

GEF-8 REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

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General Project Information

Project Title

UNCCD Mongolia COP17 Legacy Project

Region

Global

GEF Project ID

12309

Country(ies)

Global

Mongolia

Type of Project

MSP

GEF Agency(ies):

IUCN

GEF Agency Project ID

Project Executing Entity(s)

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Mongolia (MECC)

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Global Mechanism (UNCCD GM)

Project Executing Type

Government

Others

GEF Focal Area (s)

Multi Focal Area

Submission Date

6/29/2026

Type of Trust Fund

GET

Project Duration (Months)

28

GEF Project Grant: (a)

2,972,375.00

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

267,511.00

Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

0.00

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

3,239,886.00

Total Co-financing

9,681,000.00

PPG Amount: (e)

100,000.00

PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)

9,000.00

Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)

3,348,886.00

Project Tags

CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No Competitive Window: No

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Taxonomy

Local Communities, Stakeholders, Beneficiaries, Awareness Raising, Communications, Strategic Communications, Consultation, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Participation, Information Dissemination, Private Sector, Workshop, Knowledge Generation, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Adaptive management, Learning, Theory of change, Indicators to measure change, Capacity Development, South-South, Knowledge Exchange, Women groups, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender Equality, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Gender results areas, Biomes, Biodiversity, Focal Areas, Sustainable Pasture Management, Sustainable Land Management, Land Degradation, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Ecosystem Approach, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Sustainable Livelihoods, Land Productivity, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Cover and Land cover change, Livestock Wild Relatives, Species, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Grasslands

Rio Markers

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

Project Summary

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

Rangelands cover approximately 54 per cent of the world's land surface and directly support more than 500 million pastoralists. Yet up to half of rangeland areas are experiencing declining productivity and are considered at risk. Despite their importance for biodiversity, climate resilience, food security and livelihoods, rangelands receive only a small share of global restoration and climate finance. This underinvestment, combined with fragmented knowledge systems and limited political visibility, constrains progress toward Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) in dryland countries.

The Mongolia COP17 Legacy Project is a catalytic global enabling initiative that leverages Mongolia's UNCCD COP17 Presidency to strengthen the foundations for sustainable rangeland management and restoration. It translates COP17 opportunities into lasting outcomes through four components. Under the Steppe Action Agenda and the leadership of the COP17 Presidency of Mongolia, UNCCD COP17 will mark the launch of the multistakeholder **Rangelands Flagship Initiative**, aimed at advancing knowledge, investment and institutional cooperation on rangelands, and the establishment of the state-led global Coalition of Rangeland States, established to provide political leadership and advocacy for rangeland policy and investment and strengthen institutions and platforms for sustainable rangeland management.

Component 1: Mongolia COP17 Presidency and Stakeholder Engagement supports an inclusive COP17 Presidency programme and meaningful participation of Parties, civil society, pastoralist organisations, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women, youth, and the scientific community; and increased visibility of rangelands issues and the COP17 Presidency through targeted outreach and policy briefings.

Component 2: Investment Readiness and Partnerships strengthens partnerships and investment readiness under the Rangelands Flagship Initiative to mobilise increased financing for sustainable rangeland management and restoration.

Component 3: Knowledge Integration and Rangeland Flagship Initiative enhances the global knowledge base by integrating scientific and traditional knowledge, developing technical guidance, and strengthening governance, coordination and learning within the Rangelands Flagship Initiative.

Component 4: COP17 Legacy, South–South Cooperation and the Coalition promotes peer learning and cooperation among rangeland countries; and reinforces the visibility and development of the Coalition of Rangeland States as well as the provision of targeted support to its members. The project will strengthen the enabling environment for investment, knowledge exchange, and cooperation, contributing to reduced land degradation, improved ecosystem health, enhanced carbon sequestration, conservation of rangeland biodiversity, peace and stability, poverty reduction and food security.

Project Description Overview

Project Objective

To catalyze durable global action on sustainable rangeland management and Land Degradation Neutrality by generating knowledge, facilitating investment and strengthening South-South cooperation, anchored in Mongolia's UNCCD COP17 Presidency (2026-2028).

Project Components

Component 1: Mongolia COP17 Presidency and Stakeholder Engagement

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
966,500.00	1,718,450.00

Outcome:

Inclusive and substantive COP17 Presidency programme supported, with meaningful participation of policymakers and observer groups including civil society, pastoralist organisations, IPLCs, women, youth, and the scientific community; preparatory knowledge inputs contributing to the quality of ministerial dialogue outcomes on rangelands and LDN.

Output:

Output 1.1: Inclusive participation of observer groups including IPLCs, pastoralist organisations, women, youth, and the scientific community in COP17 and UNCCD policy processes supported.

Output 1.2: Steppe Action Agenda outreach campaign supported, linking rangeland restoration, pastoralist heritage and LDN.

Output 1.3: High-level political engagement on rangelands advanced through the Rangelands Flagship Initiative and COP17 ministerial dialogues and a targeted Presidency policy brief; global policy coherence on rangelands promoted across multilateral frameworks.

Component 2: Investment Readiness and Partnerships

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

486,850.00	1,900,000.00
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Outcome:

Increased investment and financing of sustainable rangeland management through partnerships among development agencies, multilateral finance institutions, governments, and private businesses.

Output:

Output 2.1: Scoping studies and cost-benefit analyses completed to inform the development of new rangeland restoration investment projects, aligned with the Rangeland Flagship Initiative Common Results Framework and LDN Principles and tracked in a rangeland project database.

Output 2.2: At least 1 technical assistance partnership established (ADB/UNCCD, DRIF,) to convene donor roundtables, develop financing roadmaps, and co-design public-private rangeland investments.

Component 3: Knowledge Integration and Rangeland Flagship Initiative

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
476,150.00	2,031,000.00

Outcome:

Global knowledge base on rangeland restoration, monitoring, and sustainable management strengthened by integrating scientific and traditional ecological knowledge; guidelines developed for consistent LDN tracking across UNCCD Parties; knowledge products contributing to the development of emerging rangeland initiatives including the Rangeland Flagship Initiative.

Output:

Output 3.1: Webinars to develop understanding of equitable and scalable investment in rangeland restoration coordinated through the Rangelands Flagship Initiative partners and champions.

Output 3.2: Publication and dissemination of a synthesis study on the enablers of equitable and scalable private investment in rangelands restoration (based on country case studies).

Output 3.3: Publication and dissemination of a policy coherence analysis based on country case studies that examine guiding policy frameworks / national strategies.

Output 3.4: Provision of targeted support to Coalition members on scaling up investment approaches and economic analysis

Component 4: COP17 Presidency Legacy, South-South Cooperation and the Coalition of Rangeland States

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
814,760.00	3,500,000.00

Outcome:

Mongolia's Presidency leadership sustained beyond COP17; political cooperation, structured South-South learning on rangeland management and LDN connecting dryland countries globally, anchored by country engagement contributing to the development of the global Coalition of Rangeland States, and integrating pastoralist and locally-led practices documented and integrated into global platforms.

Output:

Output 4.1: Global Coalition of Rangeland States operationalized through governance arrangements, coordination mechanisms, a common outreach campaign, structured South-South learning and policy dialogue.

Output 4.2: Regional and global cooperation sustained through to COP18; Capacity strengthened for Coalition member countries on rangeland governance and community-based management; Regional hubs and coalition mechanisms established to sustain cooperation, strengthen country capacity, and channel regional knowledge into global policy processes.

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
86,574.00	50,000.00

Outcome:

Project implementation is monitored and evaluated against the results framework, with findings used for adaptive management and reporting on GEF Core Indicator.

Output:

Inception workshop; mid-term review; terminal evaluation

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1: Mongolia COP17 Presidency and Stakeholder Engagement	966,500.00	1,718,450.00

Component 2: Investment Readiness and Partnerships	486,850.00	1,900,000.00
Component 3: Knowledge Integration and Rangeland Flagship Initiative	476,150.00	2,031,000.00
Component 4: COP17 Presidency Legacy, South-South Cooperation and the Coalition of Rangeland States	814,760.00	3,500,000.00
M&E	86,574.00	50,000.00
Subtotal	2,830,834.00	9,199,450.00
Project Management Cost	141,541.00	481,550.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	2,972,375.00	9,681,000.00

Please provide Justification

PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

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

A.1 The Global Rangeland Crisis and the Case for Action

Rangelands, including grasslands, savannas, shrublands, and deserts, cover approximately 54 per cent of the Earth's land surface and represent one of the largest terrestrial ecosystems globally. They support the livelihoods of over 500 million pastoralists and agro-pastoralists and indirectly sustain over two billion people through livestock production systems and ecosystem services.

These ecosystems play a critical role in global environmental stability. They store an estimated 25–30 per cent of global soil carbon, regulate hydrological systems in dryland regions, and support biodiversity, including migratory species and climate-adapted flora and fauna. They are also culturally significant landscapes shaped and managed over centuries by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) through customary governance systems and mobile pastoralism.

Despite this importance, rangelands are among the most underfunded and least visible ecosystems in global environmental finance. The 2024 UNCCD Global Land Outlook thematic report on rangelands indicates that up to 50 per cent of rangeland areas are degraded or in declining productivity condition, with degradation accelerating due to climate change and land-use pressures.

Dryland degradation already affects more than 2.7 billion people globally and contributes significantly to rural poverty, food insecurity, and forced migration. Economic losses from land degradation are estimated in the trillions of dollars annually when ecosystem service decline is considered. However, rangelands remain structurally underrepresented in global environmental frameworks, including:

- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework implementation plans (GBF targets and NBSAPs)
- National Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets

This underrepresentation translates into a persistent financing gap. Current investment flows into sustainable rangeland management remain far below what is required to achieve LDN, biodiversity, and climate targets. The Rangeland Flagship Initiative estimates that hundreds of billions of dollars in additional investment are needed globally by 2030.

Rangelands lack:

- A dedicated global financing mechanism
- Standardised investment classifications
- Consistent monitoring and reporting systems
- Structured project pipelines for investment
- Clear institutional responsibilities and mandates.

Recent UNCCD COP16 outcomes, including Resolution L.15 on Rangelands and Pastoralists and the establishment of the Global Coalition of Rangeland States—represent an important policy advancement. However, these remain early-stage frameworks requiring operational tools to translate political commitments into investment, knowledge integration, and implementation. This project responds directly to these gaps by supporting the operationalisation of these commitments through Mongolia's COP17 Presidency.

A.2 Mongolia: A Rangeland Nation at a Critical Juncture

While global in scope, the project is grounded in Mongolia's experience, which reflects many of the rangeland challenges faced across dryland countries. Its leadership of UNCCD COP17 provides a unique platform to translate national experience into global cooperation and environmental benefits.

Mongolia is one of the world's most rangeland-dependent nations. With a population of approximately 3.3 million people and more than 58 million livestock, its economy, culture, and rural livelihoods are closely tied to the health of its grasslands. Mongolia's rangelands cover approximately 114 million hectares, making them one of the largest intact temperate rangeland systems globally. The eastern steppes and Gobi Desert-steppe support biodiversity of global significance, including migratory ungulates, raptors, and the world's last truly wild horse.

These ecosystems are under increasing pressure. National assessments indicate that approximately 65 per cent of rangelands show some degree of degradation. Key drivers include overgrazing associated with rapid herd growth, more frequent droughts and dzud events linked to climate change, weak incentives for sustainable pasture management, and chronic underinvestment in rangeland monitoring and restoration. Mongolia has warmed by 2.24°C since 1940, more than three times the global average contributing to shifting vegetation patterns, increasing desertification risk, and reduced resilience of pastoral systems.

At the same time, Mongolia retains strong pastoral institutions that provide a foundation for sustainable rangeland governance. Traditional khot ail herding groups, together with more than 1,400 Pasture User Groups and numerous community-based resource management groups, continue to support collective management, seasonal mobility, and local resilience. Women play critical roles in pastoral livelihoods, value chains, social networks, and the transmission of traditional ecological knowledge, although their contributions remain underrepresented in formal decision-making processes.

Mongolia has demonstrated strong commitment to addressing land degradation through its Land Degradation Neutrality targets, national desertification programmes, and broader sustainable development policies. Its leadership as incoming President of the UNCCD COP17 (2026–2028), co-chair of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026 and founding member of the global state-led Coalition of Rangeland States provides a unique platform to advance both national and global action on sustainable rangeland management. While significant implementation challenges remain, Mongolia's combination of pastoral heritage, political commitment, and international credibility positions it to serve as a catalyst for broader cooperation, investment, and knowledge exchange on rangelands and Land Degradation Neutrality.

A.3 Drivers, Root Causes, and Key Barriers

Land degradation in rangelands is driven by a complex interplay of global structural failures and country-specific pressures. The barriers addressed by this project operate at both levels and are mutually reinforcing: the absence of global investment architecture and knowledge systems weakens the enabling environment for national action, while the fragmentation of national responses undermines the political case for global reform. Mongolia's situation both exemplifies the global challenge and offers a uniquely credible platform from which to help address it.

1. Drivers of rangeland degradation (biophysical and socio-economic pressures)

Overgrazing and livestock pressure: Across rangeland systems globally, increasing livestock numbers combined with reduced herd mobility and changing land use patterns are contributing to grazing pressure that exceeds ecological carrying capacity in many landscapes. For example, in Mongolia, herd growth since the 1990s, particularly in cashmere goat populations, has intensified pressure on already fragile pasture ecosystems. Similar dynamics are observed in parts of sub-Saharan Africa and Central Asia, where market incentives often favour herd expansion over ecological sustainability.

Climate change and increasing climate variability: Dryland ecosystems are highly sensitive to climate variability. Rising temperatures, shifting precipitation patterns, and increased frequency of extreme events such as droughts are major drivers of rangeland degradation globally. For example, Mongolia has experienced warming significantly above the global average, with increasing frequency and severity of dzud events. Climate stress interacts with land degradation processes, reducing ecosystem recovery capacity and increasing vulnerability of pastoral livelihoods.

Land use change, mining, and infrastructure expansion: Across drylands, expansion of mining, linear infrastructure, and settlement growth is contributing to fragmentation of rangeland ecosystems. These changes can disrupt seasonal migration routes, reduce access to water and pasture resources, and increase competition for land. In Mongolia, for example, mining is a significant contributor to economic growth but also a driver of localized land degradation and ecosystem fragmentation.

Rural–urban migration and demographic change: Outmigration from rural pastoral areas, particularly among youth, is weakening traditional pastoral systems and reducing the availability of labour for mobile livestock management. This trend is evident across multiple dryland regions and contributes to reduced transmission of traditional ecological knowledge and weakened community governance systems. At the same time, urbanisation is driving increased demand for livestock products across dryland regions, creating economic opportunities that well-governed and productive rangeland systems are better positioned to capture.

National drivers (based on illustrative examples from Mongolia): Mongolia reflects many of the global drivers of rangeland degradation. Rapid herd growth, climate change, governance constraints, mining and

infrastructure expansion, demographic change, and persistent underinvestment have combined to increase pressure on rangeland ecosystems and pastoral livelihoods.

The national herd has grown from approximately 25 million head in 1990 to more than 70 million by 2024, contributing to overgrazing and declining land productivity. Climate change compounds these pressures: Mongolia has warmed by 2.24°C since 1940, while droughts and dzud events have become more frequent and severe, reducing the resilience of rangeland ecosystems and herder communities.

Governance challenges remain significant. Pastureland is state-owned and community-based management arrangements have limited formal recognition, weakening incentives for long-term stewardship and coordinated grazing management. Mining and associated infrastructure can further fragment grazing areas and migration routes, while rural–urban migration is reducing the transmission of pastoral knowledge and weakening traditional management institutions.

Mongolia also faces continued underinvestment in rangeland restoration, monitoring, and sustainable management relative to the scale of degradation and climate risk. Together, these pressures illustrate the need for stronger investment frameworks, knowledge systems, and cooperation mechanisms to support Land Degradation Neutrality objectives.

2. Root causes (structural governance and incentive constraints)

The drivers described above are reinforced by deeper structural constraints that limit sustainable rangeland management.

Weakly integrated governance and tenure systems: In many rangeland contexts, including Mongolia, customary pastoral institutions operate alongside formal governance systems without clear integration. This can weaken incentives for long-term stewardship, coordinated grazing management, and restoration investment.

Misaligned economic incentives: Livestock and land-use systems frequently reward herd expansion and short-term production rather than sustainable land management. Value chains that depend on healthy rangelands are often insufficiently linked to incentives for restoration, resilience and long-term stewardship.

Limited integration of rangelands into planning and investment frameworks: Rangelands remain underrepresented in environmental, climate, biodiversity, and development planning. As a result, institutional responsibilities are fragmented and investment priorities often overlook the economic and environmental value of rangeland ecosystems.

Together, these root causes contribute to persistent underinvestment, fragmented knowledge systems, and limited policy attention for rangelands at both national and global levels.

3. Systemic barriers addressed by the project

These underlying drivers and root causes are reinforced by three systemic barriers that constrain the scaling of effective responses. These are the primary focus of the GEF intervention.

Barrier 1: Structural under-investment and absence of a dedicated rangeland investment architecture

Rangelands receive a disproportionately small share of global climate, biodiversity, and land restoration finance relative to their ecological extent and socioeconomic importance. While comparable ecosystems such as forests benefit from more mature financing mechanisms, rangelands remain less well integrated into mainstream investment systems.

A key constraint is the absence of a sufficiently developed rangeland investment architecture, including an emerging but still incomplete investment taxonomy, limited aggregation of investable pipelines, and a lack of standardised approaches for structuring rangeland-compatible finance. As a result, investors and development finance institutions face challenges related to comparability, risk assessment, and scalability of rangeland investments. Existing land degradation finance mechanisms provide important entry points but are not yet fully tailored to pastoral and extensive grazing systems. The barrier is therefore not primarily capital scarcity, but rather insufficient structuring of enabling conditions for investment mobilisation.

Barrier 2: Fragmented knowledge systems and limited integration of evidence

Despite a growing global evidence base on rangeland ecology, restoration practices, and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) monitoring, knowledge remains fragmented across scientific, policy, and practitioner domains. Scientific research, operational monitoring systems, investment data, and traditional ecological knowledge are not yet systematically integrated into coherent decision-support systems. This limits the usability of evidence for investment planning, policy prioritisation, and adaptive management.

LDN monitoring systems in many dryland countries rely on a combination of national reporting and global datasets, often with limited harmonisation. This can constrain confidence in land condition assessments and reduce their effectiveness in informing investment decisions.

Traditional ecological knowledge systems—particularly those related to mobility, grazing governance, and climate adaptation—remain insufficiently integrated into formal frameworks. In addition, structured South–South exchange on rangeland knowledge remains limited, reducing opportunities for replication and scaling of successful approaches.

• Barrier 3: Limited political visibility and policy coherence for rangelands

Rangelands remain relatively underrepresented in global environmental governance frameworks, despite their scale and importance. They are unevenly reflected in national climate strategies, biodiversity frameworks, and Land Degradation Neutrality target-setting processes. This contributes to fragmented institutional responsibility at national level, where rangelands often fall between agricultural, environmental, and livestock sectors.

Coordination mechanisms for integrated rangeland governance remain limited in many countries, compounded by unclear institutional mandates and the absence of national rangeland strategic frameworks to guide policies; gaps the Coalition of Rangeland States could help to address.

At the global level, recent developments under UNCCD COP16—including Resolution L.15 on Rangelands and Pastoralists and the establishment of the Global Coalition of Rangeland States—represent important advances in political recognition. However, these require further operationalisation through implementation support, investment facilitation, and structured cooperation mechanisms.

The absence of sufficient policy coherence across land, climate, biodiversity, and finance frameworks continues to limit the prioritisation of rangelands within investment and development planning systems.

4. National barriers (based on illustrative examples from Mongolia)

National Barrier 1: Institutional and policy framework gaps

Despite strong political commitment to Land Degradation Neutrality, Mongolia lacks a comprehensive framework for integrated rangeland governance. Community-based institutions such as Pasture User Groups and traditional herding systems play important management roles but have limited formal recognition and support. Coordination across relevant sectors and levels of government remains uneven, while gaps in rangeland monitoring and LDN data continue to constrain evidence-based decision-making and investment planning.

National Barrier 2: Insufficient and poorly structured investment

Investment in rangeland restoration and sustainable management remains well below the scale required to address degradation and climate risks. Public resources are limited, private sector engagement remains nascent and uncoordinated, and mechanisms to attract larger-scale finance for sustainable rangeland management are underdeveloped. As a result, opportunities to align livestock value chains and other economic actors with restoration objectives remain largely unrealised.

National Barrier 3: Limited South–South cooperation and knowledge exchange

Many countries face similar challenges, yet mechanisms for structured exchange of experience, policy approaches, and financing models remain limited. Mongolia, for example, possesses valuable experience in community-based rangeland management, climate resilience, and LDN implementation, but opportunities to share and apply these lessons through international cooperation remain insufficient. COP17 and the emerging Global Coalition of Rangeland States provide an important platform to strengthen such collaboration.

5. Summary of causal logic and project rationale

Taken together, the drivers, root causes, and barriers demonstrate that rangeland degradation is not primarily a result of isolated technical gaps, but of systemic constraints across three interlinked domains:

- ecological and socio-economic pressures on land systems,
- structural governance and incentive misalignments, and
- weak enabling environments for investment, knowledge integration, and cooperation.

These challenges require catalytic interventions that strengthen enabling systems rather than direct site-level interventions alone. The project therefore focuses on improving investment readiness, knowledge integration, and South–South cooperation, while using Mongolia’s COP17 Presidency as a time-bound global platform to strengthen political visibility, institutional cooperation and follow-up through COP18. This approach addresses the structural barriers that currently limit the scale and effectiveness of rangeland restoration and sustainable management efforts.

A.4 The GEF Investment Opportunity: The COP17 Presidency as a Catalytic Lever

Mongolia will assume the UNCCD COP17 Presidency in August 2026 and hold it until COP18 (2028). COP17 in Ulaanbaatar, under the theme “Restoring Land, Restoring Hope,” will convene a Heads of State Summit, high-level ministerial dialogues on finance, water, rangelands and pastoralists, and food systems, as well as mandated events for the Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, Gender, and Youth Caucuses established at COP16. The Presidency coincides with the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP 2026) and key COP16 decisions, including Resolution L.15 and the Global Coalition of Rangeland States, creating a critical window to advance the global rangeland and Land Degradation Neutrality agenda. The GEF investment is designed to help ensure that COP17 delivers outcomes that extend beyond the Presidency period.

The project supports this process across three interlinked functions: strengthening inclusive participation in COP17 preparatory and ministerial processes; supporting the translation of COP outcomes into investment partnerships, knowledge products, and cooperation mechanisms; and ensuring the COP17 Presidency structures have the technical and partnership capacity to sustain the rangeland and LDN agenda throughout the Presidency period. It also builds synergies with global COP17 initiatives and the Riyadh–Ulaanbaatar Action Agenda, ensuring that evidence on rangeland investment, monitoring, governance and inclusive knowledge systems informs decision-making.

The project is structured as a cross-cutting pillar supporting the COP17 Presidency from 2026–2028. It addresses the barriers identified in Section A.3 through four components focused on stakeholder engagement, investment readiness and partnerships, knowledge integration and the Rangeland Flagship Initiative, and the COP17 Presidency Legacy, South–South cooperation and the Coalition of Rangeland States. Together, these strengthen the enabling environment for investment, policy coherence, and international collaboration on sustainable rangeland management and restoration.

Mongolia's Presidency programme is organised around the Steppe Action Agenda, the overarching action framework of the COP17 Presidency. The Steppe Action Agenda brings together the Presidency's priorities and flagship deliverables on rangelands and Land Degradation Neutrality, including the multi-stakeholder Rangelands Flagship Initiative as its investment and knowledge pillar, and the state-led global Coalition of Rangeland States as its intergovernmental cooperation pillar, both of which are launched at COP17. This project is designed as an implementation mechanism for selected elements of the Steppe Action Agenda: supporting the inclusive Presidency processes through which the Agenda is advanced, operationalising the Rangelands Flagship Initiative, and supporting the Coalition of Rangeland States and the continuity of the Agenda through to COP18. Anchoring the project in the Steppe Action Agenda ensures that GEF financing reinforces a Presidency-owned framework rather than a stand-alone set of activities, and provides the institutional route through which project results are sustained beyond the Presidency period

Without GEF support, there is a risk that COP17 and IYRP 2026 outcomes will not be sustained beyond the conference period, with limited follow-up on commitments, reduced South–South exchange, fragmented knowledge systems, and continued underinvestment in rangeland restoration. The COP17 Presidency therefore represents a time-bound opportunity to sustain momentum through COP18 and beyond and strengthen global action on rangelands, which this project is designed to operationalise.

The project builds on the UNCCD COP15 Abidjan Legacy approach, adapting it to support the longer-term translation of COP decisions into investment, knowledge, and cooperation outcomes during Mongolia's COP17 Presidency.

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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

B.1 Project Objective and Theory of Change

The project objective is:

To catalyze durable global action on sustainable rangeland management and Land Degradation Neutrality by generating knowledge, facilitating investment and strengthening South-South cooperation, anchored in Mongolia's UNCCD COP17 Presidency (2026-2028).

The theory of change (Figure 2) rests on interconnected causal pathways, each addressing one of the global barriers identified in Section A.3. The pathways are designed to generate global environmental benefits while using Mongolia's COP17 Presidency as the anchor and catalytic platform. The pathways are aligned with the Steppe Action Agenda, the overarching action framework of the COP17 Presidency, and deliver against its rangeland and Land Degradation Neutrality priorities. The project operates across a two-year Presidency period (2026 to 2028).

Pathway 1: Strengthened COP17 Presidency enables policy and governance outcomes

With GEF catalytic support, the COP17 Presidency is leveraged under Components 1 and 4 as a global convening platform and an inclusive COP17 Presidency process that engages governments, civil society, pastoralist organisations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, youth, women, and the scientific community. This strengthens the legitimacy, ambition, and implementation relevance of UNCCD decisions on rangelands and Land Degradation Neutrality, and supports continuity of engagement through COP18.

The project contributes by enhancing stakeholder participation in COP17 preparatory and ministerial processes, providing evidence-based inputs, and maintaining structured engagement across the Presidency period. This pathway addresses Global Barrier 3 (limited policy visibility and coherence for rangelands) and builds on Mongolia's COP17 Presidency role, COP16 mandates (Resolution L.15), and IYRP 2026 momentum.

This improved political visibility and policy coherence is expected to increase the ambition and uptake of rangeland-related LDN commitments, contributing to more effective policy frameworks that enable reduced land degradation and improved ecosystem stewardship. The project will help position rangelands as a cross-cutting solution area that contributes simultaneously to land degradation neutrality, biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation and mitigation, and drought resilience.

Pathway 2: Investment opportunity development and facilitation enables increased finance for rangeland management

Through Component 2, the project strengthens the enabling conditions for scaling public, private and blended investment in sustainable rangeland management. This contributes to increased finance flows through scoping studies and cost-benefit analyses that identify, and strengthen the investment readiness of, selected rangeland investment opportunities. The pathway is informed by Economics of Rangelands evidence, including evidence on women's roles in value chains, resilience systems and local economies, to strengthen investment rationale, design and investor-facing narratives. Selected opportunities will be aligned with LDN principles, the Rangelands Flagship Initiative Common Results Framework and gender-responsive considerations.

This pathway supports technical assistance partnerships, financing roadmaps, investor dialogue and the structuring of investment concepts by countries and financing partners, addressing Global Barrier 1 (structural underinvestment and absence of a rangeland investment architecture). The core constraint is not overall capital scarcity, but the limited availability of investable, well-structured rangeland financing mechanisms and standardised investment frameworks.

GEF support enables catalytic investment readiness and structuring of credible rangeland investment opportunities. In this way, the project increases the likelihood that public, private and blended finance is

directed toward sustainable land management practices that reduce degradation pressures and support ecosystem restoration. The investments concerned are developed outside the project by countries and financing partners, as part of the finance mobilization strategy of the Rangelands Flagship Initiative.

Pastoralist organisations and Indigenous Pastoralist groups help shape this pathway. They will be engaged through the Rangelands Flagship Initiative consultation structures in the identification and design of investment opportunities, and screening criteria will assess how each opportunity provides for their participation and benefit sharing, applying the Land Degradation Neutrality principles as refined for rangeland restoration under the Initiative.

Pathway 3: Evidence application and South–South cooperation strengthen LDN implementation capacity

Through Components 3 and 4, the project strengthens the generation, application, and exchange of rangeland knowledge by combining scientific and traditional ecological knowledge with RFI-coordinated webinars, knowledge exchange, country case studies, synthesis learning, policy coherence analysis and Coalition-supported learning. The pathway supports structured South–South cooperation among dryland countries by using the Global Coalition of Rangeland States, the IYRP Alliance, and relevant pastoralist, civil society and knowledge networks to sustain learning, policy exchange and follow-up action. The pathway also promotes the inclusion of women pastoralists, Indigenous Peoples, and local knowledge holders in knowledge generation, validation, and exchange processes.

This pathway addresses **Global Barrier 2 (fragmented knowledge systems and weak international coordination)**. It is based on the assumption that locally grounded evidence, peer-to-peer learning and country-led cooperation improve the relevance, uptake, and scalability of sustainable rangeland management practices for LDN implementation.

Strengthened knowledge systems and South–South cooperation are expected to improve the adoption and scaling of effective rangeland management practices, leading to improved vegetation cover, soil health, biodiversity outcomes, and climate resilience in dryland ecosystems.

Convergence

Together, these three pathways create mutually reinforcing enabling conditions that increase the probability of scaled action on sustainable rangeland management. COP17 strengthens political commitment and visibility, investment readiness improves the feasibility and attractiveness of financing sustainable land use, evidence, RFI learning and Coalition cooperation improve the uptake and replication of effective practices. The combined effect is to catalyse improved policy implementation, increased investment in rangeland systems, and wider adoption of sustainable land management practices, thereby contributing to reduced land degradation, improved ecosystem health, biodiversity conservation, and enhanced climate resilience over time.

Three Interconnected Pathways to Impact

Mongolia COP17 Legacy Project

1 Pathway 1

Components 1 & 4

COP17 Presidency strengthens political visibility & governance outcomes

GEF support leverages the COP17 Presidency as a global convening platform engaging governments, civil society, pastoralist organizations, IPLCs, youth, and women. This improves political visibility for rangelands and increases the ambition and uptake of rangeland LDN commitments across UNCCD and related frameworks.

Enables C2, C3 and C4 through political visibility and stakeholder engagement.

Addresses: Global Barrier 3 - Limited political visibility & policy coherence

2 Pathway 2

Component 2

Investment readiness & facilitation enables increased finance for rangelands

GEF support strengthens selected rangeland investment opportunities through evidence, cost-benefit analysis, financing roadmaps, investor engagement and concept development. Opportunities align with LDN principles, the Rangelands Flagship Initiative Common Results Framework and inclusive, gender-responsive benefit sharing.

Applies C3 evidence to strengthen inclusive, finance-ready rangeland opportunities.

Addresses: Global Barrier 1 - Structural underinvestment & absence of investment architecture

3 Pathway 3

Components 3 & 4

Evidence application & South-South cooperation strengthen LDN implementation

The project strengthens generation, application and exchange of rangeland knowledge by linking investment of Rangelands evidence with scientific and traditional knowledge through the Rangeland Flagship Initiative.

Scales and sustains results from C1-C3 through Coalition cooperation.

Addresses: Global Barrier 2 - Fragmented knowledge systems & weak international coordination

OBJECTIVE: To catalyze durable global action on sustainable rangeland management and Land Degradation Neutrality by generating knowledge, facilitating investment and strengthening South-South cooperation, anchored in Mongolia's UNCCD COP17 Presidency (2026-2028).

Convergence: Together, the three pathways create mutually reinforcing enabling conditions - political commitment, investment readiness and knowledge capacity - that catalyze scaled action on sustainable rangeland management globally.

Figure 1. Pathways to Impact

This is based upon a few key assumptions, including that Mongolia's political leadership and institutional capacity are sustained; stakeholder engagement remains inclusive, influential and adequately supported; the investment case for sustainable rangeland management is credible; selected rangeland opportunities can advance toward investment readiness; and partners follow through on policy, technical and financing commitments.

GEF financing provides the catalytic support needed to connect COP17 political processes, investment readiness efforts, evidence generation, and international cooperation into a coherent global programme. Without this support, these activities would likely remain fragmented across institutions, initiatives, and countries, reducing their influence on policy development, investment readiness, knowledge uptake, and implementation of Land Degradation Neutrality commitments. By leveraging Mongolia's COP17 Presidency as a global convening platform, the project creates opportunities for coordination, learning, and follow-up action that would be difficult to achieve through existing programmes alone, thereby strengthening the enabling environment for sustainable rangeland management at national, regional, and global levels.

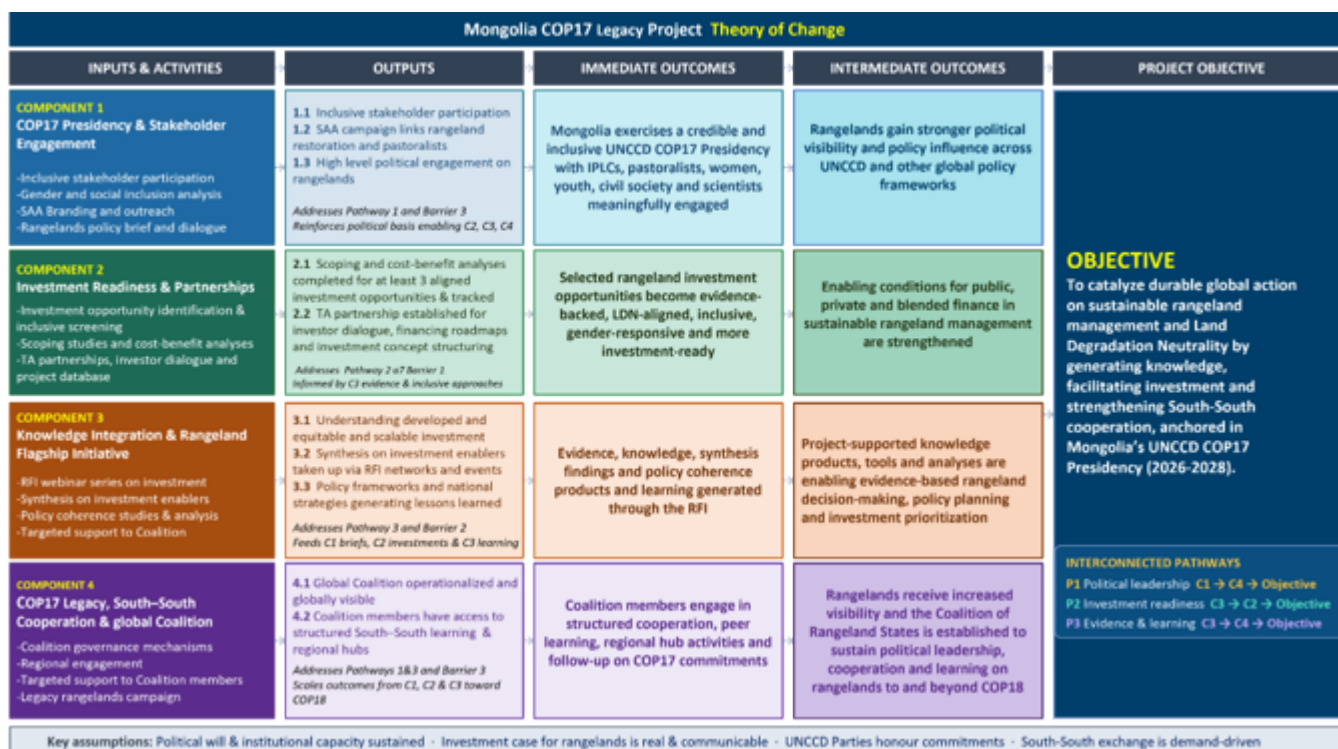


Figure 2. Theory of Change

Within this project framing, stakeholders will have defined roles: government and COP17 Presidency structures will lead coordination; UNCCD GM, IUCN, RFI partners and technical organizations will support evidence, outreach, policy and investment-readiness work; finance and private sector actors will inform investment pathways; and pastoralists, IPLCs, women, youth and civil society will provide local knowledge, validation and accountability, engaging inter alia through the Global Alliance for Rangelands and Pastoralists (GA4RP) and other pastoralist networks under the UNCCD accreditation mechanisms. and pastoralists, IPLCs, women, youth and civil society will provide local knowledge, validation and accountability. The project will build on existing UNCCD, RFI, IYRP, Economics of Rangelands, scientific and traditional knowledge systems. It will generate new evidence and legacy products, strengthen policy coherence across LDN, climate, biodiversity, food systems, drought, land-water and sustainable infrastructure agendas, and build human, institutional and technical capacities through GEF financing and co-finance. Learning will remain demand-driven, and Coalition mechanisms will sustain cooperation and follow-up toward COP18.

B.2 Component Descriptions

Component 1: Mongolia COP17 Presidency and Stakeholder Engagement

Component 1 supports Mongolia in exercising an inclusive, substantive and well-coordinated UNCCD COP17 Presidency. The component covers key Presidency responsibilities including coordination support, stakeholder engagement, observer participation, communication, and outreach, and evidence-based political dialogue on rangelands and LDN.

Output 1.1: Inclusive participation of observer groups including IPLCs, pastoralist organisations, women, youth,

and the scientific community in COP17 and UNCCD policy processes supported. This work stream will ensure inclusive participation in COP17 Presidency activities and UNCCD policy processes during the Mongolian Presidency of the UNCCD. This includes logistical and coordination support for stakeholder engagement side events, high-level segments, and exhibition spaces at COP17, Steppe Action Agenda convenings, and inter-sessional meetings. Particular attention will be given to ensuring meaningful participation from civil society organisations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, women's

cooperatives, youth groups, pastoralist organisations, and the scientific community. Support will include structured engagement, coordination and consultation support, gender and social inclusion analysis, COP engagement facilitation, targeted travel and participation support, and structured dialogues to enable underrepresented groups to contribute to COP17 preparatory processes, sessions and policy discussions. Participation of pastoralist and rangeland constituencies under this output includes the Global Alliance for Rangelands and Pastoralists (GA4RP). As the GA4RP is an alliance without separate legal entity, engagement takes place through the members of its Global Coordinating Group, a body of approximately 40 organisations and institutions, many of which are accredited to and actively involved in the UNCCD process. Under the Rangelands Flagship Initiative and other UNCCD processes, active Global Coordinating Group members will be invited to consultations on future partnership arrangements, together with representatives of the established caucuses for Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, gender and youth. Particular priority will be given to the role of the GA4RP and its members in strengthening the connection between UNCCD policy processes and pastoralist representatives. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities participate through the Caucuses established under decision 5/COP.16 and the Gender Caucus, and accredited civil society organisations through the procedure under decisions 5/COP.9 and 5/COP.10.

Output 1.2: Steppe Action Agenda outreach campaign supported, linking rangeland restoration, pastoralist heritage, and LDN. This output will develop and deliver a Steppe Action Agenda outreach campaign, which will link Mongolia's rangeland restoration narrative, pastoralist cultural heritage, and LDN commitments into a coherent global communication strategy. The campaign will include COP17 branding and messaging aligned with Presidency priorities, multimedia and communication products, and social media outreach. The campaign will make linkages to Silk Road concepts. This campaign will position Mongolia's experience as an inspiration for other dryland countries and help to sustain visibility of rangeland priorities through the Presidency period and toward COP18.

Output 1.3: High-level political engagement on rangelands advanced through the Rangelands Flagship Initiative and COP17 ministerial dialogues and a targeted Presidency policy brief; global policy coherence on rangelands promoted across multilateral frameworks. Output 1.3 will enable high-level political engagement on rangelands at COP17 and inter-sessional meetings, particularly through an evidence-based rangelands policy brief and a stakeholder roundtable on rangeland priorities. This will help to advance global policy coherence on rangelands across multilateral frameworks by improving the visibility and uptake of key rangeland policy recommendations in statements, briefs and follow-up actions. Underrepresented rangeland stakeholders will also be promoted as speakers, discussants, knowledge holders or contributors in ministerial and policy sessions over the project period. This will link directly to the evidence base produced under Component 3. The critical assumption underpinning Component 1 is that a well-resourced, inclusive and evidence-informed COP17 Presidency will generate political commitments, high-level decisions, and institutional momentum that could not be achieved without this level of support. The GEF investment ensures that Mongolia can fulfil its Presidency obligations with the quality and inclusivity that the global UNCCD community expects, and that the Presidency's outcomes are systematically documented and communicated.

Component 2: Investment Readiness and Partnerships

Component 2 addresses the most critical structural gap in global rangeland management: the limited availability of investment-ready, evidence-backed and well-structured rangeland investment opportunities. The component strengthens the enabling conditions for scaling public, private and blended investment in sustainable rangeland management by improving investment opportunity identification, screening, concept refinement, financing roadmaps, technical assistance partnerships, and investor engagement. The component also finances multi-stakeholder convening and engagement under the Steppe Action Agenda, bringing rangeland countries, financing institutions, pastoralist organisations, women's and youth constituencies and private sector actors into structured investment dialogue. These convenings are organised and delivered by the project, with agendas, participants and outputs determined by the investment readiness workplan and reported

against the results framework. Component 2 will apply the Land Degradation Neutrality principles (Orr et al. 2017), as refined for rangeland restoration through a knowledge product developed under the Rangelands Flagship Initiative, in the screening and design of investment opportunities. Pastoralist groups and Indigenous Pastoralist organizations will be engaged through the Rangelands Flagship Initiative consultation structures to shape the identification and design of investments, and screening criteria will assess how each opportunity provides for the participation of, and benefits to, pastoralists, Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Output 2.1: Scoping studies and cost-benefit analyses completed to inform the development of new rangeland restoration investment projects, aligned with the Rangeland Flagship Initiative Common Results Framework and LDN Principles and tracked in a rangeland project database. Output 2.1 will deliver scoping studies and cost-benefit analyses that identify, and strengthen the investment readiness of, at least three selected rangeland investment opportunities in target countries. These opportunities will be strengthened through the application of evidence including, where relevant, evidence on women's roles in rangeland value chains, resilience systems and local economies. The opportunities will be aligned with LDN principles and the Rangelands Flagship Initiative Common Results Framework, while integrating gender-responsive considerations into investment rationale, design and investor-facing narratives. Results will be documented in the project database for use by participating countries and partners. These activities form part of the finance mobilization strategy of the Rangelands Flagship Initiative: the investments concerned will be developed outside this project by countries and financing partners.

Output 2.2: At least 1 technical assistance partnership established (ADB/UNCCD, DRIF,) to convene donor roundtables, develop financing roadmaps, and co-design public-private rangeland investments. This output will operationalise at least one technical assistance partnership to support donor and investor dialogue, financing roadmaps and the structuring of investment pilot concepts in selected countries. Economics of Rangelands evidence will be applied where relevant in selected live or near-live financing and investment structuring processes. The project will also document how economic and gender-responsive evidence influences financing decisions, investor engagement, barriers to uptake and follow-up actions.

Component 3: Knowledge Integration and Rangeland Flagship Initiative

Component 3 provides the knowledge, technical rigour and coordination support for the Rangeland Flagship Initiative to ensure knowledge products feed into investment planning (Component 2) and the Coalition of Rangeland States (Component 4). Component 3 will strengthen visibility, outreach, and knowledge exchange under the initiative to accelerate investment for Land Degradation Neutrality in the world's rangelands. As the Rangelands Flagship Initiative is launched at COP17 under the Steppe Action Agenda, Component 3 also ensures that the knowledge generated is channelled into Presidency priorities and Coalition processes.

Output 3.1: Webinars to develop understanding of equitable and scalable investment in rangeland restoration coordinated through the Rangelands Flagship Initiative partners and champions. Rangeland Flagship Initiative governance and coordination strengthened to advocate for rangeland policy and investment. Output 3.1 will provide the mechanism for sharing information published under Outputs 3.2 and 3.3 together with other relevant evidence and approaches for strengthening rangeland investments (e.g. studies from the Economics of Land Degradation Initiative and STELARR). Output 3.1 will strengthen Rangeland Flagship Initiative governance, stakeholder engagement and coordination through structured convenings and learning exchanges delivered under the Steppe Action Agenda. It will support awareness raising for rangeland investment in line with the LDN Principles and informed by other knowledge products generated under the initiative. It will contribute towards implementing a Common Nature Finance Taxonomy in rangelands. These convenings are organised and delivered by the project, with agendas, participants and outputs determined by the component workplan and reported against the results framework. Webinar design will provide for the participation of pastoralist organisations, Indigenous Peoples and Local

Community representatives and women speakers and discussants, with sex-disaggregated participation tracking through the project MEL system.

Output 3.2: Publication and dissemination of a synthesis study on the enablers of equitable and scalable private investment in rangelands restoration (based on country case studies). Output 3.2 will publish case studies and a synthesis report examining successful investment approaches that have contributed to rangeland restoration and sustainable rangeland management. The report will provide recommendations for private businesses, governments and development partners to scale up blended finance and other innovative investment approaches in rangelands. The synthesis report will respond to recommendations from the ELD initiative “Rangelands Rising” report (to be launched at COP17), including measures to account for pastoral livelihood objectives, women’s knowledge, pastoralist knowledge and local resilience practices. Economic evidence will be applied in national planning, investment prioritisation and policy processes, and its influence on decision-making will be assessed and documented.

Output 3.3: Publication and dissemination of a policy coherence analysis based on country case studies that examine guiding policy frameworks / national strategies. Output 3.3 will examine how national policies and strategies guide sectoral responses and subnational government investments as well as how they influence public, private and blended investment in rangeland restoration and sustainable management. This output will analyse how scientific and economic evidence influences development and implementation of policies to deliver LDN, climate and biodiversity objectives and the institutional and procedural factors that enable or constrain uptake of evidence.

Component 4: COP17 Presidency Legacy, South-South Cooperation and the Coalition of Rangelands States

Component 4 leverages Mongolia's COP17 Presidency and the global momentum around IYRP 2026 to facilitate structured South-South cooperation on LDN and dryland management among countries across Asia, Africa, and Latin America, directly addressing issues of weak international coordination. The Coalition of Rangeland States is the intergovernmental cooperation pillar of the Steppe Action Agenda, and Component 4 supports its operationalisation and its continuity. IUCN's global networks, field presence, and experience in facilitating knowledge exchange across position it to provide technical and coordination support for this component, subject to the final project implementation arrangements. Gender and social inclusion are integrated into each output’s design, ensuring robust participation from women and underrepresented rangeland stakeholders.

Output 4.1: Global Coalition of Rangeland States operationalized through governance arrangements, coordination mechanisms, a common outreach campaign, structured South-South learning and policy dialogue. Output 4.1 will deliver global and regional structured learning , focused on South-South exchange of LDN and restoration approaches across multiple anchor countries, while also amplifying Mongolian Presidency initiatives. Structured learning will be facilitated between Mongolia and partner countries of the global Coalition of Rangeland States, creating peer-to-peer knowledge transfer opportunities that formal technical cooperation channels cannot replicate. This will emphasize stakeholder diversity, ensuring participation of women, youth, and Indigenous Peoples from each region. The structured learning will connect policymakers, pastoralist leaders, and rangeland practitioners between Mongolia and partner countries, addressing, inter alia, rangeland governance reform, community-based management, climate adaptation, and gender-responsive pastoral policies.

Output 4.2: Regional and global cooperation sustained through to COP18; Capacity strengthened for Coalition member countries on rangeland governance and community-based management; Regional hubs and coalition mechanisms established to sustain cooperation, strengthen country capacity, and

channel regional knowledge into global policy processes. Output 4.2 will support regional and global alliance activities through dedicated regional hubs that sustain pastoralist and rangeland advocacy beyond COP17 through COP18 and connect to the agenda of the global Coalition of Rangeland States. Regional hubs will facilitate peer-to-peer learning on LDN target-setting and rangeland governance for Coalition member countries, drawing on Mongolia's experience and linking pastoralist organizations across regions. Regional hub activities will include pastoralist organizations and Indigenous Peoples and Local Community representatives in hub governance and learning design, with targeted support for women pastoralist leaders. Reports and synthesis documents will be produced for integration into the UNCCD Knowledge Hub and global policy processes, ensuring that the South-South learning generated by the project feeds back into the global policy cycle.

Component 3 generates and translates the evidence base that informs investment readiness under Component 2, while Component 4 provides the cooperation mechanisms through which lessons and approaches are exchanged and scaled across countries.

Private Sector Engagement

Yes – There will be private sector engagement in the project, primarily via Component 2 on Investment Readiness and Partnerships and, where relevant, through Component 1 stakeholder engagement in the COP17 processes and Component 3 knowledge-sharing activities.

Private sector engagement under Component 2 contributes to strengthening the enabling environment for responsible, equitable and scalable investment in sustainable rangeland management and restoration. The project will facilitate dialogue, knowledge exchange, and information sharing between public and private stakeholders to improve understanding of investment opportunities, barriers, safeguards, risk-sharing needs, market incentives and enabling conditions for sustainable and nature-positive investment in rangelands.

Private sector as knowledge partners: Private sector actors operating in rangeland-related value chains, including livestock, cashmere, wool, agribusiness, processing and sourcing industries, will contribute practical insights on production systems, supply-chain risks, traceability, herder benefit-sharing, sustainability practices, and investment barriers. This knowledge will inform analytical work and knowledge products developed under Components 2 and 3, helping to improve understanding of opportunities and constraints for sustainable rangeland management and responsible investment.

Private sector as contributors to future financing: The project will engage selected financial institutions, investors, development finance institutions, nature finance actors and private sector stakeholders through targeted consultations and dialogue on opportunities and challenges associated with sustainable rangeland investment. These exchanges will help identify potential pathways for future investment and inform investment readiness efforts, without seeking to mobilise financing directly during the project period.

Cross-cutting approach: Private sector engagement will be undertaken primarily through Component 2 investment readiness activities and, where relevant, through Component 3 knowledge-sharing platforms. All engagement will be consistent with environmental and social safeguards, respect for community and pastoralist rights, gender-responsive benefit-sharing, and sustainable rangeland management objectives.

For more detail, please see Sub-Annex on Private Sector under Annex H.2: Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

Institutional Arrangement and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Please describe the Institutional Arrangements for the execution of this project, including financial management and procurement. If possible, please summarize the flow of funds (diagram), accountabilities for project management and financial reporting (organogram), including audit, and staffing plans. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

B.3 Institutional Arrangements and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives

The project builds on Mongolia's unique position as both a leading rangeland state and President of UNCCD COP17. The Government of Mongolia, through MECC and the COP17 Presidency structures, will lead execution of Components 1 and 4, providing political leadership and convening power for COP17-related activities and follow-up cooperation among rangeland states. IUCN, as Implementing Agency, will provide fiduciary oversight, quality assurance, safeguard compliance, supervision, monitoring and reporting. The UNCCD Global Mechanism will execute Components 2 and 3 and support alignment with relevant UNCCD processes, drawing on its mandates related to investment mobilisation, knowledge management and implementation support. The UNCCD Secretariat will play a key role in facilitating the participation and engagement of policymakers, and other stakeholders to advance dialogue and visibility on priority land degradation and rangeland issues. This structure combines political leadership, technical facilitation, investment enablement and institutional coordination to support coherent project delivery.

Government of Mongolia / MECC: COP17 Presidency Leadership

- Lead executing agency of Components 1 and 4.
- Provide political leadership and convening power for COP17-related processes and spearhead the Steppe Action Agenda.
- Facilitate ministerial engagement and support establishment and follow-up of the Coalition of Rangeland States.

IUCN: Implementing Agency

- Provide fiduciary oversight, quality assurance, safeguards, supervision, monitoring and reporting.

UNCCD Global Mechanism: Institutional Coordination, Investment and Knowledge Support

- Co-execution agency alongside MECC.
- Support alignment with UNCCD processes and coordination with relevant stakeholders.
- Strengthen investment readiness, financing partnerships and knowledge generation for sustainable rangeland management.
- Support participating countries through technical assistance, investment facilitation and dissemination of knowledge products.

UNCCD Secretariat: Provides policy alignment, technical guidance and links to UNCCD processes, Parties and COP follow-up.

Project Governance Structure

The project governance structure (Figure 3) is designed to ensure clear lines of fiduciary accountability, effective coordination across executing and technical partners, and meaningful engagement of the UNCCD COP17 Presidency structures and key partner initiatives throughout implementation. The diagram below illustrates the full governance architecture.

The IUCN Multilateral Finance Unit serves as GEF Agency, bearing full fiduciary responsibility and ensuring compliance with GEF policies, environmental and social safeguards, and financial management standards throughout the project cycle.

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) is the principal governance body for strategic decision-making and oversight. It is chaired by MECC as the COP17 Presidency host, and includes the UNCCD Global Mechanism and relevant partners. IUCN, as GEF Implementing Agency, participates in the PSC as a non-voting member. The IYRP Global Alliance and

other relevant stakeholders will be invited to participate in the Steering Committee as observers. The PSC meets at least twice annually, with additional sessions convened as required by the project calendar and COP17 preparatory milestones.

A Global Project Advisory Panel comprising representatives of UNCCD, participating countries, technical experts and partner organizations will provide strategic guidance and technical advice, support alignment with COP17 priorities, the Coalition of Rangeland States and the Rangelands Flagship Initiative, and help ensure the scientific, policy and operational relevance of project activities and results.

The Project Management Unit is responsible for day-to-day coordination, financial management, reporting, and knowledge management across all four components. MECC/Government of Mongolia serve as the lead executing entity drawing on their direct mandate as COP17 Presidency host.

The project will maintain structured coordination with relevant global and regional initiatives through the PSC and PMU to ensure alignment, avoid duplication, and support complementary delivery across Components 2–4. The COP17 Presidency Office and Mongolia Operational Focal Point provide direct institutional linkages to ensure policy coherence and timely coordination across UNCCD-related processes.

The project will be staffed by a full time Project Manager, a part time Administrative Officer and a part time Project Technical Implementation Expert.

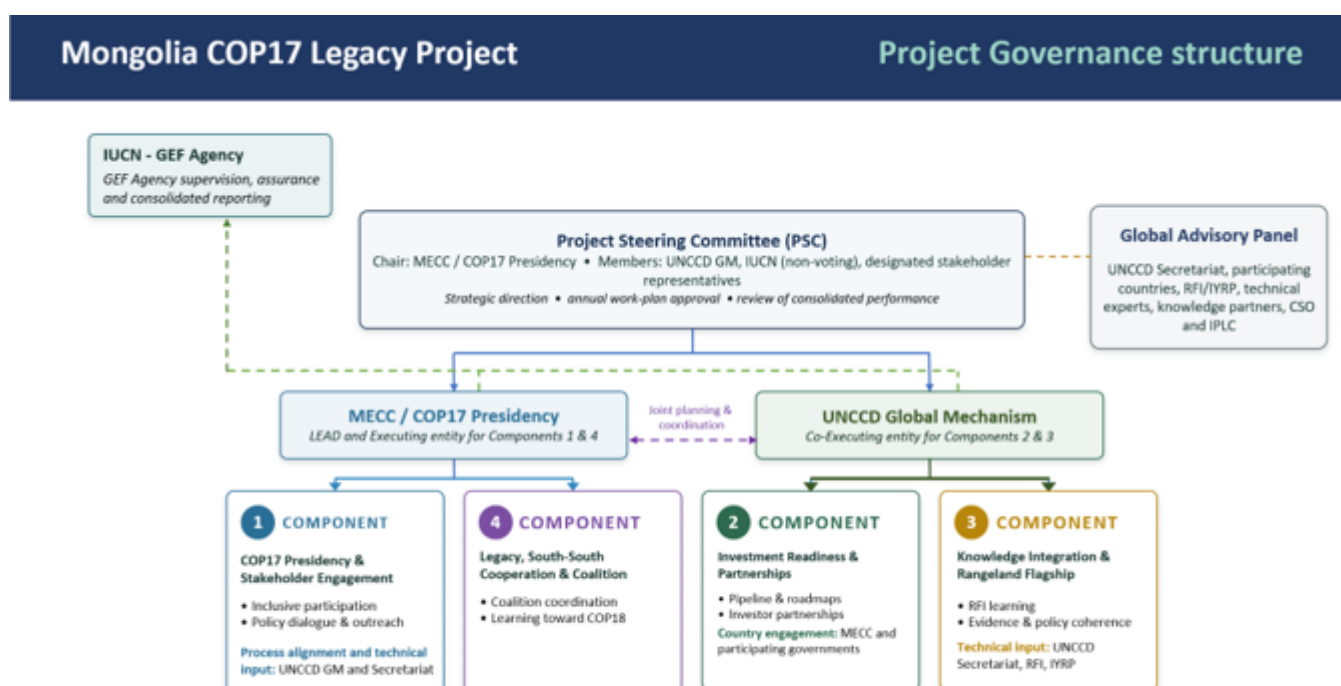


Figure 3. Project Governance Structure

Will the GEF Agency play an execution role on this project?

No

If so, please describe that role here and the justification.

Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

- **Coordination with ongoing initiatives**

The project builds on and complements a substantial portfolio of existing GEF-funded and non-GEF initiatives and projects in Mongolia and globally.

Strategic positioning of the project in the global rangelands architecture: Mongolia's COP17 Presidency, supported by the GEF COP17 Legacy Project, provides the convening platform for global rangeland dialogue across governments, IPLCs, pastoralists, civil society, private sector, and science. The project serves as the implementation mechanism for selected COP17 legacy actions, focusing on stakeholder engagement, investment readiness, knowledge systems, and cooperation.

The COP17 Legacy Project operates within and links to the following complementary platforms:

- Coalition of Rangeland States: Government-led political platform for sustained post-COP17 commitment; project supports early operationalisation.
- Rangelands Flagship Initiative: Multi-stakeholder platform for investment and knowledge exchange; project provides technical and coordination support.
- IYRP 2026 / Global Alliance: Global advocacy and outreach platform; Mongolia's co-chair role provides direct institutional linkage.
- Steppe Action Plan: Emerging framework for post-COP17 cooperation, investment priorities, and policy alignment.

The project is also in alignment with a number of existing projects:

- UNDP/GEF Western Mongolia MSP (GEF ID 5700, GEF-6): Established land degradation mitigation and mining sector engagement; the project builds on these governance lessons for rangeland policy development.
- UNCCD COP15 Abidjan Legacy Project (GEF ID 11012, IFAD, GEF-7): Direct precedent; informs design of knowledge systems, investment tools, and communities of practice.
- GEF-7 SFM Drylands Impact Program and FAO/WWF Eastern Steppe Project (GEF ID 10249): The COP17 Legacy Project aligns monitoring and knowledge outputs with the Impact Program architecture to ensure coherence and avoid duplication.
- IUCN/WWF IKI Grasslands Project: Supports grassland restoration in Latin America and provides a Regional Knowledge Platform for South–South exchange (2024–2028; EUR 664,622).
- STELARR (GEF ID 10816): Develops private sector investment pathways for rangeland restoration, including livestock value chains; the project leverages its investment cases and data systems for Components 2 and 4.

- Strengthening Civil Society Role in LDN (GEF ID 10993): Enhances CSO engagement in UNCCD and LDN processes; directly supports Components 1 and 4 through established networks and platforms.
- ARID: Promotes drought-resilient nature-based solutions and inclusive governance in dryland countries; informs Component 4 through South–South learning on resilience approaches.
- STREAM+ project, funded by the EU and BMZ and implemented by GIZ, FAO and MECC: The project provides relevant national experience on ecosystem management, sustainable agriculture and land management in Mongolia, and will be considered for alignment with national rangeland governance, restoration and investment-readiness work.

Experience from the UNDP/GEF Western Mongolia MSP (GEF ID 5700) demonstrates that effective rangeland and land degradation outcomes require early integration of land use considerations into broader economic sectors, including mining, and strong attention to governance arrangements that enable cross-sector coordination. The UNCCD COP15 Abidjan Legacy Project (GEF ID 11012) provides a direct operational precedent for COP-linked legacy initiatives, highlighting the importance of structured knowledge systems, investment facilitation tools, and sustained communities of practice to ensure continuity beyond individual COP cycles.

The GEF-7 SFM Drylands Impact Program (GEF ID 10249) underscores the value of aligning national monitoring and knowledge systems with global program architectures to strengthen coherence, reduce duplication, and enable scalable reporting across dryland landscapes. Complementing this, the IUCN/WWF IKI Grasslands Project demonstrates the effectiveness of regional South–South knowledge platforms in accelerating the exchange of restoration practices and policy innovation across countries and regions.

Emerging lessons from the STELARR project (GEF ID 10816) highlight the importance of developing credible investment cases and data systems to enable private sector engagement in rangeland restoration, particularly through sustainable livestock value chains. The Strengthening Civil Society Role in LDN project (GEF ID 10993) further emphasizes that structured and sustained engagement of civil society actors enhances accountability, outreach, and uptake of Land Degradation Neutrality approaches at multiple governance levels.

The ARID initiative reinforces the importance of integrating drought resilience and nature-based solutions into dryland governance frameworks, while the STREAM+ project (GIZ/FAO/MECC) provides relevant national experience in Mongolia on ecosystem management and sustainable land use, underscoring the need to align new interventions with existing national programs to ensure coherence and avoid fragmentation.

Collectively, these experiences demonstrate that achieving impact in rangeland and dryland systems depends on integrated governance across sectors, coherent knowledge and monitoring systems, credible investment pathways, and sustained South–South cooperation embedded within existing national and global platforms.

Core Indicators

Indicate expected results in each relevant indicator using methodologies indicated in the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework Guidelines. There is no need to complete this table for climate adaptation projects financed solely through LDCF and SCCF.

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	2,500	2,500		
Female		2,500		
Male	2,500	2,500		
Male		2,500		
Total	2,500	10,000	0	0

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

Note: No additional Core Indicators beyond CI-11 are targeted. The project works primarily at the policy, investment, and knowledge management level rather than through on-the-ground physical interventions. Core Indicators 3 and 4 (land under restoration and under improved practices) are not applicable given the project's enabling environment focus.

Representatives of IPLCs; and pastoralist, women and youth-led organizations will have greater capacity to participate in project activities, including COP17, coalitions, platforms, development of outreach and policy products and south-south learning.

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Low	Drought, dzud events, and other climate-related shocks may affect participation in some activities. However, the project is primarily policy-, knowledge-, and coordination-focused and can adapt timing and delivery modalities as required.
Environmental and Social	Low	The project does not finance physical infrastructure or large-scale field interventions. Risks relate primarily to ensuring inclusive participation of IPLCs, pastoralists, women, youth, and other stakeholders. Mitigation measures include implementation of IUCN ESMS requirements, stakeholder engagement procedures, gender-responsive approaches, and FPIC principles where relevant.
Political and Governance	Moderate	Geopolitical instability, regional conflicts, changing diplomatic priorities, government responses to health-related outbreaks or government transitions

		may affect participation in international cooperation processes and policy dialogues. Risks are mitigated through strong Government of Mongolia ownership, diversified institutional engagement, adaptive delivery modalities, and a focus on outputs that can be delivered independently of specific political events or convenings.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	The project involves coordination among multiple institutions and international initiatives, as described in the project document. Risks related to coordination and alignment will be mitigated through clearly defined roles and responsibilities, formal governance arrangements, joint work planning, and regular coordination mechanisms.
Technological	Low	The project relies on established communication, knowledge-sharing, and information management systems. No significant technological risks are anticipated.
Financial and Business Model	Low	Global economic uncertainty, changing donor priorities, and the exploratory nature of rangeland investment scoping and readiness work may affect future investment mobilisation. The project mitigates this risk by focusing on investment readiness tools, technical frameworks, and financing guidance, technical assistance partnerships, and financing roadmaps rather than depending on specific investment commitments within the project period.
EXECUTION		
Capacity	Low	he Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Mongolia, IUCN, and the UNCCD Global Mechanism have substantial experience in international cooperation, policy engagement, knowledge management, and GEF implementation. Project management and coordination arrangements will support effective delivery.
Fiduciary	Low	IUCN, as GEF Agency, will apply established financial management, procurement, reporting, and oversight systems consistent with GEF requirements.
Stakeholder	Low	Strong stakeholder interest exists in Mongolia's COP17 Presidency, sustainable rangeland management, and the development of the Coalition of Rangeland States. The project includes dedicated support for participation by IPLCs, pastoralists, women, youth, and civil society, together with flexible engagement modalities that reduce barriers to participation.
Other	Moderate	Co-financing commitments will be confirmed prior to project approval. Risks will be mitigated through alignment with existing partner programmes, early engagement with contributors, and diversification of co-financing sources.
Overall Risk Rating	Low	The project operates in a complex international environment that may affect participation in global policy processes, international cooperation, and future

		investment mobilisation. However, risks are considered manageable due to strong institutional partnerships, broad stakeholder support, diversified implementation platforms, and an adaptive delivery approach that enables activities to continue through multiple modalities and channels. The project's emphasis on knowledge products, technical tools, policy support, and cooperation mechanisms further reduces dependency on external conditions and supports achievement of intended outcomes. Adaptive Delivery Approach (Risk Mitigation Measure): The project applies an adaptive delivery model to ensure continuity under changing operational conditions and external constraints. This includes: Flexible delivery modalities: All key activities (consultations, technical exchanges, policy dialogues, training sessions, and Coalition meetings) can be delivered in-person, hybrid, or virtual formats to maintain implementation continuity where travel or participation is constrained. Modular output design: Core outputs are designed as stand-alone products, including policy briefs, investment readiness tools, financing and monitoring guidance, and Coalition knowledge resources. These can be produced, validated, and disseminated independently of specific events or convenings, reducing dependency on any single international process. Flexible sequencing and delivery platforms: Activities may be re-phased or implemented through alternative platforms, including COP17 Presidency processes, the Coalition of Rangeland States, the Rangelands Flagship Initiative, and regional hubs and partner networks. This ensures continuity across shifting global and regional contexts.
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C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES

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

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

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

C.1 Alignment with GEF-8 Land Degradation Strategy

The project is aligned with the GEF-8 Land Degradation focal area, primarily contributing to LD Objective 4 on strengthening the enabling environment for Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN). The project focuses on policy support, knowledge generation, investment facilitation, and South–South cooperation to enable scaled implementation of rangeland restoration and sustainable management.

Consistent with LD Objective 4, the project supports:

- strengthened institutional and policy frameworks for LDN implementation;
- improved generation, synthesis, and dissemination of rangeland knowledge; and
- enhanced investment readiness and mobilisation for sustainable land management.

The project also contributes to the GEF-8 emphasis on dryland ecosystems by supporting rangelands as globally significant production landscapes that underpin climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, and rural livelihoods.

C.2 Alignment with UNCCD Strategic Framework 2018–2030

- The project directly supports implementation of the UNCCD Strategic Framework 2018–2030, particularly:
 - **SO1** (improving ecosystem condition),
 - **SO2** (improving livelihoods and resilience of affected populations),
 - **SO4** (mobilising financial and non-financial resources), and
 - **SO5** (strengthening governance and enabling environments).

Given Mongolia's role as incoming COP17 Presidency, alignment with UNCCD processes is structural, with the project designed to support implementation of agreed COP outcomes and related global initiatives on rangelands and LDN.

• C.3 Alignment with CBD Global Biodiversity Framework and related global processes

The project contributes to relevant targets of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), particularly:

- **Target 10** (sustainable management of agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry systems),
- **Target 14** (mainstreaming biodiversity into decision-making and planning), and
- **Target 19** (mobilisation of financial resources for biodiversity).

By strengthening sustainable management of rangelands—high-biodiversity production landscapes—the project supports integrated land-based outcomes across biodiversity, land degradation, and climate agendas.

C.4 Policy coherence and international process alignment

The project is designed as a catalytic enabling intervention that strengthens coherence across global policy processes relevant to sustainable rangeland management, including the UNCCD, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). While rangelands are central to achieving global objectives on land degradation, biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, carbon sequestration, food security, and drought resilience, they often remain fragmented across policy frameworks, planning instruments, financing streams, and institutional mandates.

The project leverages Mongolia's UNCCD COP17 Presidency and the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP 2026) as unique opportunities to elevate the visibility of rangelands within international environmental policy discussions and strengthen connections between related global agendas. Through policy dialogue, evidence generation, knowledge exchange, and stakeholder engagement, the project will support greater recognition of the contribution of sustainable rangeland

management to Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN), implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, climate adaptation and mitigation objectives, drought resilience, food systems, sustainable livestock systems, and broader sustainable development goals.

The project will promote the use of common evidence, shared narratives, and coordinated learning across conventions and initiatives. Economics of Rangelands evidence, scientific knowledge, and traditional ecological knowledge will be applied where relevant to demonstrate the multiple environmental, social, and economic benefits of healthy rangeland ecosystems. This will help strengthen policy coherence across LDN, biodiversity, climate, food systems, drought resilience, and sustainable livestock agendas.

By supporting the Rangelands Flagship Initiative, the Coalition of Rangeland States, and South–South cooperation mechanisms, the project will provide platforms for sustained engagement beyond COP17, helping to position rangelands more prominently within future UNCCD, CBD, UNFCCC, and related international processes through COP18 and beyond.

C.5 National policy alignment (Mongolia – enabling consistency)

The project is consistent with Mongolia’s national priorities on sustainable development, land degradation neutrality, and climate resilience, including the Green Development Policy and the National Action Programme on Combating Desertification. Rather than implementing national sector reforms, the project supports Mongolia’s existing policy direction by strengthening enabling systems, particularly knowledge, investment readiness, and international cooperation to improve implementation of national LDN-related commitments, and will similarly support other members of the Coalition of Rangeland States.

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment

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

Yes

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

Yes

If the project expects to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment, please indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality:

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

Improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or

Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women.

Yes

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

Select what role civil society will play in the Project

Consulted only; Yes

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain) No

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguards

We confirm that we have provided information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program, including risk screenings/ assessments and, if applicable, management plans or other measures to address identified risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex E).

Yes

Please provide overall Project/Program Risk Classification

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Low	Low		

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described during Project Preparation in the Project Description and that these activities have been budgeted and an anticipated timeline for delivery of relevant outputs has been provided.

Yes

Socio-economic Benefits

We confirm that the project design has considered socio-economic benefits to be delivered by the project and these have been clearly described in the Project Description and will be monitored and reported on during project implementation (at MTR and TER).

Socio-economic Benefits

YES – We confirm that the project design has considered socio-economic benefits

The project will generate socio-economic benefits by strengthening the policy, investment, knowledge, and cooperation foundations needed for sustainable rangeland management across dryland and rangeland countries. As an enabling initiative, it does not directly finance restoration or livelihood activities, but improves the conditions for future public, private, and blended investment in rangeland restoration, sustainable livestock systems, resilient value chains and ecosystem-based rural development.

Equity and stakeholder engagement are central to these benefits. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), pastoralist organisations, women, youth, civil society, and knowledge holders will participate in COP17 processes, investment discussions, evidence generation, knowledge validation, learning exchanges, and Coalition activities, which will help ensure that outputs reflect local priorities, traditional knowledge, gender-responsive considerations, and livelihood realities. Women pastoralists and women-led organisations will be specifically supported, recognising their important roles as producers, value-chain actors, knowledge holders, resilience builders and community leaders. Gender-responsive investment screening will identify how selected investment opportunities and financing products may strengthen women's access to economic opportunities, value chains, business and finance networks, livelihood resilience and equitable benefit-sharing. These potential benefits will be tracked through the project Results Framework and Gender Action Plan.

The project will strengthen investment readiness through investment opportunity screening, financing roadmaps, Economics of Rangelands evidence where relevant, and technical assistance partnerships and pilot investment concepts. It will improve the capacity of governments, development partners, and financial institutions and private sector actors to identify and advance sustainable rangeland investment opportunities, supporting future financing for restoration, sustainable livestock production, value-chain resilience, and

ecosystem-based enterprises. Over time, this may contribute to rural economic diversification, improved market access, and enhanced livelihood resilience.

The project will also strengthen institutional capacity and international cooperation through RFI, technical and South–South learning, regional knowledge exchange, and the Global Coalition of Rangeland States. These mechanisms will support peer learning, knowledge sharing, and the uptake of effective approaches to sustainable rangeland management and LDN.

By strengthening the evidence base on the economic, social, and environmental value of rangelands, the project will support better-informed planning, budgeting, and investment decisions. Over time, these enabling conditions are expected to contribute to improved ecosystem health, climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, reduced land degradation, and sustained ecosystem services that underpin rural livelihoods and national economies.

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
IUCN	GET	Mongolia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-4	Grant	94,999.00	8,549.00	103,548.00
IUCN	GET	Mongolia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-3	Grant	214,663.00	19,319.00	233,982.00
IUCN	GET	Global	Land Degradation	LD Global/Regional Set-Aside	Grant	2,662,713.00	239,643.00	2,902,356.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)						2,972,375.00	267,511.00	3,239,886.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Was a Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

100000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

9000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
IUCN	GET	Global	Land Degradation	LD Global/Regional Set-Aside	89,582.00	8,062.00	97,644.00
IUCN	GET	Mongolia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-4	3,196.00	288.00	3,484.00
IUCN	GET	Mongolia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-3	7,222.00	650.00	7,872.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)					100,000.00	9,000.00	109,000.00

Please provide Justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
IUCN	GET	Mongolia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	241,854.00
IUCN	GET	Mongolia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	107,032.00
Total GEF Resources					348,886.00

Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
LD-4	GET	94,999.00	1000000
BD-3-1	GET	214,663.00	5000000
LD-4	GET	2,662,713.00	3681000
Total Project Cost		2,972,375.00	9,681,000.00

Confirmed Co-financing for the project, by name and type

Please include evidence for each co-financing source for this project in the tab of the portal

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	IUCN	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	1000000
Others	UNCCD	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	2931000
Recipient Country Government	Government of Mongolia (MECC)	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	5000000
Others	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	750000
Total Co-financing				9,681,000.00

Please describe the investment mobilized portion of the co-financing

Not applicable

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	6/26/2026	Janie Rioux	393519509554	janie.rioux@iucn.org
Project Coordinator	6/26/2026	Pragyan Raj Pokhrel	12025312192	pragyan.pokhrel@iucn.org

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

Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template.

Name of GEF OFP	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Ariuntuya Dorjsuren	General Director, International Cooperation Division	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	6/25/2026

ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Please indicate the page number in the Project Document where the project results and M&E frameworks can be found. Please also paste below the Project Results Framework from the Agency document.

ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK can be found on Pages 29-35 of the Agency Project Document

ANNEX C: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

PROJECT OBJECTIVE: To catalyze durable global action on sustainable rangeland management and Land Degradation Neutrality by generating knowledge, facilitating investment and strengthening South-South cooperation, anchored in Mongolia's UNCCD COP17 Presidency (2026-2028)

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of countries participating in, and policy outcomes, initiatives or follow-up processes emerging from, project-supported rangeland cooperation mechanisms beyond COP17.	1 (Decision 29/COP.16)	25	End of project	Coalition membership/ LOIs, attendance records, participation lists, governance documents	MECC
Number of rangeland investment opportunities meeting agreed investment readiness criteria and advanced through project-supported processes.	0	6-10	End of project	Pipeline data, readiness assessments, concept notes, financing records	UNCCD GM
Number of countries and institutions demonstrating strengthened use of evidence in rangeland policy, planning, monitoring or investment decision-making.	0	10-15	End of project	Policy docs, LDN strategies, PRAIS refs, citations, endorsements, analytics	MECC, UNCCD GM,

COMPONENT 1: Mongolia COP17 Presidency and Stakeholder Engagement

Outcome: Inclusive and substantive COP17 Presidency programme supported with meaningful participation from policy-makers, civil society, including IPLCs, women, youth, pastoralists, and scientists

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Percentage of supported stakeholder groups reporting meaningful opportunities to contribute to Steppe Action Agenda processes and dialogue and follow up actions.	Not available	40%	Month 3 to 20	Stakeholder satisfaction survey	MECC
Number of Steppe Action Agenda and COP17 Presidency-supported policy processes, dialogues, declarations or outputs reflecting inputs from civil society, IPLCs, pastoralists, women, youth or scientific stakeholders.	0	At least 5	End of project	Event reports; declarations or other similar sources	MECC

Output 1.1: Inclusive participation of observer groups in COP17 and UNCCD policy processes supported

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of representatives supported to contribute to development and implementation of the Steppe Action Agenda	0	25	Month 6 to 20	Event records; UNCCD GM reports	MECC
Percentage of supported groups with women in leadership or representative roles	0	50%	Month 6 to 20	UNCCD GM reports; Participant registers	MECC

Number of policy submissions from observer group	0	4-6	Month 2 to 20	Records from facilitation sessions; online postings; session reports	MECC
Percentage of project-supported observer group policy submissions, policy brief inputs or dialogue recommendations that include gender-responsive recommendations	0	At least 50%		Policy submissions, policy briefs, consultation and content review records	MECC

Output 1.2: Steppe Action Agenda outreach campaign supported, linking rangeland restoration, pastoralist heritage and LDN

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of campaign products produced	0	6	Month 1 to 20	Campaign documentation	MECC
Number of people reached through campaign products	0	5,000	Month 1 to 25	Media monitoring report; social media analytics	MECC
Number of media mentions referencing COP17 Presidency rangelands messaging	Not available	50	Month 2 to 25	Media monitoring report; social media analytics	MECC

Output 1.3: High-level political engagement on rangelands advanced through the Rangelands Flagship Initiative and COP17 ministerial dialogues and a targeted Presidency policy brief; global policy coherence on rangelands promoted across multilateral frameworks.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of engagement supported and/or advanced	0	2	Month 1 to 20	Monitoring report; PIR, event report	MECC
Number of policy briefs and dialogues outcomes	0	2	Month 1 to 20	Outcome document, policy briefs	MECC

COMPONENT 2: Investment Readiness and Partnerships

Outcome: Foundations laid and tools developed for increased investment readiness and partnerships, financing pathways for sustainable rangeland management

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of rangeland investment opportunities meeting agreed investment readiness criteria	0	6 - 10	End of project	RFI project investment database records; project concept notes	UNCCD GM
Number of financing institutions, development partners, investors or private sector actors actively engaged in project-supported investment opportunities	0	10 to 15	End of project	Meeting minutes; attendance lists; written letters of interest; stakeholder engagement tracker	UNCCD GM
Number of investment readiness, partnership, or financing tools developed and used in the preparation of financing proposals or investment concepts	0	3	End of project	Published and validated tools, with dissemination records; workshop/pilot reports and stakeholder feedback confirming tool development and testing	UNCCD GM

Output 2.1: Scoping studies and cost-benefit analyses completed to inform the development of new rangeland restoration investment projects, aligned with the Rangeland Flagship Initiative Common Results Framework and LDN Principles and tracked in a rangeland project database.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of scoping studies and cost-benefit analyses completed to inform investment development	0	3 to 6	Month 10	Concept notes, pipeline database, review/endorsement records	UNCCD GM

Number of investment opportunities applying Economics of Rangelands evidence, LDN principles, Rangeland Flagship Initiative Common Results Framework criteria and gender-responsive considerations	0	3-6	Month 16	Screening tools, revised concepts, validation records	UNCCD GM
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Output 2.2: At least 1 TA partnership established to convene donor roundtables, develop financing roadmaps, and co-design public-private rangeland investment

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of financing dialogues or donor roundtables convened through TA partnerships	0	3	Month 12	Meeting records, attendance lists, partnership reports	UNCCD GM
Number of financing roadmaps developed	0	3 to 6	Month 18	Financing roadmaps, TA partnership deliverables, workshop outputs	UNCCD GM
Number of multi-stakeholder convenings, donor roundtables and financing dialogues delivered under the Steppe Action Agenda and the Rangeland Flagship Initiative	0	4	Month 1 to 24	Event agendas, participant lists, convening reports	UNCCD GM

COMPONENT 3: Knowledge Integration and Rangeland Flagship Initiative

Outcome: Global knowledge base on rangeland restoration, monitoring and sustainable management strengthened through integration of scientific and traditional knowledge, yielding

consistent LDN tracking across UNCCD Parties and contributing to the Rangelands Flagship Initiative

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of countries, institutions or Rangelands Flagship Initiative partners applying project-supported knowledge products, analyses or tools in policy, planning, monitoring or investment processes	0	10 -15	Month 10 to 25	Policy/planning docs, validation notes, tool uptake evidence	UNCCD GM
Number of studies and other knowledge products, and learning exchange events (e.g. webinars, dissemination events) that integrate traditional and indigenous knowledge	0	10-12	Months 10 to 25	Published knowledge products; event reports and recordings; endorsements from Indigenous knowledge holders and organizations	UNCCD GM
Number of Rangeland Flagship Initiative governance and coordination meetings and learning exchanges convened under the Steppe Action Agenda	0	4	Month 4 to 24	Meeting records and outcome notes	UNCCD GM

Output 3.1: Webinars to develop understanding of equitable and scalable investment in rangeland restoration coordinated through the Rangeland Flagship initiative partners and champions

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of webinars delivered and number of participants	0	4	To end of project	Webinar records (agendas, attendance lists, participant analytics)	UNCCD GM
Number of participating countries and	0	50	Month 18	Participation disaggregated by	UNCCD GM

stakeholder groups representing diverse stakeholder groups (e.g. IPLCs, women's organizations), sub-national or national governments, regions		Stakeholder group - TBC (At least 40% women)		country and stakeholder group	
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Output 3.2: Publication and dissemination of a synthesis study on the enablers of equitable private investment in rangelands restoration based on country case studies

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of countries represented in the evidence base	0	12	Month 12	Country coverage in case studies/data sources; project documentation	UNCCD GM
Number of downloads, citations, presentations, or dissemination events	0	100	Month 20	Download analytics, citation tracking, and dissemination/event records	UNCCD GM
Number of major project knowledge products incorporating validated women's traditional ecological knowledge, community resilience practices and roles as knowledge brokers	0	At least 2 major knowledge products	Month 20	Published knowledge products, case studies, validation records, consent and attribution documentation	UNCCD GM

Output 3.3: Publication and dissemination of a policy coherence analysis based on country case studies that examine guiding policy frameworks / national strategies

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of countries contributing content to the case studies	0	15	Month 22	Case study records, country inputs/validation notes, contributor documentation	UNCCD GM
Number of institutions using findings	0	10	End of project	Reports, Knowledge Hub uploads, dissemination	UNCCD GM

materials, uptake
evidence

COMPONENT 4: COP17 Presidency Legacy, South-South Cooperation and the Coalition of Rangeland States

Outcome: Mongolia's Presidency leadership sustained beyond COP17; political cooperation, structured South-South learning on rangeland management and LDN strengthened among dryland countries, anchored by country engagement contributing to the Global Coalition of Rangeland States and integrating pastoralist and locally-led practices into global policy processes

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of countries actively participating in the global Coalition of Rangeland States through governance mechanisms, working groups, exchanges or joint initiatives.	0	12	End of project	Coalition membership, attendance lists, meeting records	MECC
Number of coalition governance and coordination mechanisms operational through COP18, evidenced by documentation and scale of country participation	0	4	End of project	Coalition membership, attendance lists, meeting records, number of documented workplans	MECC
Number of participating countries or institutions that have initiated or committed to application, adaptation, or testing of practices promoted through South-South learning on rangeland management	0	8	End of project	Country and institutional reports, pilot or demonstration activity records, follow-up action plans, and participant surveys	MECC

Output 4.1: Global Coalition of Rangeland States operationalized through governance arrangements, coordination mechanisms, a common outreach campaign, structured South-South learning and policy dialogue

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Anchor Country Mechanism operationalised with TORs/workplans	0	1	Month 12 and 22	TORs/workplans, governance documents, meeting records	MECC
Outreach campaign delivered, integrating pastoralist and locally-led practices	0	1	Month 16	Campaign materials, analytics, dissemination records	MECC
Number of structured learning opportunities with gender-disaggregated participation data	0	6 At least 40% women	Month 10 to 22	Event reports, Sex-disaggregated attendance lists, disaggregated participation data	MECC
Number of women-led rangeland management, resilience or value-chain practices documented and shared through Coalition exchanges, outreach products, learning materials or COP17 legacy products	0	At least 3–5 documented practices	Months 10–22	Coalition outreach materials, case studies, exchange reports, campaign products and dissemination records	MECC

Output 4.2: Regional and global cooperation sustained through to COP18; Capacity strengthened for Coalition member countries on rangeland governance and community-based management; Regional hubs and coalition mechanisms established to sustain cooperation, strengthen country capacity, and channel regional knowledge into global policy processes.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Timeline	Means of Verification	Responsible
Number of operational regional hubs of the Global Coalition of Rangeland States with	0	3	Month 24	Hub TORs, host agreements, governance documents	MECC

endorsed TORs and host institutions.					
COP17 Presidency coordination framework operational through COP18 (meetings and decisions documented)	No	Yes	Confirmed at terminal evaluation	Meeting minutes, decisions, coordination documents	MECC
Number of Coalition member states applying knowledge or tools generated through Coalition-supported exchanges	0	8		Member state reports, policy documents, tool uptake evidence	MECC

CORE INDICATOR 11: People benefiting from GEF-financed investments, disaggregated by sex

Source	Indicative Contribution	Women (50%)	Timeline	Means of Verification	Notes
Component 1 (Output 1.1 - 1.3: COP17 events and stakeholder engagement)	~1,000	~500	Month 6 to 20	COP17 records, attendance lists, engagement reports, outputs	CSOs, IPLCs, youth, pastoralists, ministers
Component 4 (Outputs 4.1 and 4.2: dialogues, learning visits, operation of the Coalitions)	~1,500	~750	Through-out	Coalition documents, meeting records, exchanges, communiqués	Dryland country participants
Component 2 (Output 2.1-2.2: preparation of case studies, project concepts, donor roundtables, etc.)	~1500	~750	Month 12 and 24	Pipeline documents, finance/readiness records, roundtables, case studies	Country contributors and private sector and institutional participants
Component 3 (Output 3.1-3.3.: webinars, country case studies)	~1000	~500	Through-out	Platform records, webinars, case studies, uptake evidence	Country contributors, policy makers, researchers, practitioners

TOTAL	5,000	2,500 (50%)	End of project	Aggregated project MIS	Final disaggregated targets confirmed at CEO Approval
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The PMU will establish and maintain a participatory MEL system (Annex H.2.bis.a) and indicator crosswalk (Annex H.2.bis.b) to ensure that project indicators, activity-level indicators, gender and inclusion indicators, stakeholder engagement indicators, knowledge-management indicators, governance arrangements and reporting processes remain aligned throughout implementation. The system will track not only delivery of outputs, but also stakeholder participation, the influence of stakeholder inputs on project decisions and products, gender and inclusion results, knowledge uptake, investment-readiness progress and COP17-to-COP18 follow-up as part of an integrated and comprehensive MEL approach. Findings will be reviewed through regular progress reporting, annual work planning and adaptive management processes to adjust implementation where needed.

Gender-related results and implementation of the Gender Action Plan will be monitored annually through the project participatory MEL system. All relevant people- and participation-related indicators will be disaggregated by sex and, where feasible, by stakeholder group. Monitoring will assess both women's participation and evidence of how women's inputs, knowledge and priorities influence policy outputs, investment products, knowledge products, learning exchanges, Coalition materials and implementation decisions. Progress, implementation gaps and adaptive management actions will be reported through annual project reviews, PIRs, the Mid-Term Review and the Terminal Evaluation.

Please also refer to Annex H.5: Results Management Framework Worksheet

ANNEX D: STATUS OF UTILIZATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)		
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent To date	Amount Committed
International Consultant - CER and ProDoc development	31,000.00	21,000.00	10,000.00
National Consultant - National stakeholder engagement, consultation, and validation	10,000.00	8,500.00	1,500.00
Travel - International/National Consultants travel for National stakeholder engagement, consultation, and validation	10,000.00	9,000.00	1,000.00
Travel - Mongolia stakeholder engagement (Domestic travel and associated participation costs for sub-national consultation meetings held to gather local knowledge and priorities for rangeland action and to align provincial priorities with COP17 follow-up - Participants included: Herders, Pasture User Groups,	9,000.00	7,500.00	1,500.00

community based natural resource management groups and local knowledge holders; aimag and soum government representatives; land and agriculture officers)			
Travel consultants - international stakeholder engagement (Domestic and international travel of consultants to attend and facilitate national, provincial and soum level consultation and validation meetings, and to conduct partner interviews for the project design)	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00
Workshops - Stakeholder engagement, National consultation and validation workshops (Venue, materials, catering and local participation costs for national consultation and validation workshops convened to inform and validate the project design, including the CSO consultation, youth consultation, private sector and international NGO engagement meetings, and the international policy dialogue on rangeland governance - Participants included: Civil society organisations and environmental NGOs; youth organisations; pastoralist organisations and herder representatives; scientific and academic institutions; private sector and finance actors; government agencies from 13 countries at the international policy dialogue)	25,000.00	23,000.00	2,000.00
Total	100,000.00	84,000.00	16,000.00

ANNEX E: PROJECT MAP AND COORDINATES

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

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where project interventions are taking place as appropriate.

Not applicable

The project operates at the global level, while being grounded by the experience in Mongolia. At the global level, the project covers knowledge exchange, investment catalysing, and South-South cooperation activities spanning rangeland states. Membership is open-ended and any eligible country around the globe may join. Because of the global scope, no map is provided.

Geo Name ID	Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Location Description	Activity Description
Global	Global / Multiple Countries	N/A	N/A	Stakeholder engagement, policy influence; South-South exchange; investment facilitation; outreach, and targeted support	Components 1, 2, 3, 4

ANNEX F: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

Attach agency safeguard datasheet/assessment report(s), including ratings of risk types and overall project/program risk classification as well as any management plans or measures to address identified risks and impacts (as applicable).

Title

Annex F_ COP17 legacy_IUCN ESS_signed

ANNEX G: BUDGET TABLE

Please upload the budget table here.

Appendix A: Indicative Project Budget Template

Annex G: GEF Budget Table – Mongolia COP17 Legacy Project

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USD eq.)							Total (USD eq.)	Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)
		Component 1	Component 2	Component 3	Component 4	Sub-Total	M&E	PMC		
Works										
<i>Subtotal Works</i>		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Goods										
<i>Subtotal Goods</i>		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Vehicles										
<i>Subtotal Vehicles</i>		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Grants/ Sub-grants										
<i>Subtotal Grants/ Sub-grants</i>		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Revolving funds/ Seed funds / Equity										
<i>Subtotal Revolving funds/ Seed funds / Equity</i>		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sub-contract to executing partner/ entity	Support for policymakers and high-level representatives in policy dialogues, roundtables and Presidency events (Outputs 1.1 and 1.3)	267,500				267,500			267,500	UNCCD GM

	Scoping studies and cost-benefit analyses to inform the development of new rangeland restoration investment projects with innovative financing mechanisms and partnerships, as part of the finance mobilization strategy of the Rangelands Flagship Initiative; the investments concerned are developed outside this project and are not for the preparation of future GEF projects (Output 2.1)		272,850			272,850			272,850	UNCCD GM
<i>Subtotal Sub-contract to executing partner/ entity</i>		267,500	272,850	-	-	540,350	-	-	540,350	
Contractual Services – Individual	Consultant to provide assistance to COP17 Presidency team in providing targeted advisory support to Coalition members				50,000	50,000			50,000	MECC
	Consultant to provide analysis and technical support in the production of a COP17 Presidency Rangelands policy brief for MEAs and overall Steppe Action Agenda	50,000				50,000			50,000	MECC
	Consultant to provide analysis, technical support and strategic positioning advice to the development of a COP17 Presidency (post COP17) policy campaign				45,000	45,000			45,000	MECC
	Consultancy contracted by MECC: Senior Adviser, Coalition, Partnerships, South-South Cooperation and COP18 Transition	80,000				80,000			80,000	MECC
	Consultant for mid-term review and terminal evaluation					- 30,000			30,000	MECC

	Consultancies contracted by MECC: Senior Adviser, COP17 Presidency, Rangeland Policy and Strategic Positioning, including coordination mechanisms, outreach and structured South-South learning				140,000	140,000			140,000	MECC
	Individual consultancies contracted by MECC: technical services to sustain regional and global cooperation through to COP18, including strengthening Coalition member capacity on rangeland governance and channelling knowledge into global policy processes				150,000	150,000			150,000	MECC
	Consultants to deliver webinars and knowledge exchange on investment approaches (Output 3.1)			262,150		262,150			262,150	UNCCD GM
Subtotal Contractual Services – Individual		130,000	-	262,150	385,000	777,150	30,000	-	807,150	
Contractual Services – Company	Development of Steppe Action Agenda outreach campaign (Outputs 1.2)	300,000				300,000			300,000	MECC
	Development of Coalition of rangeland states messaging, knowledge base, and learning opportunities supporting the Presidency Period (Output 4.1)	55,000				55,000			55,000	MECC
	Development of capacity building products and Coalition of Rangeland States' Regional Hubs (Output 4.2)				120,000	120,000			120,000	MECC
Subtotal Contractual Services – Company		355,000	-	-	120,000	475,000	-	-	475,000	

Salary and benefits / Staff costs	Project manager with overall responsibility for the efficient delivery of the project						-	100,000	100,000	MECC
	M&E Officer						- 40,000		40,000	MECC
	Finance, Administration, Procurement and Logistics Officer						-	41,541	41,541	MECC
Subtotal Salary and benefits / Staff costs		-	-	-	-	-	- 40,000	141,541	181,541	
Trainings, Workshops, Meetings	South-South exchanges including technical missions and policy dialogues, including women and youth				150,000	150,000			150,000	MECC
	Costs associated with convening Coalition members to enhance engagement, coordination, development of shared agendas and messaging, including virtual and in person gatherings and production and printing of Coalition materials for these gatherings				59,760	59,760			59,760	MECC
	Monitoring and evaluation, e.g. inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation						- 16,574		16,574	MECC
	Convening costs for regional investment dialogues, donor roundtables and partner consultations under the Rangelands Flagship Initiative (Outputs 2.1 and 2.2)		214,000			214,000			214,000	UNCCD GM
	Convening costs for knowledge exchange events, technical validation workshops and Steppe Action Agenda meetings, including participation of pastoralist and IPLC representatives (Outputs 3.1 to 3.4)			214,000		214,000			214,000	UNCCD GM
Subtotal Trainings, Workshops, Meetings		-	214,000	214,000	209,760	637,760	16,574	-	654,334	

Travel	Travel costs to support in person convening of Coalition member states (Output 4.1 and 4.2)				100,000	100,000			100,000	MECC
	Support for CSO, IPLC, pastoralist, women and youth observer representatives in COP17 Presidency convenings and other events including UNCCD policy processes (Output 1.1). The cost includes participant travel, DSA and associated costs	214,000				214,000			214,000	UNCCD GM
<i>Subtotal Travel</i>		214,000	-	-	100,000	314,000	-	-	314,000	
Office Supplies										
<i>Subtotal Office Supplies</i>		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Operating Costs										
<i>Subtotal Other Operating Costs</i>		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Grand Total		966,500	486,850	476,150	814,760	2,744,260	86,574	141,541	2,972,375	

Please explain any aspects of the budget as needed here

ANNEX I: 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.