Interest from Waly, Hakem and technical services on coordination and planification CREDD are functional and commit with the local coordination on LDN <u>Risk:</u> Lack of capacity and barriers of national and local governments for national and local events follow-up of approaches and interventions for sustainable land restoration and management that are suitable for dryland ecosystems

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
	Outcome 2.2 Land and ecosystem are restored by communities	Output 2.2.1: Arid landscapes rangeland vegetation restoration Output 2.2.2: Water holistic management reducing soil depletion and degradation	Arid landscapes restored Arid landscapes under Soil and Water conservation practices and efficient irrigation systems Waterpoint created and equipped	0 0 0	67,440ha [2] ² 940ha[3] ³ 20	Annual report	<u>Assumption:</u> Environmental and climate preliminary assessment is coherent with the field and in-depth assessment Restoration of lands and ecosystems services which will then be reproduced in the community of local territories <u>Risk:</u> Limited effects in case of non-holistic intervention and lack of coordination among stakeholders Increase environmental and climate stressors trends during project lifecycle, reducing project activities benefits and impacts

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
Component 3 Local governance and financing of scaling up SLM	Outcome 3.1 An inclusive and stronger local governance on LDN	Output 3.1.1: Adoption and implementation of local agreement for inclusive and participatory sustainable use of shared natural resources by communities and stronger involvement of women and marginalized groups Output 3.1.2: Secured tenure rights for women and marginalized groups on project investment areas through community leader sensitization and local agreements	Arid landscapes under sustainable management Local agreements and watershed or grara management committee created Women with secure access to productive drylands	0 0 TBD	70,000ha 20 6,400	Annual report	<u>Assumption</u> : Funding of the local government reproduced Local communities? behaviour changes on the place of women in the land access and tenure current system <u>Risk</u> : N/A

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
	Outcome 3.2 Identification and valuation of marketable ecosystems services for livelihoods diversification	<p>Output 3.2.1 CBA and economic evaluation study on major opportunities in LDN</p> <p>Output 3.2.2 Market analysis and private investors workshop for oasis ecosystems products value chain</p> <p>Output 3.2.3: Financing production and IGA of products participating to a sustainable land management and targeting women and marginalized groups</p>	<p>CBA on SLM report</p> <p>Companies and private establishments mobilized in the private investors workshop</p> <p>Green SMEs and IGA are created and functional</p> <p>ha integrated irrigation fodder-crop production</p>	<p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p>	<p>3</p> <p>15</p> <p>29</p> <p>14</p>	Annual report	<p><u>Assumption:</u> Active participation of women's and youth associations</p> <p><u>Risk:</u> Insufficient allocation of land to women's groups Insufficient investment in land restoration and management; and the limited capacity of vulnerable local communities to adopt livelihood strategies that prevent land degradation.</p>

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
	Outcome 3.3: Identification of external financing opportunities for LDN	<p>Output 3.3.1: Pilots PSE local mechanisms structured through participatory and inclusive approach with AGPO and NFZ.</p> <p>Output 3.3.2: Guidance reports elaborated on developing a self-sustainable LDN mining sector mechanism</p> <p>Output 3.3.3: A project proposal gender sensitive and eligible for the LDN Fund is elaborated.</p>	AGPO involved in PSE mechanism establishment NFZ PSE mechanism defined Proposal for LDN Fund	0 0 0	2 1 1	Annual report	<p><u>Assumption:</u> Raising interests from private sector on VC opportunities, mining sector LDN, and PSE innovative approach</p> <p><u>Risk:</u> N/A</p>

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
Component 4 Knowledge management on LDN, communication, monitoring and evaluation of the project	Outcome 4.1: Lessons learned are replicated in a larger dryland landscape	<p>Output 4.1.1: Publications on LDN and gender aspects lessons learned</p> <p>Output 4.1.2: Inclusive National and Wilaya knowledge sharing on LDN best practices and gender mainstreaming</p> <p>Output 4.1.3: LDN and gender lessons learned are spread among regional actors through GCF/NAP regional exchange</p>	Notes on LDN and Gender published Pilot site visits	0 0	10 20	Annual report	<p><u>Assumption:</u> N/A</p> <p><u>Risk:</u> Lack of commitment of regional actors for sharing information (UNCDD Knowledge Hub, GCF NAP project)</p>

	Objective/Outcome	Outputs	indicators	Baseline	Target	Source	Assumptions / Risks
	Outcome 4.2: Adaptive project monitoring and evaluation system is implemented	Output 4.2.1: Global Environmental Benefit monitored and assessed Output 4.2.2: Project monitored and evaluated	Project Monitoring Plan implemented	0	1	Annual report	<u>Assumption:</u> Capacity built during project lifecycle on ICT tools and M&E tools (EXACT, EarthMap, LDN) Developing a culture of results-based monitoring and evaluation planning <u>Risk:</u> Weak M&E culture leading to difficulties to switch from a standard M&E system toward an adaptive and effective decision-driven M&E system

[1] GHG emission indicator has been estimated based on the project area (67,440 hectares) by 0.175 tons of CO₂ potentially sequestered per year/ha and by the number of years (20) estimated for accounting carbon sequestration. The calculation is then (67,440 ha * 0,175 Ton/ha * 20 = 236,040 ton of CO₂). A more precise analysis will be realized during project implementation using EXACT Software.

[2] The arid landscape restored indicators is composed of: 65,000ha of arid landscape supported by aerial seedling, from which a certain amount will benefit from reduced overgrazing through better water access for animal, 200ha of productive field will benefit from efficient irrigation water systems,

1,000 ha of mechanical and biological dunes fixation (around the oases for palm groves and market gardening: 200 ha, Graras for 300 ha, wadis and watersheds or 200 ha and dwellings for 300 ha), 500 ha of ANR within enclosure and protection land, 600 ha of filter bunds, 40 ha of drystone weirs, 100 ha of gabion thresholds. The indicator is not taking into consideration the 6% of abandon and degraded gold mining land which will be restored during project cycle, as superficies are not yet precisely defined.

[3] The arid landscapes under Soil and Water conservation practices and efficient irrigation systems is composed of: 200ha of productive field will benefit from efficient irrigation water systems, and Soil and Water conservation practices (600 ha of filter bunds, 40 ha of drystone weirs, 100 ha of gabion thresholds)

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

Project review at PIF stage (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion, and responses to comments from the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

GEF Council	Agency (IUCN response)
Germany comments	

GEF Council	Agency (IUCN response)
Germany comments	
<p>Germany acknowledges the project's intention to incorporate traditional knowledge and suggests to further elaborate on safeguarding and to also consider and elaborate on the role of private sector organizations such as mining industry that is involved in the project with in-kind contributions.</p> <p>Germany requests that the following requirements are taken into account during the design of the final project proposal</p>	<p>The PPG Team further integrate specific local analysis on existing traditional knowledge and ecosystems services to face desertification (ie. Component 2 on local social and ecosystems analysis and restoration using local and adapted varieties) (see ProDoc ?4.3 p.76)</p> <p>The team face difficulties in committing Mining sector at this stage as well as NFZ. MCM is closing its activities. Tasiast already partner with AMSTRA GEF Project. The PPG team decides to further reinforce the place of local private sector and switch in implementing innovative and pilot Ecosystem services payments mechanism on LDN in NFZ and in AGPO to raise their interest and therefore support a more long-term scaling up private sectors opportunities (see ProDoc ?4.3 Outcome 3.3 p. 87). The project nevertheless increase partnership with local private sector (individual under IGA and Green SMEs, Gold panner, cooperatives).</p>

GEF Council	Agency (IUCN response)
Germany comments	
<p>Very low number of direct beneficiaries targeted. The proposed activities and outputs do not sufficiently reflect how they address the barriers mentioned in the project's rationale. The projects description does not fully correspond to the result framework.</p>	<p>Project direct beneficiaries increase to 12,800 people by considering pilot and holistic approach within 5 communes and targeting the overall population. The project will moreover benefit to 10 000 gold panners within these 3 Wilayas (see ProDoc ?3.4.1 p.54). It will also benefit the overall population of the 3 Wilayas through stronger coordination between actors and program (see ProDoc ?.4.2 Project goals and expected impacts) Project rationale has been updated with stronger focus on addressing environmental barriers (see ProDoc ?4.1 p. 65) Project description and result frameworks have been updated (see ProDoc ?2 p. 10)</p>
<p>In order to make the project beneficial for a larger part of the 4.4 million people living in Mauritania, Germany requests the GEF to</p>	<p>See below</p>

GEF Council	Agency (IUCN response)
Germany comments	
<p>- strengthen the project's component on upscaling</p>	<p>Components have been strengthened with further contributions from MEDD ProPEP to enhance an upscaling of LDN consideration within Mining, agriculture and livestock sectors.</p> <p>Further upscaling of private sector was not possible due to the lack of interest on LDN. Project integrates multiple innovative pilots to rise interest of private sector and upscale results (Ecosystems Services Payment Mechanism, Mining LDN compensation activities, LDN Fund proposal) (see ProDoc 4.3 Outcome 3.3).</p>

GEF Council	Agency (IUCN response)
Germany comments	
<p>- use the project as pilot in order to transfer knowledge and experience gained at a larger scale and aim for creating results that include concrete recommendations for upscaling</p>	<p>M&E and Knowledge Management component support a regional transfer of knowledge as well as global use of the UNCDD Knowledge Hub. It target the overall thematic of the project for capitalization (LDN process, LDN mainstreamed in strategic and program, Implementation, local knowledges, pilots sites, PSE, ICT use, distance monitoring, LDN Fund proposal, etc.) (see ProDoc ?4.3 Outcome 4.1)</p>

GEF Council	Agency (IUCN response)
Germany comments	
<p>- further elaborate and integrate details on how an enabling environment for LDN targets implementation is created (outcome 1.2)</p>	<p>Proposal has been updated using the LDN Scientific Conceptual Framework. Project will support (i) LDN policy validation including national and subnational baseline; (ii) technical LDN framework establishment including Neutrality mechanism; (iii) involvement of multisectoral ministries at central and regional levels through CNEDD, CTEDD and CREDD; (iv) integrating indicators and objectives in sectoral strategies documents and on-going program (see ProDoc ?4.3 Outcome 1.1).</p>
<p>- add meaningful indicator to the result framework to support reaching targets and to contribute to measure achievements of the project with regards to outputs/outcomes and specify quite general description and vague terms such as ?key stakeholders?, ?databank created and updated?, etc</p>	<p>Result Framework has been updated and aligned with LDN concept: (i) impact indicators have been integrated; (ii) consideration of SMART indicators for the overall framework (see ProDoc ?2 p. 10)</p>

GEF Council	Agency (IUCN response)
Germany comments	
<p>- revisit barriers indicated in theory of change and further elaborate how the project can significantly contribute to overcome these barriers</p>	<p>Project theory of change have been updated revisiting barriers, and putting more emphasis on environmental and gender specific barriers (see ProDoc Appendix 2)</p>
<p>- incorporate a convincing stakeholder involvement strategy which is particularly but not only essential for the capacity development strategy (e.g. local and national governments are seen as crucial, mentioned in text, but not part of result framework and stakeholder description).</p>	<p>Local structure (AGPO, management committee, local authorities and Waly) are now directly targeted in the result framework and integrated in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (see ProDoc ? 6.2.2 p. 109)</p>
<p>U.S. Comments: GEF 58th Council Work Program 10444 Development of an integrated system to promote the natural capital in the drylands of Mauritania</p>	
<p>While the work undertaken by the UNCCD's LDN Target Setting Programme is acknowledged towards the end of the proposal, there are missed opportunities for it to be incorporated as part of the baseline scenario as well, since this work is an integral part of how the LDN baseline is being developed.</p>	<p>LDN Target Setting Programme results are now integrated in the context analysis (see ProDoc ?3.1.1.1 p. 13) and as the initial step toward the update and the establishment of the LDN policy (see ProDoc ?3.1.3.2.2 p. 44).</p>

GEF Council		Agency (IUCN response)
Germany comments		
<p>We recommend that the project explicitly brings these results back into the UNCCD, via improved reporting and through the identification/validation/announcement of the LDN target as a result of the work conducted through this project. The project could usefully foster greater synergies and leveraging of both the results of the project and the UNCCD's TSP work to maximize the benefits of this project and to enhance implementation of the UNCCD</p>		<p>LDN biennial report are integrating as results in RF. UNCDD Knowledge Hub is a key stakeholder and will work together with the project to share publications on the Hub on the overall LDN process in Mauritania, ecosystem approach within LDN, pilots? sites implementing LDN mechanism, etc. Project also consider linkage with the UNFCCC by supporting LDN integration within the 2025 NDC report. (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 1.1.3 and Outcome 4.1)</p>

GEF STAP comments		
Level	Overall Assessment	Agency (IUCN response)

STAP Overall Assessment and Rating

Minor issues to be considered during project design

STAP welcomes the project on Improving rural communities? livelihoods in the wilayas of Adrar, Inchiri and Dakhlet Nouadhibou in Mauritania through sustainable land restoration and Management. The project seeks to address impacts of land degradation and desertification by applying Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN). STAP welcomes the proposed landscape approach, the strong focus on scaling up rangelands rehabilitation actions, and the focus on inclusion of the private sector in the design of interventions and support for implementation of actions conducive to land degradation neutrality. The project identifies risks, including climate change related (increased droughts and flash floods).

STAP recommends that in developing the PPG the team further examines vulnerability to climate change, in terms of how the proposed interventions may contribute to reducing the vulnerability to climate risks; whether proposed interventions may increase vulnerability to climate risks or lead to maladaptation, and measures for preventing this, and ?where appropriate? the feasibility, effectiveness, tradeoffs, and co-benefits of the proposed climate risk management options, and its alignment with project objectives and expected outcomes.

In regards to LDN, the STAP **recommends assessments include mapping the potential of the land for the generation of ecosystem services**. Furthermore, STAP **recommends for the monitoring system to include complementary national and sub-national indicators for locally-relevant ecosystem services** of the wilajas that are not covered by SOC, NPP or land cover change indicators of LDN. In this regard, the STAP LDN guidelines can be a useful source to the project team.

STAP congratulates the team for supporting local communities through an approach that integrates traditional knowledge with scientific approaches. Below, STAP specifies its guidance further.

Climate variability has been assessed to ensure relevancy of project proposal (**see ProDoc ?3.1.1.5 p. 20**). Technical exchanges have been considered with existing project on climate aspects (AMSTRA and AMCC Phase 2), which are working in the same region. (**see ProDoc ?3.5 p. 60**)

Initial analysis of existing methodologies in assessing ecosystems, the vulnerability to desertification and a more holistic approach including socio-economic aspect are now integrating in the activities (**see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 1.1.3 and Output 2.1.2**). In depth pilot analysis of ecosystems services will be led in PSE mechanism establishment for AGPO, This may bring additional users to be involve in the PSE (**see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 3.3.1**)

National LDN Monitoring system has been updated considering national and sub-national indicators. In complementary to National statistic and satellite imagery, project will integrate in-depth local assessment to support a tier 3 analysis of LDN indicators (**see ProDoc ? 4.3 Output 1.1.1 and Output 1.1.3**)

Part I: Project Information

B. Indicative Project Description Summary

<p>Outcomes</p> <p>description of the expected short-term and medium-term effects of an intervention.</p> <p>Do the planned outcomes encompass important global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits?</p>	<p>The Theory of change (appendix ? was missing). However, the overall aims is that planned interventions generate global environmental benefits through the restoration of 70,000 hectares of degraded land and contribute to the sequestration of 245,000 metric tons of CO2. The PIF describes how these outcomes related to global environmental benefits, including MEAs.</p> <p>The project will promote interconnectedness between environmental objectives and the social and economic one.</p>	<p>Theory of change have been updated and annexed (see ProDoc Appendix 2 p.116).</p>
<p>Outcomes.</p> <p>Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits likely to be generated?</p>	<p>Yes, the STAP recommends that monitoring systems to be developed as part of outcome 1.2 (setting up of a monitoring and information systems on LDN achievements) includes national and sub-national indicators, complementary to the 3 global LDN indicators, as advised in the LDN Conceptual framework (pgs 100-101)</p>	<p>Project integrates the establishment of national and subnational indicators from both policy (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 1.1.1 and Output 1.1.3) and technical perspectives (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 1.1.3). A Tier 3 approach will support a deeper analysis level for the different indicators. Field and local ecosystem assessment will contribute to the establishment of these complementary indicators and Tier 3 analysis level.</p>

<p>Outputs</p> <p>A description of the products and services which are expected to result from the project.</p> <p>Is the sum of the outputs likely to contribute to the outcomes?</p>	<p>Yes the project describes very well how output services and products connect to outcomes. In regard to output 1.1.2 (90 national and local experts are trained for implementing arid lands assessments) STAP recommends the use of the LDN guidelines for GEF projects (see list of bibliography at the end of this document)</p> <p>In regards to services that will address gaps in technical capacities of implementing partners as well as other relevant stakeholders the project suggests trainings will be delivered under outcome 1 and 2. STAP recommends ICT tools be explored and adopted or training based on blended learning. There are many good practice and lessons coming from building capacity in rural areas of Africa that are taking advantage of ICT (see list of bibliography at the end), and it is worth the executing agency explores those as it can reach more population, some times with higher efficiency and lower costs.</p>	<p>PPG review and align the project with the LDN Scientific Conceptual framework (see ProDoc ?4.1 Figure 37 p. 67) Project blended its learning session for general thematic. It will use digital tools for training for a preliminary sensitization (LDN, Ecosystem approaches). Moreover, Project enhance a stronger monitoring system through the use on field of digital tools (Kobo). Although the mission considers human practices and training as essential to support a such important change in practices in assessment and data collection, as well as the difficulties related to field assessment and connection to networks (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 1.2.2 and Output 2.1.2).</p>
<p>Part II: Project justification</p>		

A simple narrative explaining the project's logic, i.e. a theory of change.

STAP could not access the annex of the PIF that contained the Theory of Change, though the narrative provided is clear and STAP recommends revising the ToC as the PPG develops.

N/A

The current situation: Mauritania root barriers and gaps for restoration and sustainable management of drylands:

1. Limited knowledge of drylands management and of appropriate approaches and interventions for dryland ecosystems
2. Institutional and technical capacity gaps of national and local government to assess drylands ecosystems and to implement appropriate sustainable land restoration and management approaches
3. Weak engagement of actors to leverage enough investment for land restoration and management

The vision:

to strengthen the resilience of rural communities in the wilayas of Adrar, Inchiri and Daklet Nouadhibou in Mauritania through sustainable land restoration and management.

Through using ecosystem-based approaches for drylands governance and restoration the project will strengthen knowledge and capacity for more effective governance to enable sustainable land management by rural populations. Actions will support communal resource management arrangements in areas where resource competition is highest. Stakeholders operating in the area, such as mining concessions, will be consulted to identify safe guards and opportunities for ensuring net positive environmental outcomes.

Interventions will work to build government and local communities capacities for implementing arid lands assessments, planning and management; and also will target local communities sustainable land management governance systems in the targeted wilayas. The outcome will be ecosystem-based value chains of dryland products to create incentives and income generation means for local communities. As results of the involvement of the private sector in SLM using a 'business and biodiversity' approach, actors will realise profits by protecting the environment and restoring

<p>3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project</p>		
<p>Are the mechanisms of change plausible, and is there a well-informed identification of the underlying assumptions?</p>	<p>The team could work more on developing assumptions as part of the ToC, and to this end the recent STAP's theory of change primer: https://www.stagef.org/theory-change-primer could be used.</p>	<p>PPG update Theory of change and strongly build on assumptions (see ProDoc Appendix 2)</p>
<p>5) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEF trust fund, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing</p> <p>GEF trust fund: will the proposed incremental activities lead to the delivery of global environmental benefits?</p>	<p>Yes, however, STAP would appreciate that a clear explanation is provided on the approach adopted to estimate that 70,000 ha of arid landscape will be under improved governance and Drought-Smart Land Management as result of the interventions. It is also unclear how the team concludes that the project contributes to the sequestration of 245,000 metric tons of CO₂; and that 9000 ha of terrestrial protected areas will be under improved management for conservation and sustainable use</p>	<p>70,000ha has been updated to 67,440ha which are first identified within the Wilaya Landscape Management plan and where SLM technics are considered (see ProDoc ?2 p11 for disaggregating calculation of the 67,440ha)</p> <p>245 000 tons CO₂eq has been updated to 235 000 tons CO₂eq and is based on a simple hypothesis (see ProDoc ?2 p.10 for detailed calculation) A more efficient baseline and project analysis will be done at the beginning of the project using EXACT software (see ProDoc ?4.3 Outcome 4.2).</p> <p>The identification of project intervention are not yet targeted terrestrial protected areas but broader sustainable management of land within the 5 targeted Communes. The Project will not anymore target 9 000ha of terrestrial protected area. It will support 50,000ha of sustainable management through complementary Management plan (Wooded areas, SLM, etc.) and the establishment of 20 committee (see ProDoc ?2 p.11).</p>

<p>6) global environmental benefits (GEF trust fund) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)</p> <p>Are the benefits truly global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits, and are they measurable?</p>	<p>Yes, they are and STAP suggests the methods for 'measuring' such GEBs (general ecological behavior) be better described in the PPG.</p>	<p>Project GEBs are better described: (i) GEB indicators are integrated in the Result Framework (see ProDoc ?2 p.10); (ii) Project describes the process to monitor each GEB in which project will contribute (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 4.2.1).</p>
<p>What activities will be implemented to increase the project's resilience to climate change?</p>	<p>The PIF activities to increase resilience to climate change are focused mainly on strengthen ecosystem-based value chains of agricultural and dryland products, and to introduce drought smart land management practices (D-SLM). The project plans to strengthen establishment drylands products value chains that will diversify local communities' income generation. STAP recommends that activities planned be screened for vulnerability to climate change (i.e. exposure, sensitivity).</p>	<p>PPG mission analyse climate aspect (current situation, trends and climate projection) to ensure adequacy of planned intervention with climate context (see ProDoc ?3.1.1.5 p. 20). Project will highly work on desertification vulnerability assessment and will technically collaborate with on-going project in Arid Zone: AMSTRA for EbA, GCF-NAP and GCCA-M for climate assessment and vulnerability (see ProDoc ?3.5.1 and ?3.5.2)</p>
<p>7) innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up</p> <p>Is there a clearly-articulated vision of how the innovation will be scaled-up, for example, over time, across geographies, among institutional actors?</p>	<p>The PIF articulates very well the way in which they plan to scale up and out the project outcomes. STAP suggests that at PPG stage the team devotes some time to think how to also scale deep (the PIF mentions behavioral change as one area to targeted, yet no indication on how and where this is to be done, and why it will be done)</p>	<p>Project intend to support behaviour change at all the level and targeting specific issues: (i) national level through recurrent strategic exchange within a multisectoral committee (CNEDD, CTEDD, CREDD) (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 1.1.2 and Output 2.1.1); (ii) local level through multiple canal communication (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 1.1.1) and sensitisation, training and structuration of local actors (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 3.1.1 and Output 3.1.2). Project targets land tenure as key element for LDN and women empowerment and therefore works on (i) normative opportunities to support tenure access security; (ii) communitarian law and sensitization to support women access to tenure (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 3.1.2)</p>

<p>1b. Project Map and Coordinates. Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.</p>	<p>STAP could not access the annex that had the map, and checked the areas using Google Earth.</p>	<p>Maps are now integrated in the text (see CEO Annex E)</p>
<p>2. Stakeholders.</p> <p>What are the stakeholders? roles, and how will their combined roles contribute to robust project design, to achieving global environmental outcomes, and to lessons learned and knowledge?</p>	<p>Stakeholders have different roles in the approach and interventions envisaged. Those roles are explained in the PIF and STAP suggest that in the knowledge management section the UNCCD Knowledge Hub be included as a stakeholder to help in global dissemination of the project outputs (products and services, particularly those related to training).</p>	<p>UNCCD Knowledge Hub has been included in the Stakeholder mapping and SEP (see ProDoc ?3.4.2 and ?6.2.2). The project considers specific collaboration with Knowledge hub for sharing notes on project lessons learned as well as training material (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 4.1.1).</p>
<p>5. Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design</p>	<p>The section of risks is very thorough and valid. STAP appreciates that when developing the PPG attention is given to the feasibility, effectiveness, tradeoffs, and co-benefits of the proposed climate risk management options, and its alignment with project objectives and expected outcomes.</p> <p>Furthermore, the team is encouraged to evaluate the possibility that the proposed interventions increase vulnerability to climate risks or lead to maladaptation, and measures for preventing this.</p>	<p>PPG mission analyse climate aspect (current situation, trends and climate projection) to ensure adequacy of planned intervention with climate context (see ProDoc ?3.1.1.5 p. 20). Project will technically collaborate with on-going project in Arid Zone: AMSTRA for EbA, GCF-NAP and GCCA-M for climate assessment and vulnerability to strengthen the intervention analysis and its own vulnerability to climate risks (see ProDoc ?3.5.1 and ?3.5.2)</p>

<p>8. Knowledge management.</p> <p>What overall approach will be taken, and what knowledge management indicators and metrics will be used?</p>	<p>The way the team proposed to manage knowledge is very suitable for the context of Mauritania, and it will strengthen the ?hub for drylands of Mauritania? - CNOEZA- capacities, and among those capacities are the collection and dissemination of evidence-based knowledge.</p> <p>CNOEZA will be equipped with knowledge management platform that the project will support to create.</p> <p>Because the knowledge management system will develop and implement a monitoring and information system on LDN achievements using LDN indicators (output 4.1.3), STAP recommends using the LDN guidelines (see bibliography) and the LDN Scientific Conceptual Framework (see bibliography) and develop indicators complementary to the 3 global LDN (SOC,NPP and landcover/land use change) which relevant to the socio-ecological context of Mauritania. See earlier comments and the suggested literature</p>	<p>Project has been aligned with the LDN Scientific Conceptual Framework (see ProDoc ?4.1 Figure 37) and includes the definition of national and subnational complementary indicators (See ProDoc ?4.3 Output 1.1.1 and Output 1.1.3) as well as deeper analysis through Tier 3 level analysis.</p>
<p>What plans are proposed for sharing, disseminating and scaling-up results, lessons and experience?</p>	<p>The PIF details the plans for upscaling results and lessons, and STAP recommends including the UNCCD Knowledge Management Hub in addition to the many relevant platforms already mentioned for sharing, disseminating results.</p>	<p>UNCCD Knowledge Management Hub has been integrated as a key partner in the knowledge sharing (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 4.1.1) Complementary sharing opportunities have been integrated under outcome 4.1: (i) pilots sites visits for Ministries and actors sensitization; (ii) regional workshop involving inclusive local actors and communities; (iii) regional sharing opportunities through GCF NAP programme collaboration (see ProDoc ?4.3 Outcome 4.1).</p>

List of bibliography STAP recommends to be considered in the design of the PPG:

Gender and LDN:

UN WOMEN, GLOBAL MECHANISM OF THE UNCCD AND IUCN (2019). A Manual for Gender-Responsive Land Degradation Neutrality Transformative Projects and Programmes http://catalogue.unccd.int/1223_Gender_Manual.pdf

Global Mechanism of the UNCCD. 2019. Land Degradation Neutrality Interventions to Foster Gender Equality. Bonn, Germany http://catalogue.unccd.int/1222_UNCCD_gender_briefing_note.pdf

LDN Guidelines, LDN scientific conceptual framework and recent lessons on LDN: Cowie (2019) Guidelines for Land Degradation Neutrality A report prepared for the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility. https://stapgef.org/sites/default/files/publications/LDN%20Technical%20Report_web%20version.pdf

UNCCD-SPI. Scientific Conceptual Framework for Land Degradation Neutrality. A report of the Science-Policy Interface. <https://www.unccd.int/publications/scientific-conceptual-framework-land-degradation-neutrality-report-science-policy>

Cowie, A.L., Orr, B.J., Sanchez, V.M.C., Chasek, P., Crossman, N.D., Erlewein, A., Louwagie, G., Maron, M., Metternicht, G.I., Minelli, S. and Tengberg, A.E., 2018. Land in balance: The scientific conceptual framework for Land Degradation Neutrality. *Environmental Science & Policy*, 79, pp.25-35.

Global Mechanism of the UNCCD. 2019. Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting: Initial findings and lessons learned. Bonn, Germany. http://catalogue.unccd.int/1217_newLDN_TSP_Initial_Findings_191108.pdf

P.H. Verburg, G. Metternicht, C. Allen, N. Debonne, M. Akhtar-Schuster, M. In?cio da Cunha, Z. Karim, A. Pilon, O. Raja, M. S?nchez Santiva?ez, and A. ?enyaz. 2019. *Creating an Enabling Environment for Land Degradation Neutrality and its Potential Contribution to Enhancing Well-being, Livelihoods and the Environment*. A Report of the Science-Policy Interface. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Bonn, Germany. http://catalogue.unccd.int/1210_UNCCD_SPI_2019_Report_1.2.pdf

A. Reichhuber, N. Gerber, A. Mirzabaev, M. Svoboda, A. L?pez Santos, V. Graw, R. Stefanski, J. Davies, A. Vukovi?, M.A. Fern?ndez Garc?a, C. Fiati and X. Jia. 2019. The Land-Drought Nexus: Enhancing the Role of Land-Based Interventions in Drought Mitigation and Risk Management. A Report of the Science-Policy Interface. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Bonn, Germany. http://catalogue.unccd.int/1211_03EP_UNCCD_SPI_2019_Report_2.pdf

Theory of Change and scaling for sustainability

STAP?s theory of change primer: <https://www.stapgef.org/theory-change-primer>

Scaling: <https://www.stapgef.org/achieving-enduring-outcomes-gef-investment>;

Climate change risk screening:

STAP?s screening guidelines: <https://www.stapgef.org/sites/default/files/documents/GEF%20AGENCY%20RETREAT%20Mar-Apr%202020.pdf>

World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal: <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/>

U.S. Agency for International Development Climate Risk Screening and Management Tools: <https://www.climatelinks.org/resources/climate-risk-screening-management-tool>

Design of activities and processes that are participatory and inclusive:

David, Soniia, and Christopher Asamoah. "Video as a tool for agricultural extension in Africa: a case study from Ghana." *International Journal of Education and Development using ICT* 7, no. 1 (2011): 26-41.

Debesai, Menghistab Ghebreslassie, Tesfai Tsegai Kidane, Woldeselassie Ogbazghi, Woldeamlak Araia, Simon Measho, and Semere Amlesom. "Understanding Drought Coping Mechanisms in Smallholder Farm Households: Evidence from Dry Lands of Eritrea." *Journal of Agricultural Economics* 5, no. 1 (2019): 548-554.

Gumucio, Tatiana, James Hansen, Sophia Huyer, Tiff van Huysen, and Saroja Schwager. "Identifying pathways for more gender-sensitive communication channels in climate services." (2018).

King, Elizabeth G., Ryan R. Unks, and Laura German. "Constraints and capacities for novel livelihood adaptation: lessons from agricultural adoption in an African dryland pastoralist system." *Regional Environmental Change* 18, no. 5 (2018): 1403-1410.

Kpadonou, Rivaldo A. Baba, Tom Owiyo, Bruno Barbier, Fatima Denton, Franck Rutabingwa, and Andre Kiema. "Advancing climate-smart-agriculture in developing drylands: Joint analysis of the adoption of multiple on-farm soil and water conservation technologies in West African Sahel." *Land Use Policy* 61 (2017): 196-207.

Maredia, M. K., Reyes, B., Ba, M. N., Dabire, C. L., Pittendrigh, B., & Bello-Bravo, J. (2018). Can mobile phone-based animated videos induce learning and technology adoption among low-literate farmers? A field experiment in Burkina Faso. *Information Technology for Development*, 24(3), 429-460.

McCormack, Caitlin, 2018. *Key factors in the use of Agricultural Extension Services by women farmers in Babati District, Tanzania : the role of societal gender norms*. Second cycle, A2E. Uppsala: SLU, Dept. of Urban and Rural Development I also find that current measures within AES to target women farmers do not comprehensively address gender norms and there is an apparent lack of gender capacity amongst institutions and staff involved in providing AES

Medhi-Thies, Indrani, Pedro Ferreira, Nakull Gupta, Jacki O'Neill, and Edward Cutrell. "KrishiPustak: a social networking system for low-literate farmers." In *Proceedings of the 18th ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing*, pp. 1670-1681. 2015.

Mutsvangwa-Sammie, Eness P., Emmanuel Manzungu, and Shephard Siziba. "Key attributes of agricultural innovations in semi-arid smallholder farming systems in south-west Zimbabwe." *Physics and Chemistry of the Earth, Parts A/B/C* 105 (2018): 125-135.

Ninsiima, D. (2015, May). " Buuz Omulimisa"(ask the extension officer) text messaging for low literate farming communities in rural Uganda. In *Proceedings of the Seventh International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development* (pp. 1-4).

Oguge, N. O. (2019). Building resilience to drought among small-scale farmers in Eastern African drylands through rainwater harvesting: technological options and governance from a food?energy?water nexus perspective. In *Current Directions in Water Scarcity Research* (Vol. 2, pp. 265-276). Elsevier.

Shalander, Kumar, A. M. Whitbread, and K. P. C. Rao. "Innovation platforms as vehicle to strengthen stakeholders capacity to innovate for improved livelihoods in drylands in Asia and Sub Saharan Africa." (2017).

Stakeholder participation: IAP2 public participation spectrum.
<https://i2s.anu.edu.au/resources/stakeholder-participation-iap2-public-participation-spectrum/>

Tesfamariam, Yordanos, and Margot Hurlbert. "Gendered adaptation of Eritrean dryland farmers." *International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management* (2017).

Drought-smart interventions:

Davies, J., Ogali, C., Laban, P., & Metternicht, G. (2015). Homing in on the range: enabling investments for sustainable land management. Technical brief, 29(01), 2015.

UNCCD-SPI (2019). Drought Impact and Vulnerability Assessment: A Rapid Review of Practices and Policy Recommendations. <https://www.unccd.int/publications/drought-impact-and-vulnerability-assessment-rapid-review-practices-and-policy>

UNCCD (2019) Drought Resilience, Adaptation and Management Policy Framework: Supporting Technical Guidelines. <https://www.unccd.int/publications/drought-resilience-adaptation-and-management-policy-framework-supporting-technical>

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
<p>Part I ? Project Information Focal area elements</p> <p>1. Does the project remain aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as presented in PIF (as indicated in table A)?</p>	<p>October 14, 2022</p> <p>- Since the last review, there are new Biodiversity and Land Degradation Rio Markers to provide. They are not mandatory at this stage, but you cannot select the option "no contribution 0" under LD. It is a LD project! Please, complete, or remove.</p> <p>- the other points are addressed.</p> <p>August 19, 2022</p> <p>? - Project information: "sector": this item is only applicable to projects with CCM resources (please, read the pop up information); remove the mention of "mixed & others.</p> <p>? - Rio Marker: referring to the project objective without a clear mention of CCM, it is not obvious to classify the projects as a CCM 2. Please, revise.</p> <p>? - Title, LoE, LD objectives: OK</p>	<p>We understand that as it is only required for GEF-8 projects onward to marker projects under the Biodiversity and Land Degradation Rio Marker, this GEF-7 project is not required to provide a mark under these markers. The CEO Endorsement template for GEF-7 project has yet to reflect this. We have liaised with the GEF IT team and understand that this is being sorted out for this project and there is no further action our end.</p> <p>Portal has been updated</p> <p>Rio Marker has been updated to CCM1.</p>

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
	<p>? Please, confirm the project title between the PIF and the project document: ?Development of an integrated system to promote the natural capital in the drylands of Mauritania? versus ?Development of an integrated system to promote the neutrality of land degradation in three arid regions of Mauritania?.</p> <p>? Provide a revised letter of endorsement signed by the GEF OFP.</p> <p>? There is a text in the portal to explain/justify the change, but the text does not seem complete.</p> <p>? The project document makes reference to LD1.1, LD1.4, and LD2.5. Please make information consistent with the portal. It seems better to focus the project on LD1.1. .</p>	<p>Final title: ?Development of an integrated system to promote the natural capital in the drylands of Mauritania?</p> <p>The LOE signed by the OFP is attached, reflecting the original title in the PIF, aligned with the CEO endorsement request as part of this submission.</p> <p>The portal has been updated</p> <p>PPG review underline alignment of the project with the three programming directions LD1.1, LD1.4 and LD2.5 (see CEA Part A and CEO ?1a3 GEF focal area strategies).</p>

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
<p>Project description summary</p> <p>2. Is the project structure/design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?</p>	<p>August 19, 2022</p> <p>? Thanks for the significant improvements. However, please address the following issues:</p> <p>? Component 2</p> <p>? Output 2.1.1: Regional Coordination of LDN multi-sectoral activities: : Please, revise the formulation to better reflect the expected result.</p> <p>? Output 2.1.3: Improve Local planning on LDN: Please, revise the formulation to better reflect the expected result.</p> <p>? Component 3</p> <p>? Output 3.1.2: Improving community rights on tenure for access to natural resources for women and marginalized groups: Please, revise the formulation to better reflect the expected result.</p> <p>? Output 3.3.1: Identifying opportunities of PSE: Please, revise the formulation to better reflect the expected result.</p> <p>? Output 3.3.2: Develop a self-sustainable LDN mining sector mechanism: we agree with the intent, but please revise the formulation to better reflect the expected result.</p> <p>? Output 3.3.3: Development of bankable projects for the LDN Fund: to be clarified; to be reformulated.</p> <p>? Component 4</p> <p>? Output 4.1.3: Regional exchange: Please, revise the formulation to better reflect the expected result.</p> <p>? Gender issues in the result framework</p> <p>? - We take note of the efforts in the Gender strategy to involve women and other vulnerable groups in land restoration activities and the monitoring of a disaggregated information between men and women (output 2.1.1, 2.2.2, 2.3, 2.1.4, 2.1.5, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.1.4?). However, in the result framework itself, ?Women and marginalized groups? is only included in the output 3.1.2. Please, see if you can do better in the formulation of other outputs to include gender issues,</p>	<p>Outputs have been revised to better reflect both activity and expected output:</p> <p>Output 2.1.1: Increased awareness and coherency on LDN multisectoral cooperation through regular Regional Coordination</p> <p>Output 2.1.3: Local management plans are elaborated integrating LDN processes and mechanisms</p> <p>Output 3.1.2: Secured tenure rights for women and marginazed groups on project investment areas through community leader sensitization and local agreements</p> <p>Output 3.3.1: Pilots PSE local mechanisms structured through participatory and inclusive approach with AGPO and NFZ</p> <p>Output 3.3.2: Guidance reports elaborated on developing a self-sustainable LDN mining sector mechanism</p> <p>Output 3.3.3: A project proposal gender sensitive and eligible for the LDN Fund is elaborated.</p> <p>Output 4.1.3: LDN and gender lessons learned are spread among regional actors through GCF/NAP regional exchange</p> <p>Gender. Gender formulation has been integrated under</p> <p>Output 3.1.1: Adoption and implementation of local agreement for inclusive and participatory sustainable use of shared natural resources by communities and stronger involvement of women and marginalized groups</p> <p>Output 3.2.3: Financing production and IGA of products participating to a sustainable land management</p>

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage

Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
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	<p>Table B</p> <p>? The formulation of some outputs is unclear, not reflecting the value for money, or not expressing the expected results. Either it is a question of formulation, or a need for further explanation: 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.3.1, 2.1.2, 3.1.2, 3.1.4.</p> <p>? Components 1 and 4: the level of cofinancing is very low, to not say anecdotic, giving the impression that the GEF project is stand-alone. Please, clarify and if possible, correct.</p> <p>? In the prodoc, the list of activities is missing in the result framework (p64-65). Please complete</p> <p>? Output 1.1.1 : We can understand the interest from the DEPREM for 1) the Establishment and equipment of the observatory, 2) Staffing the laboratory. However, you need to demonstrate the added value of the GEF on the top of an existing situation, with baseline and cofinancing opportunities. There is no way that the GEF can finance these activities from scratch, without a better visibility of additionality and sustainability. Please, revise.</p>	<p>Project outputs and activities have been modified substantially and activities description has been detailed (see ProDoc ?4.3 and CEO ?1a3 Project structure changes)</p> <p>Project budget table has been updated and the project will deeply rely on MEDD resources: equipment, human resources, ProPEP programme (see ProDoc ?8 p.111 and Appendix 5). Limited local actors in the Arid zones, high will to support LDN international commitment under UNCDD and specific GEF requirement on knowledge management will nevertheless lead to a relatively low cofinancing level on C4. GEF Financing are respectively for each components: C1: 39%; C2: 32%; C3: 37%; C4: 78%; PMC: 25%</p> <p>Overall Project GEF Financing is 34%. see ProDoc ?8 p.111.</p> <p>The Cofinancing rationale for operational components were to identify key activities under MEDD and partners activities which are directly related to LDN but would need to be strengthen: (i) C1 rationale is to support policy and coordination among central level to integrate LDN, as well as reinforcing ecosystem approach within the assessment methodology of Field DREDD and observatory staffs; (ii) C2 rationale is to build on existing investment on land restoration, and reinforcing the coordination among actors, local assessment, landscape and watershed level intervention. It also increases the consideration of traditional knowledge and local biodiversity (iii) C3 rationale is to ensure sustainable management of ecosystem and land through local community</p>
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GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
3. If this is a non-grant instrument, has a reflow calendar been presented in Annex D?	NA	NA

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage

Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
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<p>Co-financing</p> <p>4. Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?</p>	<p>October 14, 2022</p> <p>- We take note of the breakdown from the different entities under the Ministry of Environment now included in the annex. However, it is not clear who provided this breakdown: is this breakdown validated by the Ministry of Environment? Is it an information that the consultants discussed with the Ministry? Please clarify.</p> <p>- The other items are addressed.</p> <p>August 19, 2022</p> <p>? - The letter of cofinancing from the MEDD is in French: please, provide an informal translation in English.</p> <p>? - We do not find any evidence to justify the breakdown for the cofinancing resources brought up by the Ministry of Environment and covering the first five lines in the table C (MEDD, DPREM, DPCIE, ProPEP, and GCF/NAP). Please, clarify, and provide the right evidence.</p> <p>? - Moreover, the letter mentions an amount of \$5,527,216 while the total of the five first lines makes 5,488,804. Please, clarify.</p> <p>? - The letter from the Ministry of Agriculture is in French. Please, provide an informal English translation.</p> <p>? - The letter from the Ministry of Agriculture mentions an amount of \$1,971,233 while the table C includes \$671,200 from the PARIIS project and \$1,299,971 from the PDDO, for a total of \$1,971,171. Please, clarify.</p> <p>? - We do not fully understand the nature of the PARIIS and the PDDO projects mentioned in letter from the Ministry of Agriculture. Please, clarify.</p> <p>? - Also, please explain why the PARIIS is considered as donor agency/public investment/Investment mobilized and the PDDO recipient country government/public investment/Investment mobilized</p>	<p>We confirm that exchanges have been ongoing since the very beginning of the project development process with the MEDD and the DPREM Director with a clear consensus on: (i) GEF finance with a role of incremental costs and therefore strongly building on MEDD activities and resources (logistics, human, etc.); (ii) GEF financing rules, especially on PMC and the need of strong MEDD contribution to ensure project implementation (logistic, etc.); (iii) co-financing entities, services and program, their role in the project and activities which are the baseline for the current project; (iv) Budget from MEDD, services and program to ensure project implementation.</p> <p>Cofinancing letter from MEDD has been translated and annexed</p> <p>Detailed breakdown of resources has been annexed to the cofinancing letter</p> <p>The Financing letter amount is the correct one. The error has been corrected in Budget</p> <p>Letter of Ministry of Agriculture has been translated and annexed.</p> <p>The Financing letter amount is the correct one. The error has been corrected in the Budget</p> <p>This was a mistake, PARIIS is now considered as a Recipient Country Government. Both PARIIS and PDDO will support the project by putting the baseline investment for livelihoods diversification (waterpoint access for production, palmgroove creation and irrigation scheme creation and equipment). GEF will build on these investment to further emphasize the</p>
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GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GEF projects cannot be cofinanced by other GEF projects: GEF is mentioned in the lines 2, 3, and 4. Please, clarify. - The cofinancing in the result framework and the table C is \$7,423,820. In the text, the explanations provided about the changes and decreases mention \$13,748,930. Please, make information coherent in the portal and between the portal and the prodoc. - Cofinancing opportunities can only be used for one project: please, confirm that the proposed cofinancing amounts have not been used by other GEF projects. - No letter of co-financing is available in the portal. Please, provide them. 	<p>GEF projects has been withdrawn (see CEO Part C p3).</p> <p>Private sector negotiations did not lead to official cofinancing opportunities. Current proposal defines a cofinancing of US\$ 7,459,975 for a GEF budget of US\$ 3,913,627. (see CEO Part B p2)</p> <p>Cofinancing opportunities have been checked, as for example Tasiast financing has been removed as already mobilized within AMSTRA. All cofinancing letters have been integrated to the proposal (PDDO, PARIIS, MEDD) (see ProDoc Appendix 8)</p>
GEF Resource Availability	August 19, 2022 Addressed.	N/A
5. Is the financing presented in Table D adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?	No. We are not sure that the GEF grant is correctly associated to cofinancing to meet the project objectives . These doubts are reinforced by the number of questions we have on the budget (see item below on the Annex E).	Project overall incremental costs reasoning has been restructured to ensure proper association of GEF cofinancing and meet project objectives (see CEO 1a4 and ProDoc ?4.7.1 and ?4.7.2)
Project Preparation Grant	August 19, 2022 Addressed.	N/A
6. Is the status and utilization of the PPG reported in Annex C in the document?	No. Please see the Annex C in the portal. Please, provide.	Annex C has been updated (see CEO Annex C)

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
<p>Core indicators</p> <p>7. Are there changes/adjustments made in the core indicator targets indicated in Table E? Do they remain realistic?</p>	<p>October 14, 2022</p> <p>Addressed. We take note that the carbon calculation is a rough estimate. We will expect confirmation with better tools or models during project implementation. Please, confirm.</p> <p>August 19, 2022</p> <p>? - The target under the indicator 3 (restoration) is 500 ha, while the breakdown us—is 940 ha (3.1), 500 ha (3.2), and 66,000 ha (3.3). Please, correct.</p> <p>? - The target under the indicator 4 (area of landscapes under improved practices) is 50,000 ha, representing. Please, explain the difference with the 70,000 ha targeted at PIF level.</p> <p>? - At PIF level, the indicator 4 was considering 70,000 ha of terrestrial landscapes under SLM (4.4), a classical indicator used for LD project. You changed to 50,000 ha under 4.1 (area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity). This is a significant change that needs to be explained and justify.</p> <p>? - The result framework (annex A) includes indicators in tCO2e. If confirmed, please consider using the indicator 6 on carbon.</p> <p>? - Please see below the comment related to STAP comments. It seems that the table of indicators has not correctly been updated. Please, correct.</p>	<p>We confirm a baseline will be established at the beginning of the project, including Exact Software running. (cf. ProDoc page 90. Activity 4.2.1.1 GEBs Baseline establishment). As expected in the above activity, project will work from national statistic and local data to enhance Tier2 level analysis on SOC changes, using Exact and therefore reinforcing the current rough estimate.</p> <p>This is a mistake, the annex in the CEO provides for the indicator 3: 67 440ha. Portal has been updated.</p> <p>The target has been updated to 70 000ha. (previous response to STAP comment has been updated). These 70 000ha includes the 67 440ha of land restored, as the project will have two activities, either on restoration and on structuring local community management groups for SLM for these 70 000ha. Total area SLM from table F has also been updated to 70 000ha and remain coherent with the initial PIF number of 79 000ha as the protected area of 9 000ha was not possible to mobilized in the project (Banc d?arguin and NFZ). The project activities have been therefore concentrated under these 70 000ha.</p> <p>It was a mistake in indicators number. The indicator considered is now 4.3 SLM</p> <p>We confirm the presence of a carbon indicator as it is one of the 3 sub-indicators for LDN monitoring.</p>

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The target under the 4.3 indicator on SLM has decreased from 70,000 ha to 6,600 ha - It is more than ten times less. Please, explain and justify. - At the same time there are elements in the budget for much more than 6,600 ha: aerial sowing for 65,000 ha; dune fixation: 1,000 ha; RNA on 500 ha... Please, revise and make information consistent. - Please, explain and justify a decrease from 5,460 to 1,500 beneficiaries. 	<p>This was an error. Indicator 4.3 is 70 000ha (see CEO Annex A and Annex F for disaggregation of the indicator).</p> <p>Number of beneficiaries ha been increased to 12,800 since the consideration of a holistic approach on 5 communes. (See ProDoc ?4.2 objectives goal sand expected impacts)</p>
Part II ? Project Justification 1. Is there a sufficient elaboration on how the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed?	<p>August 19, 2022 Addressed.</p> <p>- We are not disputing the Theory of Change in its main lines.</p> <p>However, it would be better to focus the environmental diagnosis on the regions targeted by the project to have a chance to understand the starting point of the project rather than including relatively general, if not vague, information on all the country including areas out of the scope of this project. Information related to endemic birds in the Banc d'Arguin or the Monk Seal at Cap Blanc are out of the scope of the project. To be revised.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>The theory of change has been updated, integrating environmental local barriers (land degradation acceleration, sand encroachment, poor water resources planning, limited knowledge of drylands, lack of institutional and technical capacities, etc) and reinforcing assumption (see ProDoc Appendix 2). Detail of Threat, Root Causes and Barrier have also been updated (See ProDoc ?3.3)</p> <p>Local social and environmental information have been integrated, with particular attention on commune of interventions (See ProDoc ?3.1.2.7 p.35)</p>
	<p>2. Is there an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived?</p>	<p>August 19, 2022 Addressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please, make the level of information between the portal and the prodoc coherent. - We would like to also see an analysis of current or recently past GEF and LDCF projects to build this proposal on technical and operational lessons. See notably the GEFID 10176/FAO, 10103/UNEP, 9294/FAO, 5792/WB under the SAWAP/GGWI, 5580/UNEP.
<p>3. Is the proposed alternative scenario as</p>	<p>August 19, 2022 Addressed.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
described in PIF/PFD sound and adequate? Is there sufficient clarity on the expected outcomes and components of the project and a description on the project is aiming to achieve them?	- To be discussed at the next round with a complete project information package	N/A
4. Is there further elaboration on how the project is aligned with focal area/impact program strategies?	August 19, 2022 Addressed.	N/A
	- To be discussed at the next round with a complete project information package	N/A
5. Is the incremental reasoning, contribution from the baseline, and co-financing clearly elaborated?	August 19, 2022 Addressed.	N/A
	- To be discussed at the next round with a complete project information package	N/A
6. Is there further and better elaboration on the project's expected contribution to global environmental benefits or adaptation benefits?	August 19, 2022 The text in the portal under the title " 1a5 global environmental benefits " should help justifying the selection of the different indicators and the fixed targets. Please, revise. Comment also applicable to the project document (4.1 Project rationale and expected global environmental benefits: a text is missing to justify the different targets under the core indicators reflecting the Global Environment Benefits).	The three GEB have been further defined (Carbon sequestration, SLM and Beneficiaries), explaining the rationale to target from an ecosystem approach the overall beneficiaries of the area of intervention, as well as considering the key potential restorable area in the oasis context, where diversification and economic sustainability is possible (either through specific value chain development of PSE, etc.)
	- To be discussed at the next round with a complete project information package	N/A
7. Is there further and better elaboration to show that the project is innovative and sustainable including the potential for scaling up?	August 19, 2022 Addressed.	N/A
	- To be discussed at the next round with a complete project information package	N/A

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
Project Map and Coordinates	A map is available in the document with the geographical coordinates of the three targeted landscapes: Adrar wilaya coordinates?: ?20? 30? North, 10? 04? West Inchri coordinates 20? 04? North, 15? 04? West Daklet Nouadhibou coordinates 20? 57? North, 16? 14? West Cleared.	N/A
Child Project If this is a child project, is there an adequate reflection of how it contributes to the overall program impact?	N/A	N/A
Stakeholders Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?	August 19, 2022 Addressed.	N/A
	Stakeholders Please, provide the dates and nature of meetings with the different stakeholder groups (closed meetings, open consultation, workshop, number of participants, etc.).	A detail of the PPG Stakeholder consultation process has been updated, including the methodology, consultation sites, actors met and results from consultations. The mission report is available within a table in annex of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (see ProDoc Appendix 12 Annex C).
Gender Equality and Women?s Empowerment Has the gender analysis been completed? Did the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities? If so, does the project/program include gender-responsive activities, gender-sensitive indicators and expected results?	August 19, 2022 Addressed, but please see the item related to the result framework - there are two comments related to gender	See above on all outputs rephrasing and including gender aspects.
	- To be discussed at the next round with a complete project information package, including a gender action plan.	Project includes a Gender analysis and a Gender Action Plan (see CEO ?3. and ProDoc Appendix 13). Project integrates gender sex-disaggregated indicators (see CEO Annex A) and identify key activities to target gender barriers in LD (see CEO ?3.)

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
<p>Private Sector Engagement If there is a private sector engagement, is there an elaboration of its role as a financier and/or as a stakeholder?</p>	<p>August 19, 2022 We take note of the changes since the PIF, the responses from MCM and Tasiast, and the focus on the local private sector. Addressed.</p>	N/A
	<p>- To be discussed at the next round with a complete project package and further information on the Small and Medium Enterprises.</p>	<p>Project reinforce local private sector involvement by targeting individual for producing activities, IGA and Green SMEs) which will work directly (land and water uses) or indirectly (value chain strengthen) on LDN. Innovative approach such as PSE will be developed to raise interest of additional private sector (see CEO ?4)</p>
<p>Risks to Achieving Project Objectives Has the project elaborated on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved? Were there proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation?</p>	<p>August 19, 2022 Addressed.</p>	N/A
	<p>COVID-19 situation: we will need a more robust analysis of risks related to the COVID-19 situation with an understanding of immediate problems and potential long-term opportunities. See the GEF template for further details</p> <p>(https://www.thegef.org/documents/project-design-and-review-considerations-response-covid-19-crisis-and-mitigation-future)</p>	<p>COVID 19 situation analysis and risk is identified in the risk table and detail are provided (see ProDoc Appendix 17).</p>
<p>Coordination Is the institutional</p>	<p>August 19, 2022 Addressed.</p>	N/A

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
<p>arrangement for project implementation fully described? Is there an elaboration on possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area?</p>	<p>Project Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Both in the portal and the portal, it seems there is a confusion between the GEF notions of Implementing and Executing agencies. See below. Please, make information coherent between the portal and the prodoc. - We take note of the changes with the PIF and that a new governmental entity, DPREM, will replace the CNOEZA. It seems a significant difference to change an agency by a Ministerial Direction. A justification and analysis would be needed. - Is an assessment of technical and financial competencies available to reassure about the management and use of this significant GEF grant of \$4.4 million? - The text under the section 6 ?institutional arrangement and coordination? makes reference to several annexes all named XX: work plan, site selection process, IUCN?s comparative advantage. We did not find these annexes. Please, provide - IUCN is mentioned as ?Executing Agency?, with the acronym IA, which is confusing and referring to ?Implementing Agency?. Please, clarify. If IUCN is proposed as an Executing Agency, it would be an exception to the normal GEF procedure and would need documentation and letters from the GEF OFP. Further in the text, DEPREM is considered as the Executing Agency (EA)? Please, clarify. 	<p>The IUCN will be the Partner Agency of the project and will oversee the project and provide the technical assistance necessary to achieve the objective of the project. Therefore, IUCN will be responsible for supervising the project to ensure consistency with GEF and IUCN policies and procedures (see CEO ?6 and ProDoc ?5.1).</p> <p>CNOEZA mandate has been officially integrated within the DPREM. DPREM capacities have been detailed in the ProDoc (human dedicated resource at DPREM and DREDD, Fiduciary knowledge on GEF fund management through MEDD support) (see CEO ?6 ProDoc ?3.1.3.1.1.)</p> <p>Institutional annexes are available in the ProDoc (see ProDoc Appendices 4, 6, 14 and 17)</p> <p>IUCN is the Implementing Agency (IA) and DPREM is the Executing Agency (EA)</p>
<p>Consistency with National Priorities</p>	<p>August 19, 2022 Addressed.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
Has the project described the alignment of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?	<p>National priorities</p> <p>- As the GEF project is financed by the LD focal area, we are mainly interested in figuring out how the project fits with the National Action Programme under UNCCD, as well as the recent LDN targets. A minimum of analysis would have been welcome rather than a list of documents and plans. Please, revise.</p> <p>- It seems that the LDN targets are included in a technical document without a strong political commitment: Couldn't it be a complementary objective of this project to raise the profile of the LDN targets and obtain a higher and cross-sector endorsement?</p>	Project alignment with national priorities on LDN have been integrated (see ProDoc ?3.1.3.2.2 and ProDoc ?4.5) LDN targets technical document define a preliminary baseline but does not define proper LDN indicators, targets and mechanisms, and is not yet politically validated. Project includes an update of this preliminary report, including raising of LDN targets. It is indirectly related to Project objective as it contributes to the 'enabling environment on LDN'. Cross-sector endorsement will be indirectly managed through the intersectoral CNEDD and CTEDD committees? mobilization (see ProDoc ?4.3 Output 1.1.2)
<p>Knowledge Management</p> <p>Is the proposed Knowledge Management Approach for the project adequately elaborated with a timeline and a set of deliverables?</p>	Yes	
<p>Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS)</p> <p>Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately documented at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?</p>	<p>August 19, 2022 Not addressed. Please confirm the risk classification and provide the adequate documentation.</p>	Risk categorization is confirmed as 'moderate'? The IUCN ESMS has been updated and is provided in Annex of the proposal. (see separate ESMS screening annex).
	Please, provide the environmental and social safeguards.	see separate ESMS screening annex
<p>Monitoring and Evaluation</p>	August 19, 2022 Addressed.	N/A

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?	<p>There is a budgeted M&E plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please, clarify the purpose of a baseline study of \$40,000 at project inception? It is pretty unusual and does not make any sense. - The costs of the MTE and TE are each \$35,000 in the table. However, there are \$72,000 for four consultants. Their role is not clear. Please, justify. - Please, confirm the total costs (last line of the table). 	<p>Overall budget has been updated (see ProDoc Appendix 5).</p> <p>M&E Plan has been updated with regards to state of art on GEF project M&E. Baseline study has been aligned with other country project costs (US\$ 4 000 at inception). MTE, TE and Consultant costs were an error and have been updated (see ProDoc Appendix 5).</p>
<p>Benefits</p> <p>Are the socioeconomic benefits at the national and local levels sufficiently described resulting from the project? Is there an elaboration on how these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of GEBs or adaptation benefits?</p>	<p>August 19, 2022 Addressed.</p>	
	<p>Benefits: the text makes reference to ?a target group of the project? of 181,545 people, including 103,857 men and 77,687 women. Please, explain these numbers in comparison with the targets under the core indicator 11.</p>	<p>Project will support 12 800 direct beneficiaries, of which 50% are expected to be women, which represent the population of the 5 targeted communes. The project will indirectly benefit for the 3 Wilayas population through better strategic tools (planification and coordination among actors) (see ProDoc ?3.4.1)</p>

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
<p>Annexes</p> <p>Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?</p>	<p>August 19, 2022</p> <p>? <u>Annex A: Project result framework</u></p> <p>? - The column ?baseline? and ?Targets? in the portal are not readable. Please, revise their width.</p> <p>? - As it is the practice, please include the baseline and the targets related to the different indicators (it seems the case in the tables in the project document, but we cannot read the tables under the current layout in the portal).</p> <p>? - Please, ensure that the targets are coherent with those included in the table of indicators (see indicators 3, 4, 11, and maybe 6).</p> <p>? - The indicator 6 could also be considered. Please, note that the baseline is expected at CEO endorsement (and not during project implementation as written in the document). We may consider some flexibility about the information provided on carbon, as it is a recommended indicator, very complementary to those expressed in areas (ha), but not mandatory for LD projects.</p> <p> </p> <p>? <u>Budget</u></p> <p>? - The GEF budget includes ?PMU indemnity for operational component officer (C1, C2, and C3)?. We are not sure to well figure out what this indemnity covers. It is probably a question of language, but please, check the guidelines on the GEF project cycle: ?Government salaries remain listed as ineligible expenses, to which associated benefits, bonuses and emoluments are added for clarity?. Under the current formulation, these items do not seem eligible.</p> <p>? - Fiduciary external audit (O.4.2.2, 16,400\$) should not be covered by M&E, but by pmc. Please, correct (see p19, item 17, Guidelines on the GEF project cycle policy).</p> <p>? - What is the purpose and the justification of an intern audit for an amount of \$67,200 (taken by the cofinancing)?</p> <p>? <u>Vehicles: We understand from the</u></p>	<p><u>Annex A:</u></p> <p>Portal has been updated</p> <p>We updated indicators in table F and Annex F to make them coherent.</p> <p>We noted your flexibility and decided to proceed with this indicator as it is a sub-indicator of LDN indicator under SDG 15.</p> <p><u>Budget.</u></p> <p>We consider ?per diems? budget for field for the key project positions which are not covered under specific activities. Lines have been updated accordingly</p> <p>Fiduciary external audit has been considered under PMC</p> <p>Internal auditor has been removed, as IUCN and MEDD are used to work with GEF financing.</p> <p>No car are considered under the GEF grant (previous response has been updated)</p> <p>Office supply in C1 have been deleted</p> <p>The Travel is integrating trip costs either airplane, cars, per diems for specific activities of project. It is high as the following activities are key and rely essentially on the presence of people on the field. Importance of MEDD co-financing is explained by the mobilisation of MEDD in this approach. Here are the main technical reason for such high travel costs: (i) Annual field involvement of the overall steering committee for a strong linkage between high level and field level; (ii) Heavy mobilization of civil agent, and national consultant to a long field training to ensure right implementation of</p>

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage

Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
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	<p>- ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK: the proposed table is getting out from the margins. Please, adjust the table.</p> <p>- Annex E budget: The proposed budget in the portal is not readable. Please, provide a readable budget within the existing margins.</p> <p>Annex E budget</p> <p>- The proposed budget in the portal is not readable. Please, provide a readable budget withing the existing margins.</p> <p>- In the excel table, the budget seems incomplete: the last column (responsible entity) is empty. Please, complete.</p> <p>- Line 11 to 15: It is potentially interesting to see the role of cofinancing for water infrastructures. Please, explain.</p> <p>- The formulation and costs of certain activities raise questions about the value for money. In addition some very similar activities are included twice, showing a possible duplication. Please, clarify and correct:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A1.2.1.1 (redrafting the LDN program) for \$12,000 and A1.2.2.2 ?Integration of LDN in Projects & Programs also fro \$12,000; o 3.1.5.1: SLM plan for \$125,000 and 3.1.5.3 Strategic Investment Framework for SLM for \$111,000 o 4.2.2.2 ?identify best practices? for \$61,000 and 4.4.2 for 18,000 <p>- The budget lines from 38 to 61 are for consultants, for a total of \$643,678. The number of consultants seem high for this project, and especially the need for international consultants is not fully clear (to develop a plan for each Wilaya? To ?update? a strategic investment framework? To identify best SLM practices?). Please, justify them and pay attention to the value for money.</p> <p>- The purpose of some budget lines for consultants is not clear: line 38: \$21,400 for an international consultant; line 50: 4 consultants for \$78,000;</p> <p>- There are three specialists budgeted under the pmc which terms of reference are not available. Please, clarify their missions and why they are budgeted under pmc.</p> <p>- Provide the terms of reference for each position (technical positions and project management).</p>	<p>Annex A has been updated according to the Guidelines on the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy.</p> <p>Budget file has been updated (see ProDoc Appendix 5 and excel file)</p> <p>GEF Cofinancing on Water infrastructures will be punctual support of adapted infrastructures (drystones weirs and gabion) in addition to the existing planned Filter bunds under MEDD.</p> <p>Therefore, it will support an integrated and landscape level approach as well as more efficient investment through proper infrastructure in confront to the type of environmental stressors. (see ProDoc ?4.3 and Appendix 5)</p> <p>Overall Plan budgets have been split and updated (see ProDoc ?4.3 and Appendix 5)</p> <p>Overall Budget lines for consultants have been updated (see ProDoc ?4.3 and Appendix 5)</p> <p>Project budget has been updated considering support from one international consultant specialized on the LDN Scientific Framework and Ecosystem approach within the Counterbalancing mechanism. National consultants will provide assistance in updating and finalizing LDN target and will have specific expertise in social and political mobilisation to be used within the extraordinary session of CNEDD and CTEDD, as well as mobilising coordinators and staffs from environment and agriculture programs (see ProDoc ?4.3 and Appendix 5)</p> <p>Project staff ToR have been integrated (see ProDoc Appendix 14).</p> <p>Logistics budget has been slip</p>
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GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
Project Results Framework	August 19, 2022 See above	N/A
	- To be discussed at the next round with a complete project information package	N/A
GEF Secretariat comments	August 19, 2022 Adressed	N/A
	At PIF level, the following comments were made in anticipation of the project document. These comments have not been addressed yet: - Confirm cofinancing; - Confirm core indicators; - Confirm the connection with the UNCCD NAP and LDN targets; - Provide a comprehensive risk analysis;	Cofinancing are Confirmed (see ProDoc Appendix 8) Core Indicators have been updated (see CEO Annex G) Linkages with LDN targets and UNCDD NAP are provided (see CEO Annex A impact indicators and ProDoc ?3.1.3.2.2)
Council comments	Please, respond the comments from Germany and US.	See Above
STAP comments	Please, respond the STAP comments.	See Above
Convention Secretariat comments	N/A	N/A
Other Agencies comments	N/A	N/A
CSOs comments	N/A	N/A
Status of PPG utilization	- To be provided in the complete project information package.	See CEO Annex C
Project maps and coordinates	Addressed.	N/A
Does the termsheet in Annex F provide finalized financial terms and conditions? Does the termsheet and financial structure address concerns raised at PIF stage and that were pending to be resolved ahead of CEO endorsement? (For NGI Only)	N/A	N/A
Do the Reflow Table Annex G and the Trustee Excel Sheet for reflows provide accurate reflow expectations of the project submitted? Assumptions for Reflows can be submitted to explain expected reflows. (For NGI Only)	N/A	N/A

GEF Sec review ? CEO Endorsement stage		
Sections in CEO Endorsement	GEF Sec Comments	Agency (IUCN) response
Did the agency Annex H provided with information to assess the Agency Capacity to generate and manage reflows? (For NGI Only)	N/A	N/A
GEFSEC DECISION RECOMMENDATION Is CEO endorsement recommended? (applies only to projects and child projects)	The project cannot be recommended yet. Please, submit a complete project information package and respond the comments above.	N/A

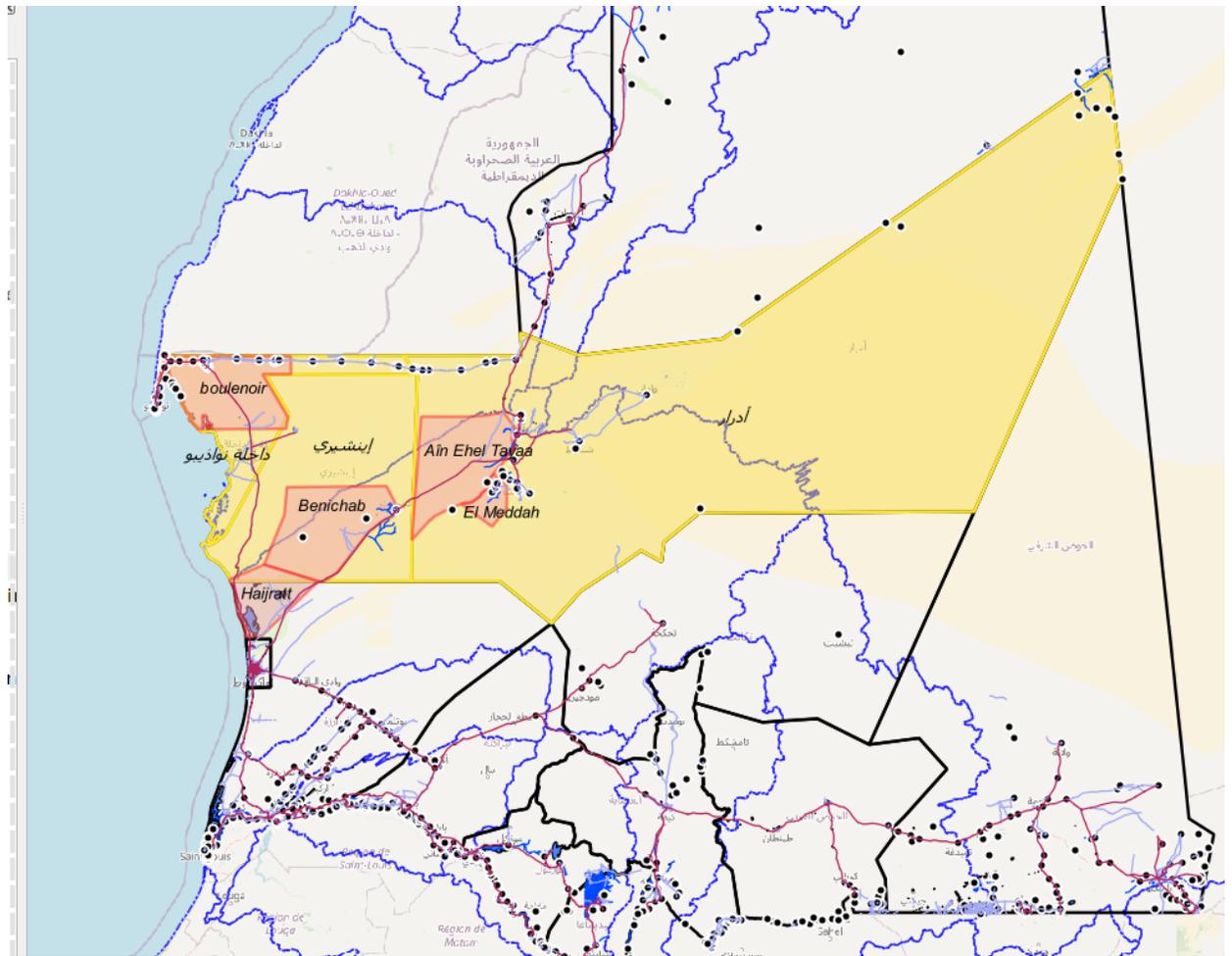
**ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG).
(Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status
in the table below:**

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: 150,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
Firm contract (inclu ESMS, Travels, Meeting cost, translation)	120,000	90,698	21,632
Inception workshops (inception, consultation, validation) - including travels of participants	12,000	13,073.82	0
Validation workshops - including travels of participants	13,000	5,586.78	0
ESMS and /or other relevant stakeholders consultation meeting (TBC) - including travels of participants	5,000	1,283.07	0
Service provision for finalizing deliverables		10 500	2,452
Total	150 000	121,141.67	24,084

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

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

Figure 1 Mauritania's geographical location in West Africa and the wilayas targeted by the project. The coverage of the project area is indicated in orange (communes) and yellow (Wilaya).



Adrar wilaya coordinates?: 20° 30' North, 10° 04' West

Inchri coordinates 20° 04' North, 15° 04' West

Daklet Nouadhibou coordinates 20° 57' North, 16° 14' West

Figure 2 : Cartography of Adrar Wilaya with both Aïn Ehel Taya and El Meddah communes

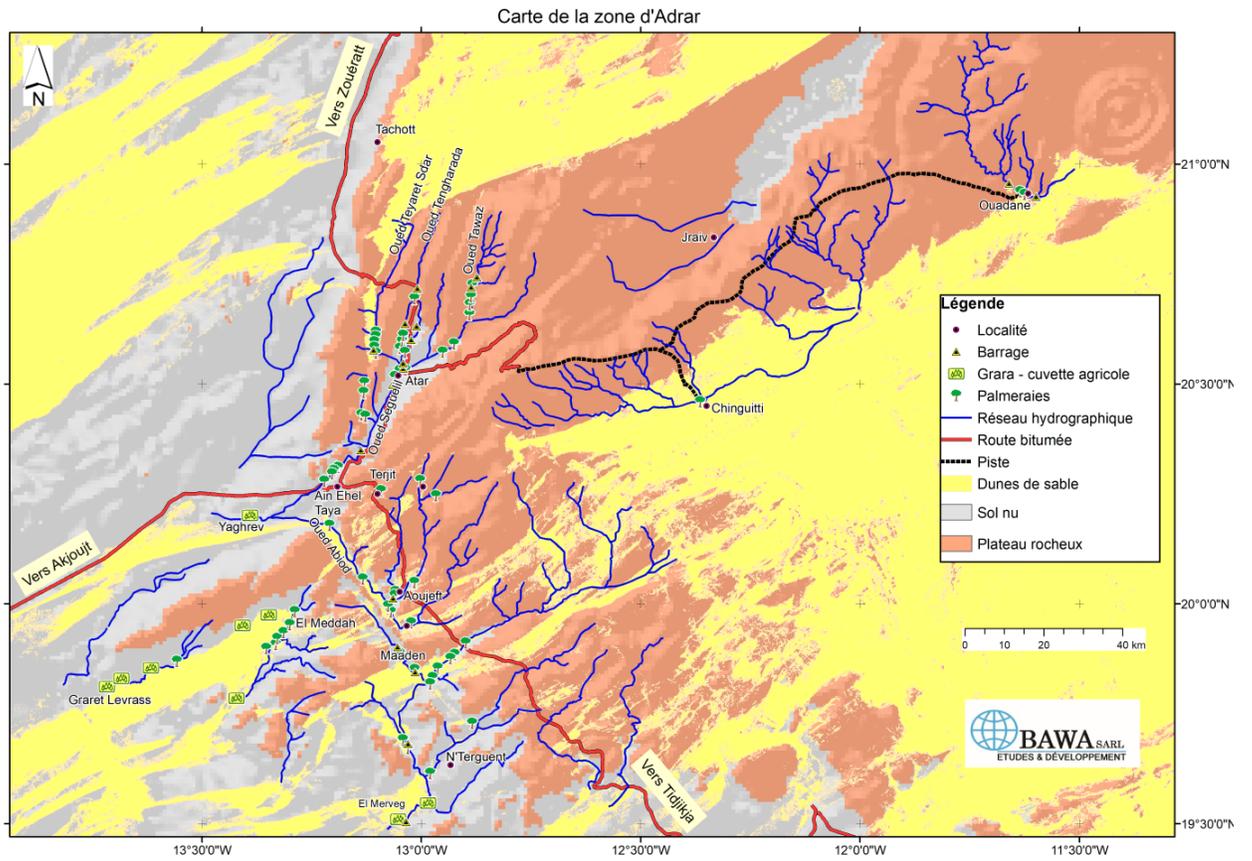


Figure 3 : Cartography of Inchiri Wilaya with both B'nichaab and M'Hajeratt communes

Carte des communes Benichab et M'Hajjerratt

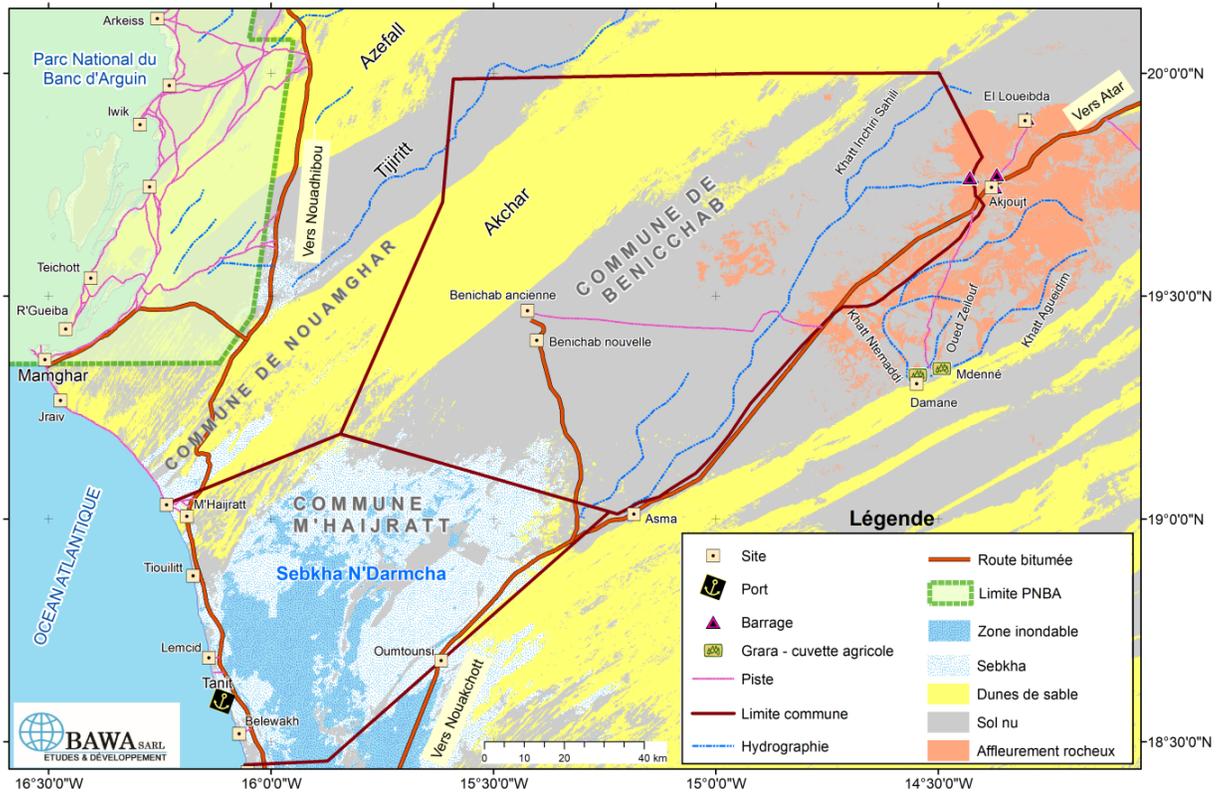
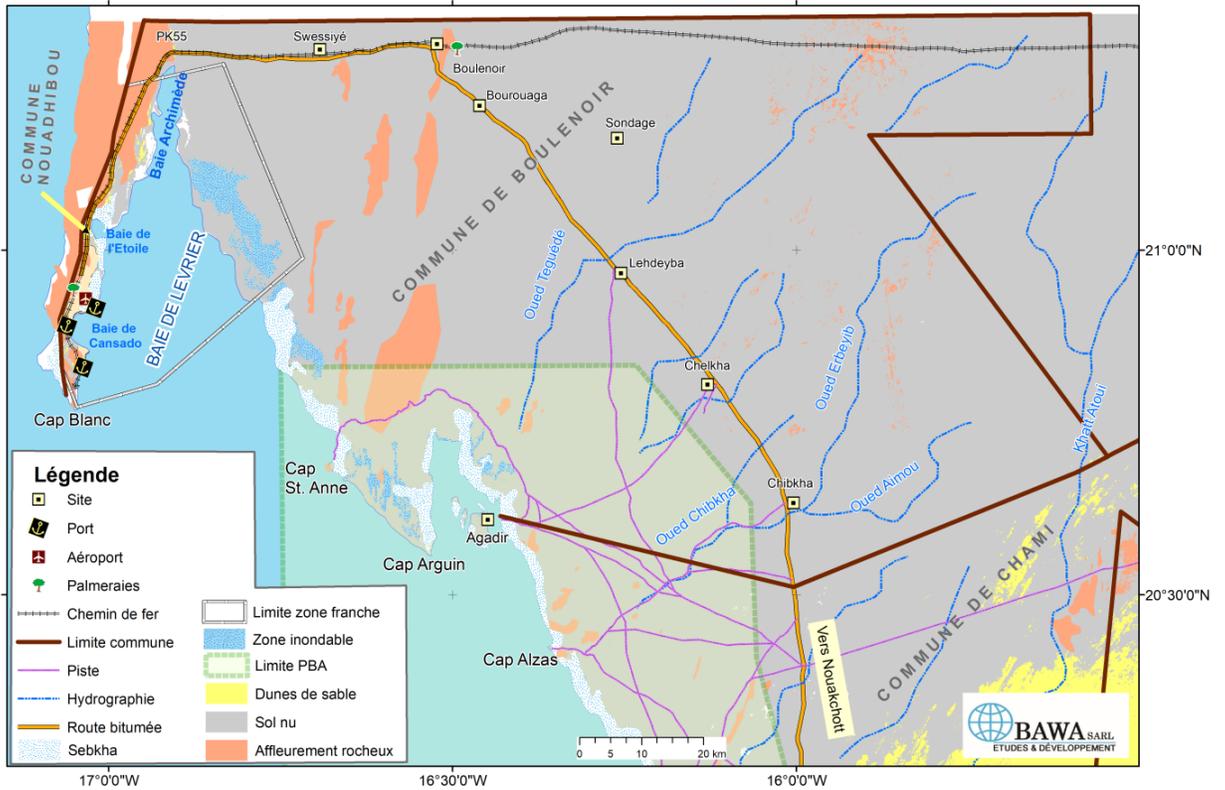


Figure 4 : cartography of the Dakhlet Nouadhibou Wilay wiith the Boulenoir commune

Carte des communes de Nouadhibou et Boule noir



ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Details	GEF Funding budget (US\$eq)							Sub-Total	Component 4: M&E and Knowledge management		PMC	Total	Responsible Entity
	Component 1		Component 2		Component 3				Outcome 4.1	Outcome 4.2			
	Outcome 1.1	Outcome 1.2	Outcome 2.1	Outcome 2.2	Outcome 3.1	Outcome 3.2	Outcome 3.3						
Work													
Plant production for 100ha in wooded areas (Act 2.2.1.2)													DPREM (PROPEP)
Protection on 500ha and ANR (Act 2.2.1.3)													DPREM (PROPEP)
Aerial seeding on 65 000ha (Act 2.2.1.3)				220 000				220 000				220 000	DPREM (PROPEP)
Dune fixation (physical and biological) around oasis, garas, oueds and watershed on 1 Gold area rehabilitation (6% of Gold mine areas abandoned rehabilitated) (Act 2.2.1.4)				1,177,013				1,177,013				1,177,013	DPREM (PROPEP)
Pilot and extension for reintroducing endangered pastoral plant species (Act 2.2.1.5)				138 000				138 000				138 000	DPREM
Soil and Water conservation - filler bunds (act 2.2.2.1)				200 000				200 000				200 000	DPREM (PROPEP)
Soil and Water conservation - Drystone weirs (Act 2.2.2.1)				250 000				250 000				250 000	DPREM
Soil and Water conservation - Gabion thresholds (Act 2.2.2.1)				250 000				250 000				250 000	DPREM
4 watershed topographic palm grooves extension including soil management threshold													PDDO
Water boreholes (included equipment) for palmgrooves (Act 3.2.3.3)													PDDO and PARIS
Water Weirs (included equipment) for palm grooves (Act 3.2.3.3)													PDDO and PARIS
Goods													
Additional informatic equipment of Observatory (Act 1.2.1.2)		32 880						32 880				32 880	DPREM
Additional laboratory equipment for field assessment and analysis (Act 1.2.1.2)		8 400						8 400				8 400	DPREM
Station and meteorological material for Tier 3 analysis (Act 1.2.1.2)		8 000						8 000				8 000	DPREM
Drones for imagerie acquisition (Mavic Pro et Phantom) (Act 1.2.1.2)													DPREM
Support for the training and seed production center in arid zones (Act 2.2.1.6.)													DPREM (PROPEP)
Irrigation scheme with Drp system (Act 2.2.2.2 & Act 3.2.3.3)				80 000				80 000				80 000	PARIS / DPREM
Irrigation scheme with Californian system (Act 2.2.2.2 & Act 3.2.3.3)													PARIS
Agricultural model sites establishment based on ecosystems approach (Act 3.2.3.2)						227 640		227 640				227 640	DPREM
Funding of environmental IGAs for the benefit of vulnerable groups (Act 3.2.3.4)						200 000		200 000				200 000	DPREM
Funding of subproject in agro-silvo-pastoral and fisheries value chains (Act 3.2.3.5)													DPREM (PROPEP)
Additional funding for low carbon SILES						27 000		27 000				27 000	DPREM
Funding fodder integrated and irrigated production system (Act 3.2.2.6.)						123 200		123 200				123 200	DPREM
PMU Informatic													DPREM
PMU Office Desk													DPREM
Vehicles													
Vehicle maintenance equipment													DPREM
Vehicle wheels equipment													DPREM
Vehicle repair material													DPREM
Vehicle Fuel													DPREM
PMU 4x4 vehicle													DPREM (PROPEP)
DPREM 4x4 vehicle													DPREM
Contractual Services - Individual													
Platform emission and initial costs management		4 000						4 000				4 000	DPREM
Fiduciary external Audit (O.4.2.2)										16 400		16 400	DPREM / IUCN
Contractual Services - Company													
Software calibration (accountability, Procurement, budget)													DPREM
International Consultants													
International Consultant on LDN Scientific framework and technical support (O1.1)	18 000							18 000				18 000	DPREM
International Consultant on land degradation assessment and monitoring capacity plan		9 000						9 000				9 000	DPREM
International Consultant for Trainings 1 and mapping actors (O1.2)		31 800						31 800				31 800	DPREM
International Consultant on IT for Platform elaboration (O1.2)		14 400						14 400				14 400	DPREM
International consultant on consultation frameworks and social mechanism for NR man						24 000		24 000				24 000	DPREM
International Consultant on PRAGA and Management Plan establishment (O3.1)						14 400		14 400				14 400	DPREM
Mid-Term-Evaluation (O.4.2.2)										40 000		40 000	IUCN
Terminal Evaluation (O.4.2.2)										60 000		60 000	IUCN
Local Consultants													
National Consultant on policy process facilitation and LDN (O1.1)	18 000							18 000				18 000	DPREM
National Consultant on sectorial document update (O1.1)	51 000							51 000				51 000	DPREM
4 National consultants for plan elaboration (O1.2)		18 000						18 000				18 000	DPREM
4 National Consultant for trainings session for training 1 (soil scientist, hydrologist, botan		30 000						30 000				30 000	DPREM
4 National consultant for mapping actors (O1.2)		33 600						33 600				33 600	DPREM
4 National consultant for training 2 (O1.2)		6 000						6 000				6 000	DPREM
National Consultant for punctual support on local assessment process (soil scientist, hy			12 000					12 000				12 000	DPREM
National consultant specializing in Diagnosis of the state of degradation and the use of r			9 000					9 000				9 000	DPREM
National Consultant on soil restoration and rangeland management (O3.1)						39 000		39 000				39 000	DPREM
National Consultant on hydraulic, CES DRS (O3.1)						39 000		39 000				39 000	DPREM
National consultant on market analysis (O.3.2.2)						9 000		9 000				9 000	DPREM
National consultant on LDN and mining compensation strategy (Act 3.3.2.2)								9 000				9 000	DPREM
National Consultant on LDN Guidelines and LDN Fund proposal (O.3.3.3)								9 000				9 000	DPREM
Baseline Study (O.4.2.2)										4 000		4 000	DPREM / IUCN
Salary and benefits - Staff costs													
PMU Component 1 Officer													DPREM
DPREM Project referent (Director for C1)													DPREM
DPREM Project referent (Service Chief on Soil management and fight against													DPREM
DPREM Observatory Director													DPREM
2 DPREM Observatory Field Officer													DPREM
24 MEDD central experts (training: 25 days) (Act 1.1.2.2)													DPREM
3 MEDD central for mapping actors (Act 1.2.2.2)													DPREM
DREDD Directors for mapping actors (Act 1.2.2.2)													DPREM
PMU Component 2 Manager													DPREM
DPREM project referent (Division Chief on soil restoration and fight against													DPREM
2 DREDD Field technical Staff for operating C2 (except assessment)													DPREM
MEDD national and local team for local assessment (4 teams of 5 MEDD people) (Act 2													DPREM
PMU Component 3 Manager													DPREM
DPREM project referent (Division Chief on soil restoration and fight against desertificati													DPREM
1 DREDD Field technical Staff for operating C3													DPREM
PMU Monitoring and Evaluation, Knowledge management Officer									38 400	38 400		76 800	DPREM
PMU Project Manager (PM)										91 200		91 200	DPREM
PMU Administrative and Financial Manager (RAF)										77 760		77 760	DPREM
PMU Driver (2)													DPREM
PMU Secretary													DPREM
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings													
Working sessions (Act 1.1.1)	6 000							6 000				6 000	DPREM
National Workshop on LDN framework policy (Act 1.1.1.3)	2 200							2 200				2 200	DPREM
ONEDD extraordinary sessions (Act 1.1.2.1)													DPREM
CTEDD sessions (Act 1.1.2.1)													DPREM
CREDD session (3 Wilayas) (Act 1.1.2.1)													DPREM
Working sessions on LDN technical framework (Act 1.1.3.1)	12 000							12 000				12 000	DPREM
CREDD dimensual sessions (Act 2.1.1)				18 900				18 900				18 900	DPREM
Identifying local stakeholder missions (Act 1.1.3.1)				3 400				3 400				3 400	DPREM
Elaboration and validation of landscape / wilyaya management plan through technical wo				16 500				16 500				16 500	DPREM
Elaboration and Validation of Strategic Investment Framework for SLM aligned with SENS				15 000				15 000				15 000	DPREM
Elaboration and validation of Wilyaya SLM investment Plan (Act 2.1.3.4)				30 000				30 000				30 000	DPREM
Elaboration and validation of simplified development and management plans for wood				9 000				9 000				9 000	DPREM
Establishment of a network of local extension workers (Activity 3.1.1.4)						10 000		10 000				10 000	PDDO / DPREM
Meetings and support in increasing access of women to palm grove (Activity 3.1.2.1)						14 000		14 000				14 000	DPREM
Workshop with local actors on land governance (Act 3.1.2.2)						14 000		14 000				14 000	DPREM
CBA Wilyaya analysis (O.3.2.1)							30 000	30 000				30 000	DPREM

Market analysis and private investors workshop for oasis ecosystems products value chain						2,200		2,200			2,200	DPREM
Study of the system for promoting local production in oases and the conduct of pilot experiments						10,000		10,000			10,000	DPREM
Pilot payment mechanisms to promote restoration activities in AGPO (Act 3.3.1.1)							30,000	30,000			30,000	DPREM
Sensitization of Gold panner (Act 3.3.2.1)												DPREM (PROPEP)
Establishment of the process of identification of compensation options for mining companies							4,800	4,800			4,800	DPREM
Wilaya civil society workshops (O 4.1.2)									14,400		14,400	DPREM
Mobilization of regional and national project (O 4.1.3)										5,000	5,000	DPREM / IUCN
Inception Workshop and Report (O 4.2.2)										6,000	6,000	MEDD
Tripartite Review (TPR) (Steering committee) (O 4.2.2)												
Travel												
per diems consultants (O1.1 and O1.2)	21,895.5	21,895.5						43,791			43,791	DPREM
International travel (AR flights)	10,000	10,000						20,000			20,000	DPREM
MEDD facilitation Nouakchott (training 1) (Act1.2.2.2)												DPREM
MEDD facilitation mapping actors (4 Wilaya) (Act1.2.2.2)												DPREM
DREDD facilitation (training 2) (Act 1.2.2.3)												DPREM
per diems for MEDD, DREDD mobilization (Act1.1.2.2 & Act 1.1.2.3)												DPREM
per diems for field assessment (Act 2.1.2.1)												DPREM
MEDD facilitation for assessment and restoring activities (C2)												DPREM
Identify households involved in good practices for restoring degraded lands (Act 2.2.1.1)					3,150			3,150			3,150	DPREM
Per diems for consultants (C3)						28,152		28,152			28,152	DPREM
International travel (AR flights) (C3)						12,000		12,000			12,000	DPREM
PMU national per diem for component 1 manager	5,440	5,440						10,880			10,880	DPREM
PMU national per diem for component 2 manager			5,440	5,440				10,880			10,880	DPREM
PMU national per diem for component 3 manager						3,627	3,627	3,627			10,880	DPREM
PSC Pilot project intervention sites visit (O 4.1.2)									64,000		64,000	DPREM / IUCN
Office Supplies												
Lessons learned Government support and publications means (O 4.1.1)												DPREM
Government support on report publication and editing means (O 4.2.2)												DPREM
Government support on information, communication and stakeholder engagement (O 4.2.2)												DPREM
Office furniture												DPREM
Office consummable items/ software / licences												DPREM
Contract Office maintenance												DPREM
Contract website maintenance												DPREM
Contract Informatic equipment maintenance												DPREM
Office rent												DPREM
Other Operating Costs												
National disaggregated statistics by component, Wilaya municipality on Socio, Env and Econ												DCPIE
Satellite imagery data (Act 1.2.1.2)												DCPIE
Water, Electricity expenses												DPREM
Phone and internet expenses												DPREM
GFU/PMU Phone												DPREM
	144,535.5	233,415.5	119,240	2,073,803	198,179	632,867	56,427		116,800	153,400		
		377,951		2,192,843			887,272	3,458,066		270,200	185,360	3,813,626

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

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

N/A

ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows

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

N/A

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

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

N/A