# Scaling-up regenerative practices for the recovery and improvements of soils, biodiversity, and associated ecosystem services in the Chilean agricultural sector

**Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation**

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**
11220
**Countries**
Chile
**Project Name**
Scaling-up regenerative practices for the recovery and improvements of soils, biodiversity, and associated ecosystem services in the Chilean agricultural sector
**Agencies**
FAO
**Date received by PM**
2/4/2025
**Review completed by PM**
6/30/2025
**Program Manager**
Peter Umunay
**Focal Area**
Multi Focal Area
**Project Type**
FSP

## CEO

**Part I - General Project Information**

**1. a) Is the Project Information table correctly filled, including specifying adequate executing partners?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES

7/2/2025 PU

Manager approval for the dual implementing / executing role by FAO has been uploaded (Done by Peter)

Please add FAO as Executing Partner IN THE General Child Project Information Table.

Agency Response

02 July 2025

Noted with thanks, FAO as been added as executing partner as requested.

**b) Are the Rio Markers for CCM, CCA, BD and LD correctly selected, if applicable?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES

Agency ResponseN/A

**2. Project Summary.**
**a) Does the project summary concisely describe the problem to be addressed, the project objective and the strategies to deliver the GEBs or adaptation benefits and other key expected outcomes?**
**b) Does the summary capture the essence of the project and is it within the max. of 250 words?**
**c) [If a child project under a program] Does the project summary include adequate and substantive link with the parent program goal and approach?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

A. YES

B. YES

C. to some extend. The project is aligned with the key programmatic components of the FS IP. However, the description doesn't warrant a clear link to the parent project, especially with regards to its contribution to the overall programmatic approach. Please add a sentence on how this project will contribute to the FS IP's ambitions/objectives.

5/12/2025 PU

C. Cleared

## Agency Response

02 May 2025

C. Thank you for the comment. A sentence describing the alignment and contribution to the key programmatic components of the FSIP has been added.

**3. Project Description Overview**
**a) Is the project objective statement concise, clear and measurable?**
**b) [If a child project under a program] Is there a project Theory of Change that is aligned and consistent with the overall program goal and approach?**
**c) Are the components, outcomes, and outputs sound, appropriate and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objective and the core indicators per the stated Theory of Change?**
**d) Are gender dimensions, knowledge management, and M&E included within the project components and budgeted for?**
**e) Are the GEF Project Financing and Co-Financing contributions to PMC proportional?**
**f) Is the PMC equal to or below 10% (for MSP) or 5% (for FSP)? If above, is the justification acceptable?**

## Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

A. Yes - the objectives statement reads well and demonstration of regenerative practices and circular model sound reasonable.

B.  YES - the TOC of change is aligned with overall IP goal and approach.

C. YES - however, on Component3 - please clearly describe how the regenerative practices will be implemented in practice to general GEBs at landscape level. For example, why is that the project doesn't contribute to CI 3.1 (Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration (cropland/pasture) for example.

D. To some extend - gender dimensions are not clearly included and well stated in the ToC and across components. Please clarify how gender dimension, including women empowerment will be addressed.  In the Knowledge management and exchange, please clarify how the country project will engage with the Global Coordination Platform and align with the overall programmatic approach of the FS IP which goes beyond PLCA.

E. YES - although the co-financing ratio is < 6:1

F. PMC cost is <= 5%

05/15/25 PU

Cleared

## Agency Response

02 May 2025

C. The implementation framework for regenerative practices is comprehensively detailed in the description of Component 3, specifying the strategic interventions that will drive transition toward regenerative models within each pilot site to generate landscape-scale Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs). Each pilot initiative will deploy a tailored suite of regenerative practices designed to enhance soil, improve water resources, restore biodiversity functions, strengthen ecosystem services, and improve community livelihoods, advance gender equality, promote decent employment opportunities, and integrate intercultural approaches. These interventions strategically transcend farm boundaries to influence landscape-level ecological processes. The effectiveness, applicability, and feasibility of these practices across diverse sectors, territories, and production systems will be systematically evaluated through a standardized set of key performance indicators. The validated outcomes will be strategically disseminated at sectoral and territorial levels through demonstration activities and technical exchange platforms, while the scaling up strategy will leverage policy instruments, economic incentives, market mechanisms, and technical capacity development to expand adoption beyond pilot sites. GEBs will manifest at landscape-scale within the area of influence surrounding each pilot farm through: (1) the progressive implementation of regenerative practices in adjacent production systems; (2) enhanced technical capacity among key stakeholders connected to regenerative production networks; and (3) strengthened local value chains with emphasis on women's empowerment and Peasant and Indigenous Family Farming.

Regarding Core Indicator 3.1, the regenerative approach proposed by the project addresses multiple dimensions, including the restoration of critical ecosystem services for agricultural systems, highlighting the recovery of degraded soils, optimization of water resources and recovery of functional biodiversity. Ecosystem services that directly strengthen sustainable agricultural productivity, including pollination, biological regulation of pests, and carbon sequestration, among others. Although the GEF Core Indicator 3.1 ?Area of degraded agricultural land under restoration (crops/grasslands)? was not explicitly incorporated during the initial design phase, it has been included as an additional CI, since it is strategically relevant to quantify the impact of regenerative models on the recovery of ecosystem functionality in various degraded agroecosystems present in different territorial contexts. To avoid double counting, the area of Core indicator 4 was adjusted accordingly, as the areas of intervention are the same for both indicators.

D. Gender dimensions have been reinforced in the ToC and in the project components, in a cross-cutting manner, both with respect to gender equality and women's empowerment considering the different areas of intervention of the Project.

Regarding the knowledge management and exchange comment, the section was updated as requested. The engagement between the project and the Food Systems Integrated Program (FSIP) Global Coordination Platform will be implemented through structured collaboration mechanisms including: (1) Strategic coordination to mobilize resources and facilitate knowledge and good practices exchange; (2) Thematic linkages across financing, governance, policy, value chains, and innovation; (3) Active participation in transnational collaboration networks; (4) Strengthened monitoring frameworks (5) Engagement in communities of practice; (6) Enhanced implementation capacity; (7) Generation of evidence to advance global food systems sustainability. Regarding the overall programmatic approach of the FSIP, in this section is presented the Global Alliance on Environmental Assessment and Livestock Ecological Performance (LEAP), PLACA, south-south cooperation, and activities with other projects supported by GEF.

**4. Project Outline**
**A. Project Rationale**
**a) Is the current situation (including global environmental problems, key drivers of environmental**

**degradation, climate vulnerability) clearly and adequately described from a systems perspective and adequately addressed by the project design?**
**b) Have the role of stakeholders, incl. the private sector and local actors in the system been described and how they will contribute to GEBs and/or adaptation benefits and other project outcomes? Is the private sector seen mainly as a stakeholder or as financier?**
**c) If this is an NGI project, is there a description of how the project and its financial structure are addressing financial barriers?**

## Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

A. YES - A clear description of the problems, the baseline situation and barriers to be addressed are well stated.

B. YES - ONE question is about the technical assistance to reach the number of farmers and which private sector entities could be engaged in the extension and promotion requirements to deliver a larger scale.

C. N/A

05/15/25 PU

Cleared

## Agency Response

02 May 2025

B. The project's approach to delivering technical assistance across a large farmer population is structured through strategic implementing partners responsible for driving the transition toward regenerative models in pilot projects. These partners will provide technical assistance, generate validated results, conduct transfer and extension activities, and promote scaling initiatives for each subsector.

The implementing partners comprise applied research centers with distinguished track records in implementing sustainable and regenerative models in agricultural and livestock sectors. Key research institutions include three centers of the Agricultural Research Institute: INIA Quilamapu, INIA Remehue, and INIA Tamel Aike, which will lead implementation of cereals/rice, dairy, and meat production pilots, respectively. These centers specialize in context-specific applied research that addresses farmers' needs through technical assistance, extension services, and technology transfer methodologies.

For vineyard and olive production pilots, the Institute of Ecology and Biodiversity (IEB) will lead the transition to regenerative models through technical support, capacity strengthening for beneficiaries, development of technical materials, and results dissemination. Complementing these efforts, WWF will support regenerative practices implementation while creating enabling conditions for the development of KPI-based financing instruments, strengthening capacities within productive and financial sectors, and disseminating achieved results.

The project further benefits from strategic collaborative partners whose role focuses on guiding pilot development, supporting results dissemination, and conducting extension activities among their associates and producers. These partners include Nestl?, Rabobank, Wines of Chile R&D Consortium, Dairy Consortium, Chile Oliva Growers Association, and Achiganar Livestock

Association. This multi-stakeholder extension network creates multiple pathways for technical information dissemination and adoption across agricultural subsectors.

The collaborative approach with strategic project partners will be formally defined in the Regenerative Action Plans. These plans will specify the comprehensive technical assistance strategy for the design, implementation, and monitoring of regenerative practices application, along with the dissemination and technology transfer strategy for each pilot that will be executed by the strategic implementing partner. The scaling strategy for each pilot initiative will be developed with the active participation of both implementing and collaborating strategic partners to ensure coordinated extension services and maximize adoption across targeted agricultural subsectors (for more information see Annex R of the Agency Project Document). The role of the project's strategic implementing and collaborating partners has been described in stakeholder engagement and private sector section.

**5 B. Project Description**
**5.1 a) Is there a concise theory of change (narrative and an optional schematic) that describes the project logic, including how the project design elements are contributing to the objective, the identified causal pathways, the focus and basis (including scientific) of the proposed solutions, how they provide a robust approach? Are underlying key assumptions listed?**
**b) [If a child project under a program] Is the Theory of change aligned with and consistent with the overall program goal and approach?**
**c) Is there a description of how the GEF alternative will build on ongoing/previous investments (GEF and non-GEF), lessons and experiences in the country/region? [If a child project under a program] Does the description include how the alternative aligns with and contributes to the overall program goal and approach?**
**d) Are the project components (interventions and activities) described and proposed solutions and critical assumptions and risks properly justified? Is there an indication of why the project approach has been selected over other potential options?**
**e) Incremental/additional cost reasoning: Is the incremental/additional cost reasoning properly described as per the Guidelines provided in GEF/C.31/12? Has the baseline scenario and/or associated baseline projects been described? Is the project incremental reasoning provisioned (including the role of the GEF)? Are the global environmental benefits and/or adaptation benefits identified?**
**f) Other Benefits: Are the socioeconomic benefits resulting from the project at the national and local levels sufficiently described?**
**g) Is the financing presented in the annexed financing table adequate and demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives? Are items charged to the PMC reasonable according to the GEF guidelines?**
**h) How does the project design ensure resilience to future changes in the drivers and adaptive management needs and options (as applicable for this FSP/MSP)?**
**i) Are the relevant stakeholders (including women, private sector, CSO, e.g.) and their roles adequately described within the components?**
**j) Gender: Does the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities and have these been taken up in component design and description/s?**
**k) Are the proposed elements to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning outputs and strategic communication adequately described?**
**l) Policy Coherence: Have any policies, regulations or subsidies been identified that could counteract the intended project outcomes and how will that be addressed?**
**m) Transformation and/or innovation: Is the project going to be transformative or innovative? [If a child project under an integrated program] Are the specific levers of transformation identified and described? Does it explain scaling up opportunities?**

## Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

**Overall: great**

(1) There is a need to overcome current subsidies and financing barriers that hinder the adoption of regenerative practices in our sectors; (2) Developing public and private incentives to promote regenerative practices, along with better access to finance and new investment pathways, will encourage producers and value chain actors to transition to regenerative practices. (3) This presents a great opportunity for companies like Nestle to add premiums for such practices. The phased approach is logical and clear.

**The model could be improved in stages 2 or 3 by**: (1) Linking to financial models and sources of blended finance in the global marketplace; (2) Scaling through GCF and other sources of investment, for longer term stability once scale is attained and following the end of the GEF funding cycle; (3) Consider linking to the global IP with IFAD and FAO to share learnings on finance.

A. YES - Based on barrier analysis, the ToC focused on identifying four causal pathways and their key assumptions to achieve project objectives that are well aligned with the overall FS IP goal. The proposed solutions focused on implementing and piloting regenerative practices in livestock farming. The only aspect that needs clarification is the concrete actions to deliver on GEBs and the plan for scaling up.

B. YES

C. YES - the model effectively uses existing state programs like Agroseguros, INDAP, and the FOGAPE guarantee fund to address market failures and incentivize regenerative practices.

D. Yes - project components are described with proposed solutions. However, the tool used to calculate GHG emissions is not accessible for us to provide proper review. In addition, please clarify how the CI 3.2 will be achieved.

E. YES

F. To some extend - please clarify the impacts of the project on beneficiaries.

I. Yes - the project has a clear stakeholders engagement strategy

J. To some extend - need a clear strategy on gender empowerment and this should be stated across different components, including component 3 &4 where transformation is needed. Please ensure that the RF incorporates gender-specific indicators, as relevant (and based on the Gender Action Plan). Please ensure that gender-specific results and lessons learned in empowering women and addressing gender inequalities are included in KM component and are reported on in PIRs (as relevant), MTRs and TE.

K. SEE previous comment: In the Knowledge management and exchange, please clarify how the country project will engage with the Global Coordination Platform and align with the overall programmatic approach of the FS IP

L. This is a bit weak - for a project that is trying to overcome subsidies and financing barriers, along with developing incentives and better access to finance, there should be clear vision for policy coherence by engaging different sectoral ministries beyond the ministry of agriculture and environment, as well as embracing a whole government approach.
The focuses on strengthening multilevel and multi-stakeholder governance, playing a pivotal role in the national definition of regenerative agriculture and livestock practices is crucial and can be expanded to other ministries.

M. Transformation will not occur only focusing on policies and finance - this needs to be complemented with technical innovation at the landscape level to generate GEBs. Please explain what are the technical innovations that the project will introduce to support systems transformation in the landscape level. Any technological innovation for pilot plots?

05/15/25 PU

Cleared

## Agency Response

02 May 2025

Regarding the proposed improvements to address barriers that hinder adoption of regenerative practices associated with current subsidies and financing opportunities, the project will implement a progressive approach to financing mechanisms development. The strategy will initially focus on designing, developing, and implementing local financing mechanisms as a foundational phase. The knowledge and expertise generated through this process will enable systematic advancement toward additional financing sources through two pathways: (1) adaptation of the initially designed mechanisms to access broader funding pools, or (2) development of complementary new mechanisms specifically structured to capture alternative capital sources. This progressive approach will facilitate access to global funds and innovative investment frameworks, specifically targeted at sustainable models, with specific emphasis on instruments that can provide continuity beyond the GEF funding cycle.

Regarding global collaboration with the Food Systems Integrated Program in relation to IFAD and FAO, this is incorporated in the scaling plan for financial mechanisms (Output 2.1.2). The project will establish collaborative frameworks for strengthening local institutional capacity while adapting financial mechanisms with ongoing national initiatives, including multilateral development projects (GCF, GEF, among others). This collaboration will include systematic knowledge exchange on successful financial innovations, participation in global communities of practice, and documentation of lessons learned to inform global initiatives on regenerative finance.

A. Regarding the Theory of Change section, the framework to clearly articulate the specific actions that will generate Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs) and the project's scaling strategy has been enhanced.

D. Kindly note that due to size limits, the NEXT tools (excel files) were uploaded separately into the portal as ANNEX O NEXT (Grass and pastures). During the design phase of the project, it has been identified that the project will not report on Core Indicator 3.2. This methodological decision is based on the project's strategic focus on implementing regenerative and sustainable approaches specifically in active food production zones. The project prioritizes interventions in agricultural and livestock production areas that exhibit significant environmental and social impacts and have not been adequately addressed through conventional agricultural models. Although forest ecosystems exist within the broader landscape matrix and provide essential ecosystem services that support agricultural activities, these areas do not directly produce food products within the subsectors targeted by the project. Forest areas occurring within project boundaries will be systematically identified and incorporated into regenerative landscape planning as critical ecosystem service providers. However, these forested zones will only be subject to passive restoration approaches rather than active restoration interventions. Given that no quantifiable active forest restoration activities will be implemented, the project cannot appropriately measure or report progress against Core Indicator 3.2. The project's measurement framework consequently focuses exclusively on indicators directly associated with regenerative agriculture implementation in productive

landscapes, consistent with the primary project objective of transforming food production systems while enhancing essential ecosystem functionality.

F. The description of project impacts on beneficiaries, has been presented in a more explicit manner. The main benefits of the project are:

First, beneficiaries will experience strengthened knowledge and capacities regarding regenerative production models through participation in the National Training Program in Regenerative Agriculture and Livestock Management and access to the continuous learning platform. Including capacity building activities and technical exchange developed in relation to the project components. Second, at the implementation level of regenerative transition models on individual properties, the empirical knowledge of producers and farm workers will be enhanced through direct experience, supplemented by technical support tools and materials specifically designed to facilitate transition processes. Third, in the prioritized commercialization models for regenerative products, the productive enterprises of smallholder farmers and women entrepreneurs will be strengthened, enhancing empowerment and improving living conditions of beneficiaries through increased market access and value chain integration. Fourth, and more tangentially, within the framework of the governance structures that will be promoted by the project, it is expected to strengthen the decision-making capacity of the various participants.

J. The cross-cutting integration of gender equity and women's empowerment is reinforced in all four components s and in the RF, taking key information from the Gender Action Plan. Likewise, the dissemination of results and lessons learned regarding women's empowerment and gender equity in the KM is explicitly visible.

K. As mentioned in other comment, the engagement of the project with the Food Systems Integrated Program (FSIP) Global Coordination Platform will be implemented through structured collaboration mechanisms. This engagement will include: (1) Strategic coordination to mobilize resources and facilitate knowledge exchange; (2) Thematic linkages across financing, governance, policy, value chains, and innovation; (3) Active participation in transnational collaboration networks; (4) Strengthened monitoring frameworks (5) Engagement in communities of practice; (6) Enhanced implementation capacity; (7) Generation of evidence to advance global food systems sustainability. Regarding the overall programmatic approach of the FSIP, in this section is presented the Global Alliance on Environmental Assessment and Livestock Ecological Performance (LEAP), PLACA, south-south cooperation, and activities with other projects supported by GEF. The description was updated to better reflect this.

L. The various policy instruments with which the project will be linked have been integrated, noting that the project is currently working with the Ministry of Economy, within the framework of the work with the Agency for Sustainability and Climate Change and Agroseguros. It is established that in the implementation stage partnerships will be sought with the Ministries of Finance and Science.

M. The section has been enhanced to emphasize the technological innovations that will be developed within the framework of the project's four components. These innovations include those specifically tailored to each pilot initiative, ensuring relevant transformational changes across agricultural subsectors. In rice cultivation pilots, technological innovations will extend to rice producers in the south-central region of Chile, catalyzing a transformational shift in production methods through minimal water requirement approaches based on varieties adapted to dryland conditions. This represents a significant advancement in resource efficiency for a traditionally water-intensive crop. For meat production pilots, technological innovations will enable more effective measurement of regenerative practice impacts at both producer and value chain levels. These innovations will specifically address carbon market integration and development of brands that monetize regenerative practice attributes, with regional scaling potential. Within dairy production pilots, a comprehensive farm-level net-zero production approach will be implemented, incorporating technological innovations throughout the entire production cycle. This systemic approach addresses multiple environmental impact factors simultaneously. Finally, to address the results-based focus of regenerative practices and the cross-cutting need to monitor outcomes at both

farm and landscape levels, a cost-effective methodology will be developed for monitoring regenerative performance. This methodology will integrate multiple information sources to provide robust measurements of environmental and productivity outcomes, creating a scientifically valid framework for scaling regenerative agriculture across diverse production contexts.

**5.2 Institutional Arrangements and Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives and Project**
**a) Are the institutional arrangements, including potential executing partners, outlined on regional, national/local levels and a rationale provided? Has an organogram and/or funds flow diagram been included?**
**b) Comment on proposed agency execution support (if agency expects to request exception). Is GEF in support of the request?**
**c) Is there a description of coordination and cooperation with ongoing GEF and non-GEF financed projects/programs (such as government and/or other bilateral/multilateral supported initiatives in the project area, e.g.).**
**d) [If a child project under an integrated program] Does the framework for coordination and collaboration demonstrate consistency with overall ambition of the program for transformative change?**

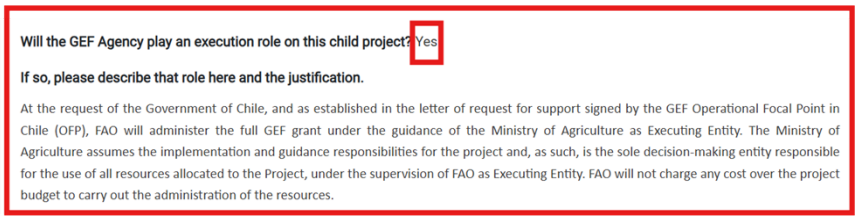
## Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

A. YES - see comment B.

B. We acknowledge that the OFP submitted the letter requesting FAO to carry a certain execution function in the implementation of the project and reiterated that the 3 conditions for such modality should be met as per GEF's response to the OFP and FAO. These conditions are well reflected in the Institutional arrangement section. Please reaffirm this commitment.

Additionally, we could not find the Managerial approval appended to the document?s tab if such approval happened ? if you know where it is, please let us know. Otherwise, please append it to the documents tab.


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

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

At the request of the Government of Chile, and as established in the letter of request for support signed by the GEF Operational Focal Point in Chile (OFP), FAO will administer the full GEF grant under the guidance of the Ministry of Agriculture as Executing Entity. The Ministry of Agriculture assumes the implementation and guidance responsibilities for the project and, as such, is the sole decision-making entity responsible for the use of all resources allocated to the Project, under the supervision of FAO as Executing Entity. FAO will not charge any cost over the project budget to carry out the administration of the resources.

C. YES

D. To some extend - please clarify how the project will engage with the GCP through the Hubs and contribute to different HUBs objectives. This can be clearly clarified in the chart but also the budget line associated with the CP engagement with the GCP.

05/15/25 PU

Cleared

## Agency Response

02 May 2025

B. The Agency reaffirms the commitments mentioned in the exchange with GEF SEC via email and as it is also expressed in the CEO endorsement document. Regarding the second comment on managerial approval, we assume it is an internal communication at GEF SEC level. Kindly confirm.

D. The project's connection with the Hubs promoted by the GCP has been detailed, identifying key interaction points, as presented below.

- Policy and Governance Hub, through the strengthening of the development of governance models and sustainable public policies in both directions;
- Private Sector, Value Chains and Investment Hub, it will channel support and coordination with key actors in designing innovative financial mechanisms suitable for small and medium-scale producers and adapted to diverse financing requirements, as well as supporting value chain strengthening.
- Innovation and Learning Hub framework, the project will participate in communities of practice, enabling access to knowledge, innovation and learnings from global food systems while simultaneously disseminating project advances and outcomes under an adaptive and collaborative approach.
- Adaptive Management Hub, which will provide support in measuring results, lessons learned and the benefits generated by the program.

This is specified at the budget level.

**5.3 Core indicators**

**a) Are the identified core indicators calculated using the methodology and adhering to the overarching principles included in the corresponding Guidelines (GEF/C.62/Inf.12/Rev.01)? [If a child project under a program] Is the choice of core indicators consistent with those prioritized under the parent program?**

**b) Are the project?s targeted contributions to GEBs (measured through core indicators and additional listed outcome indicators) /adaptation benefits reasonable and achievable? Are the GEF Climate Change adaptation indicators and sub-indicators for LDCF and SCCF properly documented?**

## Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

A. Is there a justification why CI 3.1 couldn't be generated through this project?

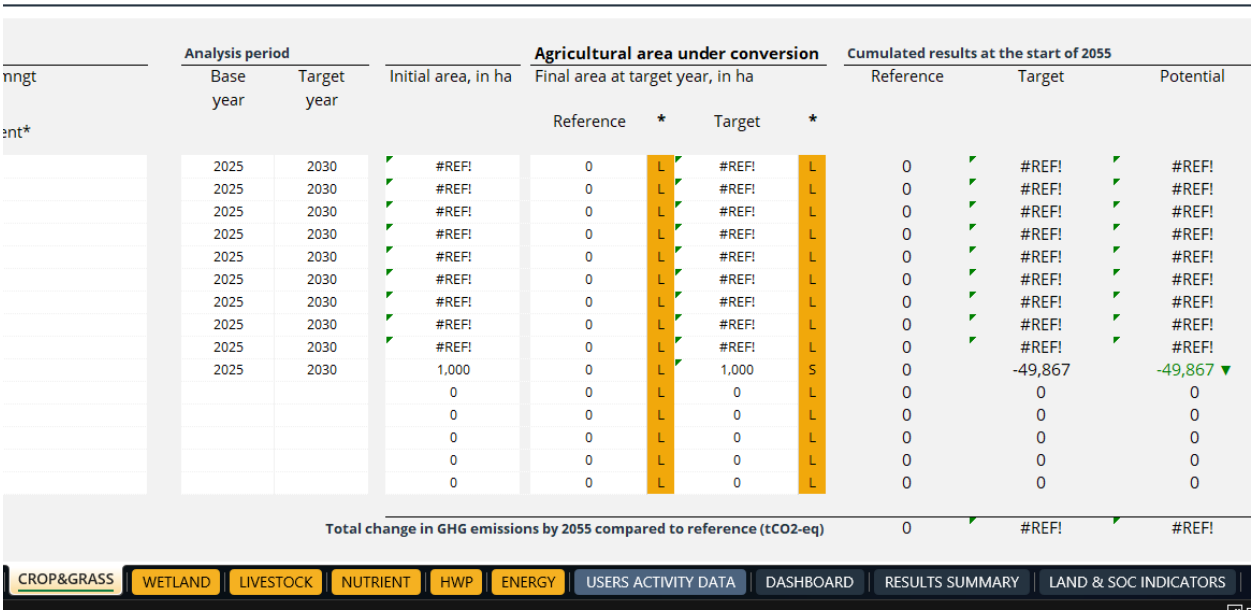
B. Please provide NEXT or EXACT tool that is accessible. Could you please ensure that the NEXT tracking tools are accessible and do not contain external links? Currently, the files cannot be opened by users outside FAO, which is hindering our ability to proceed with the revision of the calculations

5/13/2025PU

### Regarding the "NEXT Grass.xml" and "[...] NEXT Crops":

1. The calculation sheets are linked to an external file that GEF staff cannot access, resulting in several cells with reference errors. See the example below from both worksheets.
2. If possible, ask the Agency to provide a breakdown of the area to be intervened by the project so it is easier to follow the calculations in the NEXT files. For example, the breakdown of (1) Deforested area (ha) in the FOREST LAND tabs, and (2) Agricultural area under conversion in the CROP&GRASS tabs. Adding a summary or calculations notes tab in the Excel should suffice.

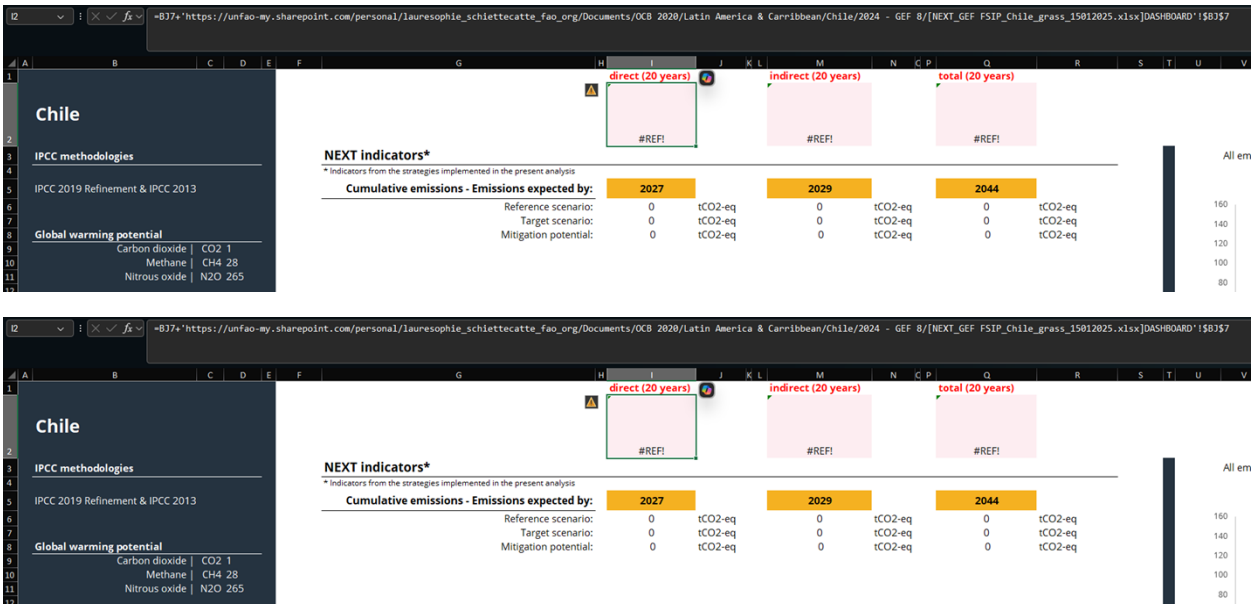
*Screenshot from "NEXT Grass":*



| | Analysis period | | | Agricultural area under conversion | | | | | Cumulated results at the start of 2055 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| nngt ent* | Base year | Target year | Initial area, in ha | Final area at target year, in ha Reference | * | Target | * | | Reference | Target | Potential |
| | 2025 | 2030 | #REF! | 0 | L | #REF! | L | | 0 | #REF! | #REF! |
| | 2025 | 2030 | #REF! | 0 | L | #REF! | L | | 0 | #REF! | #REF! |
| | 2025 | 2030 | #REF! | 0 | L | #REF! | L | | 0 | #REF! | #REF! |
| | 2025 | 2030 | #REF! | 0 | L | #REF! | L | | 0 | #REF! | #REF! |
| | 2025 | 2030 | #REF! | 0 | L | #REF! | L | | 0 | #REF! | #REF! |
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| | 2025 | 2030 | 1,000 | 0 | L | 1,000 | S | | 0 | -49,867 | -49,867 ▼ |
| | | | 0 | 0 | L | 0 | L | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
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| | | | 0 | 0 | L | 0 | L | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | 0 | 0 | L | 0 | L | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | 0 | 0 | L | 0 | L | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | Total change in GHG emissions by 2055 compared to reference (tCO2-eq) | | | | | 0 | #REF! | #REF! |

CROP&GRASS | WETLAND | LIVESTOCK | NUTRIENT | HWP | ENERGY | USERS ACTIVITY DATA | DASHBOARD | RESULTS SUMMARY | LAND & SOC INDICATORS

*Screenshots from "[...] NEXT Crops":*







05/20/25 PU

Cleared

## Agency Response

02 May 2025

A. After due consideration, CI 3.1 has been included as an additional Core Indicator, since it is strategically relevant to quantify the impact of regenerative models on the recovery of ecosystem functionality in various degraded agroecosystems present in different territorial contexts (See previous comment 3.c).

B. The excel files with the NEXT tool were uploaded separately into the portal, they can be found as ANNEX O NEXT.

16 May 2025

1. & 2. Our apologies for the inconvenience. After checking the issue, we see that it originates from the Excel files being linked with each other, not to external sources, so in order to be able to visualize the data correctly, the files should all be saved in the same folder in your computer.

Due to file size limitation of the GEF portal, we were not able to upload a single zip file with all the files, so we are providing a link "NEXT Excel sheets 16 May 2025" will all of the three files, and we are also uploading them separately as single files, called

- Data for EX-ACT PRODOC Chile_AyG Reg_ENG

- NEXT_GEF FSIP_Chile_crop_15012025 1

- NEXT_GEF FSIP_Chile_grass_15012025 1

All files were uploaded on May 16th 2025.

Please unzip or download all the three files into the same folder, and that should solve the issue when opening them, as Excel will be able to update the cells with the data of the other files.

Regardless of this, we have also included a new tab into each of the Excel files called Summary Project Interventions (the last tab in each Excel) with the breakdown of all the areas that were used in the calculation, as requested in point 2 by GEF SEC.

**5.4 Risks**
**a) Is there a well-articulated assessment of risk to outcomes and identification of mitigation measures under each relevant risk category? Are mitigation measures clearly identified and realistic? Is there any omission?**
**b) Is the rating provided reflecting the residual risk to the likely achievement of intended outcomes after accounting for the expected implementation of mitigation measures?**
**c) Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately assessed and rated and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?**

## Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

A. YES

B. YES

C. YES

## Agency ResponseN/A

**5.5 For NGI Only: Is there a justification of the financial structure and of the use of financial instrument with concessionality levels?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

N/A

Agency ResponseN/A

**6 C. Alignment with GEF-8 Programming Strategies and Country/Regional Priorities**
**6.1 a) Is the project adequately aligned with Focal Area objectives, and/or the LDCF/SCCF strategy? b) [If a child project under an integrated program] Is the project adequately aligned with the program objective in the GEF-8 programming directions?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

a. YES

B. YES

Agency ResponseN/A

**6.2 Is the project alignment/coherent with country and regional priorities, policies, strategies and plans (including those related to the MEAs and to relevant sectors).**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES

Agency ResponseN/A

**6.3 For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), does the project clearly identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and how it contributes to the identified target(s)?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES - GBFF Targets 7,8,10,11and 20

Agency ResponseN/A

**7 D. Policy Requirements**
**7.1 Are the Policy Requirement sections completed?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES - PO comments needed.

Agency ResponseN/A

**7.2 Is the Gender Action Plan uploaded?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES - to be reviewed.

6/9/2025

Comment on Gender (by Verona): Our gender comments were addressed. However, in our earlier comments, we did not flag that they needed to also tick the boxes on:

- Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;
- Improving women's participation and decision-making

The project addresses these inequalities; hence, they should be ticked (Yes box).

Agency Response

19 June 2025

Noted. The boxes have been marked as suggested.

**7.3 Is the stakeholder engagement plan uploaded?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

Yes - in the text.

Agency ResponseN/A

**7.4 Have the required applicable safeguards documents been uploaded?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request3/31/2025 PU

Agency ResponseN/A

**8 Annexes**

**Annex A: Financing Tables**

**8.1 GEF Financing Table and Focal Area Elements: Is the proposed GEF financing (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines? Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):**

**STAR allocation?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES

Agency ResponseN/A
**Focal Area allocation?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES

Agency ResponseN/A
**LDCF under the principle of equitable access?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

N/A

Agency ResponseN/A
**SCCF A (SIDS)?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

N/A

Agency ResponseN/A
**SCCF B (Tech Transfer, Innovation, Private Sector)?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

N/A

Agency ResponseN/A
**Focal Area Set Aside?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

N/A

Agency ResponseN/A

**8.2 Project Preparation Grant (PPG)**
**a) Is the use of PPG attached in Annex: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG) properly itemized according to the guidelines?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

As requested, please provide detailed information on the eligible categories.

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

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

| | GET/LDCF/SCCF Amount ($) | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Project Preparation Activities Implemented | Budgeted Amount | Amount Spent To date | Amount Committed |
| Activity 1. Consultants | 132,800.00 | 93,295.00 | 48,544.00 |
| Activity 2. Travels | 11,200.00 | 4,920.00 | 2,234.00 |
| Activity 3. Training | 5,000.00 | 754.00 | 253.00 |
| Activity 4. GOE | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | 150,000.00 | 98,969.00 | 51,031.00 |

Agency Response

02 May 2025

The information on the use of the PPG resources was updated, providing detailed information as requested.

**8.3 Source of Funds**
**Does the sources of funds table match with the amounts in the OFP's LOE?**
**Note: the table only captures sources of funds from the country's STAR allocation**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES.

Agency ResponseN/A

**8.4 Confirmed co-financing for the project, by name and type: Are the amounts, sources, and types of co-financing adequately documented and consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?**
**e.g. Have letters of co-finance been submitted, correctly classified as investment mobilized or in-kind/recurring expenditures? If investment mobilized: is there an explanation below the table to describe the nature of co-finance? If letters are not in English, is a translation provided?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES:

- Grants are generally classified as ?investment mobilized,? but many grant components are currently categorized ?recurrent expenditures (usually through in-kind contributions).? Please clarify whether they are in-kind or grant.
- A very minor discrepancy in the co-financing amount from Instituto Ecolog?a y Biodiversidad (IEB), which is stated as USD 66,599 in the form and USD 66,598 in the co-financing letter ($1 gap?).

05/15/25 PU

Cleared

Agency Response

02 May 2025

Regarding project co-financing from public and private stakeholders, the information presented at the level of Grant-type contributions has been reviewed and reclassified as mobilized investment. This represents funding specifically allocated for the implementation of project activities, from the public and private sector, explained in detail in the corresponding section.

Concerning the 1 USD discrepancy, this occurs in the official co-financing letter from the IEB Institution, where the sum of individual items differs by one dollar from the officially declared total amount due to decimals and rounding. To reflect the number of the letter, the co-financing was adjusted by 1 dollar.

**Annex B: Endorsements**
**8.5 a) If ? and only if - this is a global or regional project for which not all country-based interventions were known at PIF stage and, therefore, not all LOEs provided:**
**Has the project been endorsed by the GEF OFP/s of all GEF eligible participating countries and has the OFP name and position been checked against the GEF database at the time of submission?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES

Agency ResponseN/A
**b) Are the OFP endorsement letters uploaded to the GEF Portal (compiled as a single document, if applicable)?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES

Agency ResponseN/A

**c) Do the letters follow the correct format and are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in the Portal?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

TO BE REVIEWED BY THE PO TEAM

Agency ResponseN/A

**Annex C: Project Results Framework**
**8.6 a) Have the GEF core indicators been included?**
**b) Have SMART indicators been used; are means of verification well thought out; do the targets correspond/are appropriate in view of total project financing (too high? Too low?)**
**c) Are all relevant indicators sex disaggregated?**
**d) Is the Project Results Framework included in the Project Document pasted in the Template?**
**e)[If a regional/global coordination child project under an integrated program] Does the results framework reflect the program-wide result framework, inclusive of results from child projects and specific to the regional/global coordination child project? [If a country child project under an integrated program] Is the child project result framework inclusive of program-wide metrics monitored across child project by the Regional/Global Child project?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

A. YES - However, NEXT TOOL not accessible. Also, no CI 3.1 which I still believe should be included if possible but not mandatory.

b. YES - there are a few areas that can be improved, especially for Components 1&2 with clear indicators and means for verification.

C. YES

05/20/25 PU

Cleared

Agency Response

02 May 2025

A. The NEXT tool was uploaded as ANNEX O. CI 3.1 was included as an additional Core Indicator, since it is strategically relevant to quantify the impact of regenerative models on the recovery of ecosystem functionality in various degraded agroecosystems present in different territorial contexts (See previous comment 3.c)

B. The Results Framework was completely revised, and improvements were incorporated to clarify the indicators and means of verification.

**Annex E: Project map and coordinates**
**8.7 Have geographic coordinates of project locations been entered in the dedicated table? Are relevant illustrative maps included?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES

Agency ResponseN/A
**Annex F: Environmental and Social Safeguards Documentation and Rating**
**8.8 Have the relevant safeguard documents been uploaded to the GEF Portal? Has the safeguards rating been provided and filled out in the ER field below the risk table?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

YES

Agency ResponseN/A
**Annex G: GEF Budget template**
**8.9 a) Is the GEF budget template attached and appropriately filled out incl. items such as the executing partner for each budget line?**
**b) Are the activities / expenditures reasonably and accurately charged to the three identified sources (Components, M&E and PMC)?**
**c) Are TORs for key project staff funded by GEF grant and/or co-finance attached?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

On the budget:

- The TORs of the Chief Technical Advisor included in the Project Document (see attached file - page 124 onwards) present the responsibilities for this position, and the vast majority are Managerial in nature ? however, only $72,000 out of $240,000 (30%) of the compensation is charged to PMC. Similarly, the TORs for the Technical Assistant are basically to assist the Chief Technical Advisor to do his/her work which, as mentioned above, is mainly focused on managerial tasks ? hence, it is difficult to understand the need of having two positions totaling $360,000 carrying out basically the same activities. Please ask the Agency to review (note that the GEF contribution to PMC is only 3.9%, when the cap is 5.0% - there is room to charge more to PMC and to adjust the TORs in a way that makes justice to cover the compensation with funds allocated to the components).

•Per Guidelines, vehicles and associated expenditures are expected to be covered by the co-financing resources ? please ask the Agency to revise.

| | Component 1 | | | Component 2 | | Component 3 | | | Component 4 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **FAO Cost Category** | **1.1** | **1.2** | **Total** | **2.1** | **Total** | **3.1** | **3.2** | **Total** | **4.1** | **Total** | **M&E** | **PMC** | **Total GEF** | **Responsible Entity** |
| *Chief technical advisor* | 48,000 | 24,000 | 72,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 48,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | | 72,000 | 240,000 | ODEPA |
| *Technical Assistant* | 24,000 | 12,000 | 36,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 48,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 | | | 120,000 | ODEPA |
| *Social Specialist in Gender and Indigenous Peoples* | 12,000 | 12,000 | 24,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 36,000 | 24,000 | 60,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | | | 120,000 | ODEPA |
| *Regenerative Agriculture Specialist* | 17,400 | 17,400 | 34,800 | 34,800 | 34,800 | 52,200 | 34,800 | 87,000 | 17,400 | 17,400 | | | 174,000 | ODEPA |
| *Regenerative Livestock Specialist* | 17,400 | 17,400 | 34,800 | 34,800 | 34,800 | 52,200 | 34,800 | 87,000 | 17,400 | 17,400 | | | 174,000 | ODEPA |
| *Agriculture facilitator (fruit crops)* | 10,800 | 10,800 | 21,600 | 10,800 | 10,800 | 43,200 | 21,600 | 64,800 | 10,800 | 10,800 | | | 108,000 | ODEPA |
| *Agricultural facilitator (other crops)* | 10,800 | 10,800 | 21,600 | 10,800 | 10,800 | 43,200 | 21,600 | 64,800 | 10,800 | 10,800 | | | 108,000 | ODEPA |
| *Livestock facilitator (dairy)* | 10,800 | 10,800 | 21,600 | 10,800 | 10,800 | 43,200 | 21,600 | 64,800 | 10,800 | 10,800 | | | 108,000 | ODEPA |
| *Livestock facilitator (beef)* | 10,800 | 10,800 | 21,600 | 10,800 | 10,800 | 43,200 | 21,600 | 64,800 | 10,800 | 10,800 | | | 108,000 | ODEPA |
| *Administrative support* | | | | | | | | | | | | 60,000 | 60,000 | ODEPA |
| *Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist* | | | | | | | | | | | 60,000 | | 60,000 | ODEPA |
| *Communications Manager* | 29,000 | 14,500 | 43,500 | 29,000 | 29,000 | 29,000 | 29,000 | 58,000 | 14,500 | 14,500 | | | 145,000 | ODEPA |
| Recurrent mobility expenses (car rental for field activities) | 23,500 | 18,800 | 42,300 | 16,450 | 16,450 | 58,750 | 35,250 | 94,000 | 16,450 | 16,450 | | 65,800 | 235,000 | ODEPA |

05/15/25 PU

Cleared

6/9/2025 PU

Vehicles ($235,000) are still charged to GEF funds instead of to co-financing resources - please revise. The explanation provided is solid but not sufficient to grant approval.

## Agency Response

19 June 2025

Noted, as requested by GEF reviewer, the line for car rentals was removed and funds redistributed. The agency will identify sources for co-financing during inception.

02 May 2025

The PMC allocation for the Chief Technical Advisor and Technical Assistant positions has been increased to reflect their dual managerial and technical responsibilities. Their role descriptions have been updated to incorporate additional technical functions, properly aligning with the adjusted PMC proportion. These modifications have normalized the PMC ratio to 5%.

Regarding transportation expenses, kindly note that the 40 demonstration farms identified during the design phase are geographically dispersed across rural areas from Coquimbo to

Ays?n regions, often in remote locations distant from urban centers. The project team requires consistent mobility to effectively monitor farm-based activities and maintain strategic engagement with key territorial stakeholders, which is essential for implementing the knowledge management plan and scaling strategy. Co-financing was also reviewed to inquire about possibilities to cover these expenses but as mentioned in the letters, the commitments from partners will complement interventions at field level but do not cover transportation.

**Annex H: NGI Relevant Annexes**
**8.10 a) Does the project provide sufficient detail (indicative term sheet) to assess the following criteria: co-financing ratios, financial terms and conditions, and financial additionality? If not, please provide comments.**
**b) Does the project provide a detailed reflow table to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments.**
**c) Is the Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

N/A

Agency ResponseN/A
**Additional Annexes**
**9. GEFSEC DECISION**

**9.1.GEFSEC Recommendation**
**Is the project recommended for approval**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

6/9/2025

Comments:

1. please reclassify project document as "Public"

**9.2 Additional Comments to be considered by the Agency during the inception and implementation phase**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

3/31/2025 PU

- NEXT TOOL

05/13/2025 PU

**Regarding the "NEXT Grass.xml" and "[...] NEXT Crops": (SEE SCREESHOTS in "Core Indicators" section)**

1. The calculation sheets are linked to an external file that GEF staff cannot access, resulting in several cells with reference errors. See the example below from both worksheets
2. If possible, ask the Agency to provide a breakdown of the area to be intervened by the project so it is easier to follow the calculations in the NEXT files. For example, the breakdown of (1) Deforested area (ha) in the FOREST LAND tabs, and (2) Agricultural area under conversion in the CROP&GRASS tabs. Adding a summary or calculations notes tab in the Excel should suffice.

Kindly resolve this for us to clear the project.

05/20/25 PU

Cleared

**9.3 Review Dates**

| | CEO Approval | Response to Secretariat comments |
|---|---|---|
| **First Review** | **4/1/2025** | |
| **Additional Review (as necessary)** | **5/13/2025** | |
| **Additional Review (as necessary)** | **6/9/2025** | |
| **Additional Review (as necessary)** | **7/2/2025** | |
| **Additional Review (as necessary)** | | |