

GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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General Project Information

Project Title

Strengthening Adaptation through Institutional Building and Resilient Livelihoods in South Sudanese Agro-pastoral Landscapes (SABRELA)

Region	GEF Project ID
South Sudan	11418
Country(ies)	Type of Project
South Sudan	FSP
GEF Agency(ies):	GEF Agency ID
IFAD	2000004755
Executing Partner	Executing Partner Type
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security	Government
GEF Focal Area (s)	Submission Date
Climate Change	10/18/2023

Project Sector (CCM Only)

AFOLU

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Productivity, Sustainable Land Management, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Ecosystem Approach, Sustainable Livelihoods, Sustainable Agriculture, Biodiversity, Mainstreaming, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Fisheries, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Climate Change Adaptation, Climate Change, Climate information, Livelihoods, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Least Developed Countries, Academia, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Stakeholders, Financial intermediaries and market facilitators, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, SMEs, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Information Dissemination, Participation, Consultation, Communications, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Gender-sensitive indicators, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender Equality, Women groups, Beneficiaries, Access to benefits and services, Gender results areas, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Participation and leadership, Access and control over natural resources, Innovation, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Local Communities, Learning, Knowledge Generation, Knowledge Exchange

Type of Trust Fund	Project Duration (Months)
LDCF	60
GEF Project Grant: (a)	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)
8,932,420.00	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)
848,580.00	0.00

Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)	Total Co-financing
9,781,000.00	40,430,000.00
PPG Amount: (e)	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)
200,000.00	19,000.00
PPG total amount: (e+f)	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)
219,000.00	10,000,000.00
Project Tags	
CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: No Innovation: No	

Project Summary

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

South Sudan is a land-linked country in Eastern Africa. The Strengthening Adaptation through Institutional Building and Resilient Livelihoods in South Sudanese Agro-pastoral Landscapes (SABRELA) project is proposed with the objective to strengthen the agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable communities and improve capacities for natural resources management while enhancing the resilience of the socioecological contexts of selected states in South Sudan. These States are: Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes and Unity States. These States have been recording erratic rainfall patterns characterised in terms of droughts and floods, disrupting agriculture and food and nutrition security. The States are also characterised by limited infrastructure which significantly limits ability of the people to exploit the market potential of the agrosilvopastoral landscape in which they live. Lean asset production portfolio squarely linked to chronically high poverty levels and poor to almost non-existence of public service delivery means limited ability and options of the rural populations in the target States to cope with extreme weather events. There are weak institutional and technical capacities at national level. At State level, the situation is not different. In this context, disaster preparedness and response mechanisms still remain a mirage in the selected States.

Overall, the selected States are important agro-silvopastoral production landscapes whose potential to grow is stifled by absence of infrastructure development, particularly in terms of road networks, but also lack access to electricity, and communication. The private sector landscape is very narrow partly because of lack of a framework to support their engagement in the agriculture sector. It should be appreciated that the national context characterised by protracted years of political and socioeconomic fragility has shaped the general socioeconomic contexts in the target States, including how communities interact with the environment. Lack of alternative income streams leave communities with no options but to engage in overreliance and overexploitation of natural resources – leading to environmental degradation. Additionally, lack of alternative income streams weakens people’s ability to cope with the impacts of extreme weather events.

Cognizant of the need to build production asset portfolios to enhance community resilience and adaptive capacities, SABRELA will support diversified and gender-responsive livelihood opportunities and market-driven agro-pastoral strategies to benefit 20,000 households across Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes and

Unity States. The diversified and resilient livelihoods will enable vulnerable communities the in target states to respond better to extreme weather events, including outbreaks of crop and animal diseases. The project will employ Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to strengthen the adaptive capacities of the socioecological systems within the target states - taking advantage of the potential of NbS to provide socioeconomic benefits by creating jobs, enhancing local economies, and promoting sustainable development, but also to mitigate climate change, preserve biodiversity, and improve ecosystem resilience. The project will also invest in land rehabilitation of 12,000 of degraded agrosilvopastoral landscapes in the target States.

Building on IFAD strategic programmatic approach, SABRELA will catalyze IFAD's investments in the upcoming Sustainable Agriculture Development Project (SADEP) designed with the development objective to contribute to food and nutrition security and to improve the resilience in a context of climate change, of the following two target groups, of whom women and youth are the majority: (i) small economically active rural producers and their families willing to engage in commercial agriculture; and (ii) small and medium-sized enterprises that provide services to rural communities in selected areas of South Sudan. It's interventions will be market driven and identified through value chain analyses. In terms of scale and depth, SABRELA will increase geographical coverage, increase the number of beneficiaries, climate-proof SADEP infrastructure while strengthening building institutional and technical capacities of the government at national and subnational level through early warning systems. In this regard, SABRELA complements and synergizes with SADEP by building adaptation priorities in the latter's interventions.

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

To strengthen the agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable communities and improve capacities for natural resources management while enhancing the resilience of the socioecological contexts of selected states in South Sudan.

Project Components

Component 1: Strengthening institutional, policy and technical capacities to enhance adaptation implementation in South Sudan

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
2,100,000.00	9,505,039.00

Outcome:

1.1: Strengthened institutional, policy and technical capacities systematically enhance adaptation mainstreaming in state and national-level development processes and development programs

Output:

1.1.1: Tailored training programs for 2,000 personnel (50% being female) in climate science, risk assessment, and sustainable practices conducted

1.1.2: Early warning systems established and strengthened in the target states to benefit 20,000 households, 50% being female-headed.

1.1.3: Climate change adaptation related national policies reviewed and aligned to improve cross-sector climate change adaptation policy coherence^[1]¹

1.1.4: Inclusive and gender-responsive multi-stakeholder climate change adaptation platform (for knowledge sharing, fostering partnerships, and integrating climate considerations into development planning) established and operationalized

^[1] The policy review and alignment will also include a review of the role but also space for the private sector's contribution to climate change in South Sudan. The activities for this output will therefore, ensure the role of the private sector is clarified and firmly embedded.

Component 2: Diversifying inclusive and gender-responsive resilient livelihood opportunities and improving market linkages of selected agro-pastoral value chains

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
5,872,617.00	27,485,934.00

Outcome:

2.1: Diversified and enhanced inclusive and gender-responsive livelihood opportunities and market-driven agro-pastoral strategies and production systems strengthen community socioecological resilience to climate change in the target States

Output:

2.1.1: Restoration of degraded of 12,000 ha agro-pastoral production landscapes

2.1.2: 8,000 ha of production landscapes in target States under sustainable agro-pastoral practices

2.1.2: 5 socioeconomically viable agro-pastoral gender-responsive value chains developed

2.1.3: Market digital information infrastructure of selected agro-pastoral value chains developed and rolled out

2.1.4: Storage facilities at strategic places^[1]² climate-proofed.

2.1.5: Farmer training programs on market dynamics, negotiation, quality standards etc conducted, ensuring 50% women representation in trainings.

^[1] The sites and number of facilities will be confirmed at PPG after additional consultations with communities and civil and traditional authorities.

Component 3: Knowledge management and learning

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
334,450.00	1,513,790.00

Outcome:

3.1: Knowledge management and lesson sharing are timely captured and foster capacity-building, informed decision making processes and empower farmers and public and private institutions to adopt effective strategies in the face of extreme weather events

Output:

3.1.1: Awareness campaign strategies and information dissemination mechanisms developed and rolled out ensuring 50% women outreach.

3.1.2: Lessons and knowledge products, including those capturing gender perspectives, systematically collected and disseminated to intended audiences (50% being women).

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	LDCF
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
200,000.00	

Outcome:

Project implementation and results strengthened through participatory monitoring and evaluation

Output:

Project monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems established and implemented

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1: Strengthening institutional, policy and technical capacities to enhance adaptation implementation in South Sudan	2,100,000.00	9,505,039.00
Component 2: Diversifying inclusive and gender-responsive resilient livelihood opportunities and improving market linkages of selected agro-pastoral value chains	5,872,617.00	27,485,934.00
Component 3: Knowledge management and learning	334,450.00	1,513,790.00
M&E	200,000.00	
Subtotal	8,507,067.00	38,504,763.00
Project Management Cost	425,353.00	1,925,237.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	8,932,420.00	40,430,000.00

Please provide justification

PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

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

A.1 General background

South Sudan is one of the largest countries in Eastern Africa. As a land-locked country, South Sudan is surrounded by six countries. These are: Ethiopia, Sudan, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, and Kenya. With a total area of just under 619,745 km² ^[1]³, the country has an estimated population of 11.1 million ^[2]⁴. The country is rich in natural resources including hydropower, agricultural land, pastures, livestock, fisheries, forests, wildlife, precious stones, metals, petroleum, minerals, hardwoods and limestone. The country declared independence in 2011 following decades-long conflict with Sudan. In 2013 armed conflict erupted between the government forces and opposition groups, and between 2013 and 2014, over one million people were displaced and doubled the number of severely food insecure population. Conflicts in December 2013 and July 2016 have undermined the development gains it achieved since independence and worsened the humanitarian situation. Consequently, South Sudan remains severely impacted by fragility, economic stagnation, and instability. Poverty is ubiquitous and is being reinforced by ongoing intercommunal conflict, displacement, and external shocks. ^[3]⁵ High lending rates (averaging 12% in 2022) remain a challenge for capital investment. The fiscal deficit widened to 6.6% of GDP in 2021/22 from 3.7% in 2020/21, owing to higher public spending. ^[4]⁶ South Sudan remains one of the world's most conflict-affected and fragile countries, and has not been able to emerge from cycles of violence. The conflict, plus drought conditions in parts of the country, led to the formal declaration of famine in January 2017.

A.2 Sectoral context

A.2.1 Socioeconomic context

Overall, years of political fragility have stunted socioeconomic development, and poverty levels are stubbornly high. It should be noted that the proportion of the population living under the international poverty line of US\$ 1.90 PPP (2011) grew from 51% in 2009 to ~90% in 2018. ^[5]⁷ With an HDI of 0.385 (2021), South Sudan topped the list of 10 countries with the lowest indices. ^[6]⁸ Petroleum is the lifeblood of the South Sudanese economy; placing the country in the lower middle income group, followed in importance by services and agriculture. Oil alone accounts for more than half of the total GDP, 95% of exports, and 90% of government revenues and a significant share of private sector employment. ^[7]⁹

South Sudan holds sub-Saharan Africa's third largest oil reserves at an estimated 3.5 billion barrels. Oil represents approximately 95% of exports and is the main source for foreign exchange reserves in the country. South Sudan has relied on oil as the primary formal and informal public source of national revenue since independence.^[8]¹⁰ The country's development path has been shaped hugely by a combination of factors related to historical and geographical isolation, extreme fragility to conflict, oil dependence, extremely low socio-economic conditions and the impacts of climate change. Although direct confrontations between parties to the Revitalized Agreement have significantly reduced, sub-national and localized violence involving communities persist, including conflict-related sexual violence and widespread deliberate destruction of land and property. Meanwhile, progress towards all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is severely compromised in South Sudan, with the country ranked last in the 2022 Sustainable Development Report.^[9]¹¹

South Sudan has some of the lowest social and infrastructure access indicators in the world. The country's basic needs deficit includes: i) Majority lack education and skills with high levels of unemployment, especially among youth (e.g. adult illiteracy levels are high at nearly 72%); ii) extremely low health indicators (e.g. maternal mortality is 2,054 per 100,000 births); iii) low Infrastructure base (e.g. Lowest road density in Africa and less than 2% of the primary network is paved); and iv) Significant gaps in service delivery access and quality, despite some recent improvements (e.g. only about 15% of people with high regional disparities has access to improved sanitation).^[10]¹² Figure 1 shows a map of livelihood zones of South Sudan, with the legend showing socioeconomic activities in the target areas (Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes and Unity States). In sum, South Sudan remains in a serious humanitarian crisis. As of October 2019, nearly 3.7 million people remained displaced, 40% of whom were internally displaced (IDPs) – with women, girls and boys bearing the brunt of the conflicts, accounting for 85% of IDPs. About 6.4 million people (or 54% of population) were classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity during the period of February to April 2020.^[11]¹³ Some 9.4 million people, 76% of the population, are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in 2023, an increase of half a million people compared to 2022. Women and children continue to be the most affected.^[12]¹⁴



Figure 1: Map showing livelihood zones of South Sudan

A.2.2 Gender context

South Sudan has a Gender Development Index (GII) of 0.839; it is a patriarchal society that keeps strict gender norms and rigid gender roles. Female-headed households are also more food insecure than male-headed households and poverty is more prevalent in their households (44.5%)[13]¹⁵ than in male-headed households (38.3%). Women in South Sudan encounter numerous barriers (e.g. social, cultural, economic, legal, political, and institutional) in relation to their participation in public affairs. Accounting for 60.2% of agricultural labour, women play an important role, but their access to productive assets is limited. Gender based violence is still prevalent and occurs as domestic violence, early and forced marriage, and the abduction of women and children during cattle raids. South Sudan has the worst literacy rate in the world with approximately 80% of people in the country unable to read and write.[14]¹⁶ Women represent the majority (81%) of this group, with only 19 percent above 15 years literate. Other than structural and socioeconomic factors, socio-cultural perception further contributes to these rates. Most girls drop out of school due to early marriage or to provide farming labour at home.

The government of South Sudan features women-headed households in the same group as farmers that rely on rain-fed subsistence agriculture, pastoralists in areas that are experiencing desertification and internally displaced persons (IDPs) most vulnerable to climate change impacts in South Sudan. The updated NDC is deliberate about gender mainstreaming. To reduce the vulnerability of women and to ensure that

implementation of climate strategies occurs in a gender-responsive manner, the second NDC will support the integration of gender perspectives into national-level climate-change policies and strategies. South Sudan will target 35% representation of women in climate-change decision-making. The second NDC will encourage increased participation of women in climate action, particularly when it comes to adaptation planning in sectors such as agriculture, fisheries and forestry.[\[15\]](#)¹⁷

The predicted impacts of climate change will have a greater impact on women than men, because women rely heavily upon the extraction of natural resources, which will be negatively affected by climate change. Any negative effect on natural resources will therefore have a direct impact on women's livelihoods. For example, women are traditionally responsible for household duties – including collecting water and firewood for domestic use – and cultivating land in rural areas. The decrease in availability of such resources will require women to spend more time travelling to locate drinking water or firewood. They will therefore have less time for other income-generating activities. Furthermore, women have less capacity and financial resources to adapt to climate change impacts. Currently, the literacy rate among men is more than double that among women, whilst the gender parity index indicates that girls are dropping out of the school system much earlier than boys. Poverty levels are also higher among female-headed households – 57% of the population living in female-headed households are poor compared to 48% in male-headed households. Climate change will exacerbate these disparities and further restrict the socio-economic development and empowerment of women in South Sudan. Gender equality is therefore recognised as an important issue in South Sudan and should be integrated into the design and implementation of all adaptation projects. This will allow opportunities for mainstreaming gender considerations into climate change – and other – policies and plans.[\[16\]](#)¹⁸

In light of the gender considerations, it should be recalled that the project will embrace a whole-society approach to include the youth as part of the vulnerable category in the target States – essentially because in a context of socioeconomic doldrums, the youth are unemployed and have very limited opportunities. They therefore, need empowerment so as not to make them agents of positive change for national development, resource management and peace-building.

A.2.3 Agricultural context

South Sudan has enormous agricultural potential. The sector has the significant potential to increase food security, reduce rural poverty, and generate both on-and off-farm employment opportunities. For example, the country has 62 million hectares of land in the Nile river basin, with nearly 75% suitable for agriculture, and 50% highly suitable for crop cultivation.

South Sudan's agriculture sector is essential for its economy, providing livelihoods for the majority of its population. It primarily comprises subsistence farming, with staple crops like sorghum, maize, and millet. Livestock farming, particularly cattle herding, is also prevalent. However, the sector faces significant challenges. Prolonged conflict and displacement disrupt farming activities and infrastructure development. Limited access to markets, modern farming techniques, and credit stifles productivity. Climate change-related

issues like erratic rainfall patterns and flooding further exacerbate food insecurity. Moreover, inadequate investment in agriculture and land disputes hinder the sector's growth, making South Sudan highly reliant on food aid. The private sector in the agriculture sector is scanty, and faces several bottlenecks, including inadequate infrastructure, skills gaps, capacity shortages to develop bankable climate finance proposals, limited access to capital, and high lending rates.^{[17]¹⁹}

Despite the agricultural potential, the rural population has been continuously affected by food insecurity in the last few years. Comparatively, severe food insecurity are experienced in Upper Nile, Eastern Equatoria, and Northern Bahr el Ghazal, which are most exposed to extremes of weather (drought and flood) than Western and Central Equatoria states. Predicted changes in climate, both in terms of more intense rainy seasons as well as hotter and dryer dry seasons, could heighten future food insecurity nationally. Farmers across most of the country cannot meet their basic food requirements from own production, nor do they tend to have enough income to purchase food surplus produced elsewhere. Significant food surpluses are only experienced in some parts of the Greenbelt, specifically in Western Equatoria. However, poor road conditions and lack of transportation prevent the surplus food from reaching other food insecure parts of the country.

The humanitarian situation in South Sudan is worsening, driven by the cumulative and compounding effects of years of conflict, subnational violence, food insecurity, the climate crisis and public health challenges. An estimated 9.4 million people in South Sudan — including 2.2 million women, 4.9 million children and 337,000 refugees — are projected to need humanitarian assistance and protection services in 2023, reflecting 76 per cent of the population. Two thirds of the population are affected by the precarious food security situation, making South Sudan one of the world's worst food insecurity crises.^{[18]²⁰}

A.2.4 Environment and climate change context

South Sudan is home to a wide variety of animal and plant species and globally important ecosystems. The diversity of these ecosystems is threatened by the growing number of people, expansion of urban areas, high human dependence on natural ecosystems and increasing industrial activities such pollution and over-extraction of resources. As a result, the number of wildlife species has reduced significantly, and many wetlands have started degrading.^{[19]²¹} The economy of South Sudan is highly dependent on natural resources and the country is already facing serious challenges due to climate change, such as floods and droughts. According to the Climate Change Vulnerability Index 2017, South Sudan is the 5th most vulnerable country to climate change in the world. South Sudan is ranked 176th out of 181 countries, inferring it to be extremely vulnerable and the 14th least ready country to combat climate change effects.^{[20]²²}

The majority of the population is dependent on climate sensitive sectors for their livelihoods (e.g., agriculture, forestry resources and fisheries) and likely changes in temperature and rainfall intensity may have long-lasting negative impacts on the already poor health, nutrition and economic status of the country.^{[21]²³} It should be

mentioned that South Sudan's vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters compounds the country's humanitarian situation, jeopardizes recovery, and undermines development efforts. Since its independence in 2011, the country has suffered severe droughts (2011, 2015) and floods (2014, 2017, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022), resulting in high numbers of casualties, displacements, and loss of livestock — severely impacting people's livelihoods.^{[22]²⁴} This is true in the priority States (see the profile table of priority States) Disasters in South Sudan resulting in high levels of vulnerability are driven and triggered by various factors influenced by climatic changes and human negligence. Disaster preparedness and management is a cross-cutting activity that affects every sector of the South Sudan society.^{[23]²⁵} It is recalled here that the financing gap to achieve South Sudan's climate and green growth ambitions is an estimated \$9.94 billion a year over 2020 to 2030. This astronomical amount is way beyond the government's financial ability in the midst of other multiple competing development needs. Overall, climate adaptation and mitigation needs are substantial in agriculture, livestock, and disaster risk management, among others.^{[24]²⁶}

Climate data are scarce for South Sudan because of the long period of civil war and the historic focus of many studies and data sets on northern Sudan. In general, the country is experiencing substantially warmer and drier weather, and more droughts. In addition, rainfall is becoming more erratic, and the frequency and severity of floods is increasing. Based on regional trends and meteorological data from the mid 1970's to late 2000's, it has been shown that: i) summer rainfall has decreased by 15 to 20% across parts of South Sudan; particularly the north-east; and ii) temperature has increased by more than 0.4°C per decade over the past 30 years. In addition to this, observed trends and anecdotal evidence indicate that: a) the duration and timing of rain has become erratic with the rainy season being delayed and shorter; b) some areas are receiving less rain and consequently the water tables are dropping; c) the region that receives 500 mm or more of rain has contracted, increasingly exposing populations in northern areas to rainfall deficits; and d) the desert is expanding southwards.^{[25]²⁷} This will have negative impacts on the agriculture sector, particularly the yields of important crops in the country are projected to dwindle under 'no irrigation' model (see the Climate Adaptation in Rural Development (CARD) assessment tool in Figure 2).^{[26]²⁸}

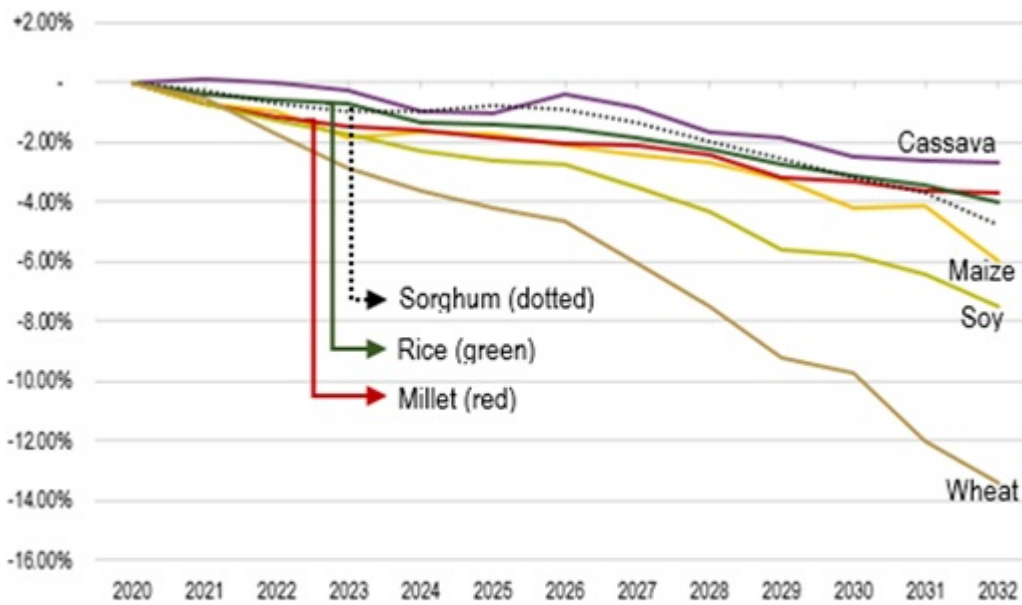


Figure 2: Projected crop yields between 2020 and 2032

Since 2019, South Sudan has suffered four consecutive years of severe flooding. The May–November 2022 floods were considered one of the worst in the last 30 years. In December 2022, nearly 1.1 million people (8.6% of the population) were affected across 9 states and 39 counties. Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap States had the highest number of affected people, estimated at 251,700 and 208,000, respectively. Unity and Upper Nile States with 168,000 and 153,000 affected people, respectively, followed. Many areas affected in 2022 were also affected in the previous three years, in particular in Unity, Warrap, Jonglei, and Upper Nile States. With on average 750,000 to 1 million people affected annually between 2019 and 2022, it is estimated that in some of the most flood-prone areas, more than half of the population has suffered recurrent flood impacts over the past four years. While these areas are historically prone to flooding, the extent and duration of the latest sequence of flooding is unprecedented, and many communities are finding themselves in a state of protracted climate-related crisis which is further affecting their lives and livelihoods.

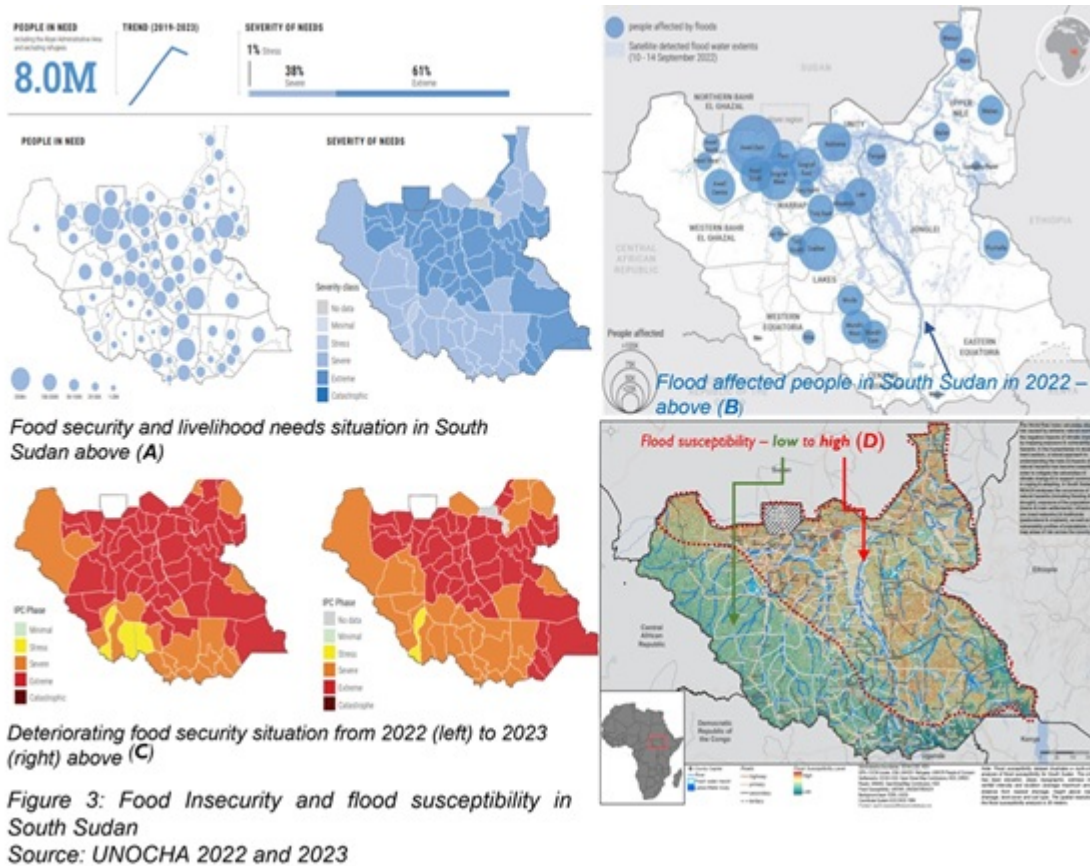


Figure 3 shows maps that demonstrate that 8 million (i.e. ~72% of the total population) (A) are in need of food and nutrition security (C). The majority of these (catastrophic category (A and B)) are within states with high flood susceptibility (D) due to factors related to extreme weather events (B).^{[27]²⁹}

These effects of climate change, in turn, decrease agricultural productivity, upon which the majority of the population depends for their livelihoods. Unless communities adapt, climate change will hinder socio-economic development and contribute to existing tensions and conflicts over natural resources in South Sudan.^{[28]³⁰}

Changes in weather patterns are expected to result in reduced water availability, accelerated desertification and soil erosion processes, irregular rainfall, damage from droughts and floods, and higher risk of pest and disease outbreaks. For example, over 900,000 people in late 2022 were severely affected by floods.^{[29]³¹} Degrading ecosystem services can cause friction between competing forms of land use and competition for resources within land use sectors. Despite these risks, environmental management frameworks at the state and country level are either non-existent or minimal. These nascent institutions have been weakened by a deficit of technical knowledge, financial resources, and the Government's low priority ranking of environment and

climate change issues. The unregulated exploitation of natural resources and extraction of oil can also exacerbate existing environmental impacts and affect the livelihoods of the communities who rely on the land for a living.

The project will be implemented in four states. These states are: Eastern Equatorial, Jonglei, Lakes and Unity States. The selection of these states has been through a consultative process with different stakeholders from within Juba and those from all the ten states of the country. The prioritization has been based on primarily the frequency and severity of extreme weather events (floods and droughts), and the outbreaks of pests, crop diseases and locusts that plague agricultural activities (map included as annex C). The table below summarises the profile of the target States:[\[30\]](#)³²

Table: Socioeconomic and climate profile of target States

State	Profile description
Eastern Equatoria	The state is crisscrossed by rivers, including the White Nile, which provides essential water resources for agriculture, fishing, and transportation. Agriculture forms the cornerstone of Eastern Equatoria's economy, with crops like sorghum, maize, and millet dominating the agricultural landscape. Livestock rearing, particularly cattle herding, is also a key economic activity. The State is susceptible to extreme weather events, including floods and droughts, leading to agricultural disruptions and water resource challenges. Climate change exacerbates these issues, causing erratic rainfall patterns and heightened vulnerability. From 2001 to 2022, Eastern Equatoria lost 1.61 kha of humid primary forest, making up 12% of its total tree cover loss in the same time period.
Jonglei	The State has diverse ecosystems, ranging from the Sudd wetlands in the west to vast savannas and forests in the east. This diversity supports a wide array of wildlife, including iconic species like elephants and various bird species. Agriculture is the primary economic activity in Jonglei, with crops such as sorghum, maize, and millet forming the backbone of the region's food production. Livestock rearing is also essential for local livelihoods. Jonglei has experienced recurrent intercommunal violence and conflict. The State is vulnerable to extreme weather events like floods and droughts, impacting agriculture and livelihoods. Climate change exacerbates these challenges, causing erratic rainfall patterns and water scarcity. From 2001 to 2022, the State lost 12.3 kha of tree cover, equivalent to a 3.2% decrease in tree cover since 2000.
Lakes	Lakes State in South Sudan is marked by its aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, rich agricultural potential (subsistence farming and cattle herding being common practices. Crops such as sorghum, maize, and millet are cultivated), and a focus on livestock. However, it grapples with infrastructure deficits, limited access to education and healthcare, and a history of conflict and instability. The Lakes State has been affected by conflict, leading to displacement, damaged

State	Profile description
	<p>infrastructure, and strained social services. From 2001 to 2022, Lakes lost 8.41 kha of tree cover, equivalent to a 1.5% decrease in tree cover since 2000.</p> <p>The Lakes State grapples with complex environmental challenges, including the degradation of natural habitats, deforestation, and soil erosion. The State is prone to extreme weather events such as floods, posing threats to agriculture, infrastructure, and human settlements. Climate change exacerbates these challenges, leading to erratic rainfall patterns, prolonged droughts, and water scarcity.</p>
Unity	<p>Alongside oil, agriculture forms the backbone of the state's economy, with sorghum, maize, and millet being the primary crops cultivated. Livestock rearing, particularly cattle herding, also contributes significantly to the livelihoods of the population. The state is vulnerable to extreme weather events, including floods and droughts. These events often disrupt agricultural activities, leading to food insecurity and economic losses for the predominantly agrarian communities.</p> <p>Climate Change Impact: Climate change exacerbates the region's environmental challenges, affecting rainfall patterns, agricultural productivity, and water availability. Rising temperatures and changing weather patterns further threaten the state's food security and water resources, amplifying existing vulnerabilities linked to conflict and instability. From 2001 to 2022, Unity lost 2.07 kha of tree cover, equivalent to a 4.4%.</p>

Therefore, the prioritization of the target States over others was rationalised on account of occurrence, frequency and severity of extreme weather events within a context of protracted years of conflict and instability. Also, the rationale built on the on-going **and upcoming IFAD portfolio**.

Barriers

As alluded to above, South Sudan is a country confronted with various complex development challenges. These are related to political fragility, conflicts over resources and socioeconomic factors. The natural phenomena such as extreme weather events and outbreaks of diseases and pests therefore, unfold within an already vulnerable and weak socioeconomic development context – exacerbating the impacts on the socioecological systems of communities in the target states.

South Sudan faces critical environmental and climate change challenges. Deforestation threatens biodiversity and amplifies desertification. Natural forests and woodlands cover 29% of the total land area. Rate of deforestation is estimated

at 2%.^{[31]³³} In 2010, South Sudan had 13.3 Mha of tree cover, extending over 21% of its land area. In 2022, it lost 3.46 kha of tree cover, equivalent to 1.60 Mt of CO₂ emissions. From 2001 to 2022, South Sudan lost 2.07 kha of humid primary forest, making up 1.6% of its total tree cover loss in the same time period. Total area of humid primary forest in South Sudan decreased by 2.5% in this time period. From 2001 to 2022, South Sudan lost 131 kha of tree cover, equivalent to a 1.2% decrease in tree cover since 2000, and 40.8 Mt of CO₂e emissions.^{[32]³⁴}

Erratic rainfall patterns lead to droughts and floods, disrupting agriculture and food and nutrition security. Limited infrastructure exacerbates vulnerability, hindering disaster preparedness and response. Oil exploration heightens pollution risks, endangering water sources and ecosystems. These challenges are interconnected, exacerbating and exacerbated by poverty, weak institutions and policy instruments, and conflict. It should be emphasized and recalled that production and development and armed conflict, which has disrupted normal socioeconomic activities and increased poaching of animals in national parks and wildlife reserves, illegal and uncontrolled deforestation for timber and wood fuel production, and conflict between crop farmers and livestock keepers over shared lands for crop and livestock grazing.^{[33]³⁵} Therefore, conflict has an important negative impact on natural resources management in the country.

Addressing the challenges in the table above, the country faces important adaptation barriers, encapsulated in two major points. These are:

1. *Institutional weaknesses, inadequate governance structures and coordinated policy framework* to effectively support resilience building and reduction of community vulnerability in states that are affected by extreme weather events. Institutional weaknesses often manifest as insufficient resources, technical expertise, and capacity to formulate and implement effective climate adaptation strategies. The government of South Sudan recognises that there are inadequate financial institutional arrangements and capacity to finance climate change adaptation efforts in South Sudan. This inadequacy includes limited financial resources dedicated to finance climate change adaptation efforts and no institutional mechanisms embedded in the financial institutions to finance these efforts.^{[34]³⁶} The government further recognises and acknowledges that there is clear inadequacy in the legislative, regulatory and institutional structures to adequately manage environmental compliance, deforestation and poaching, among others.^{[35]³⁷} This not only curtails community empowerment but also limits the government's ability to drive effective policies and ensure their implementation. When policies are not harmonized across sectors and levels of government, adaptation efforts become piecemeal and ineffective. The absence of integration between climate considerations and development planning leaves communities vulnerable, with missed opportunities for synergistic approaches. Ultimately, institutional weaknesses, inadequate governance, and fragmented policies create a cycle of vulnerability. Communities lack the support and resources they need, while the government's response remains disjointed and insufficient. Breaking this cycle necessitates strengthening institutions, fostering

transparent governance, and developing comprehensive, cross-sectoral policy frameworks that prioritize climate adaptation and empower communities to proactively respond to climate challenges; and

2. *Very highly elevated levels of poverty*: It has already been noted above that South Sudan tops the list of countries with the lowest HDIs. Poverty is widespread, particularly in the rural areas – which are home to more than 6.9 million people. Approximately 51% of South Sudan’s population lives below the national consumption poverty line and are living on an equivalent of less than US\$ 1 per day. Over 75% of households are dependent on crop farming or animal husbandry as their primary source of livelihood.[\[36\]](#)³⁸ Poverty creates a vicious cycle that impedes both community and governmental responses to climate change impacts and extreme weather events in South Sudan. Impoverished communities lack the means to invest in crucial infrastructure and technologies that could enhance resilience. With limited access to financial resources, they struggle to adopt sustainable agricultural practices, build flood-resistant housing, and establish early warning systems. Poverty-driven constraints also limit educational opportunities, leaving communities less aware of adaptive strategies and approaches. At the governmental level, widespread poverty strains the already scant resources available for climate adaptation initiatives. Funding for comprehensive policies, disaster preparedness, and capacity-building becomes inadequate, impeding the implementation of effective strategies. Government efforts are further hampered by social and political instability, which diverts attention and resources away from climate resilience planning and implementation.
3. *Conflict*: The conflictual context in the country is linked to political power struggles, ethnic tensions, and resource competition. For example, communal conflict among crop producers and pastoral communities are a common phenomenon. The civil war that erupted in 2013, leading to mass displacement, violence, and human rights abuses, has exacerbated existing divisions. Despite a peace agreement in 2018, sporadic clashes persist, impeding stability and development. Conflict limits the ability of the country to effectively respond to climate change and natural disasters - compounding the country’s humanitarian crisis, jeopardizing recovery and undermining development efforts. Since its independence in 2011, the country has suffered from severe droughts (2011, 2015) and floods (2014, 2017, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022), resulting in high numbers of fatalities, displacements and loss of livestock which have severely impacted people’s livelihoods.[\[37\]](#)³⁹

It should be noted that the cycle of poverty and inadequate adaptation reinforces itself. Climate change exacerbates poverty by disrupting livelihoods and increasing the frequency of extreme events. These conditions contribute to conflicts over resources, further destabilizing communities and hindering their ability to cope with changing conditions. Overall, poverty erodes the ability of both communities and the government to proactively respond to climate change, perpetuating a cycle of susceptibility to environmental challenges. Indeed public interventions to build adaptive capacities and community resilience generally confront many barriers in rural

and sensitive regions, such as a lack of financial or human resources to support project planning and implementation, and this is especially true in impoverished communities.

To contribute to addressing the aforementioned barriers, the project is designed with the objective *to strengthen the agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable communities and improve capacities for natural resources management to enhance the resilience of the socioecological contexts of selected states in South Sudan.*

With this objective, the project will build on an important baseline scenario that focuses on improving livelihoods through agriculture, peace building through asset building, and institutional capacity strengthening to improve the management of natural resources (see section B for baseline scenario). While IFAD’s baseline is more focused on the humanitarian aspects, SABRELA is focused on strengthening the resilience and build sustainable and inclusive adaptive capacities of rural communities – thus contributing to transforming the vulnerable socioecological context in the target States. It important to recall here that to their reliance on climate-sensitive activities like agriculture and livestock rearing. Erratic rainfall patterns, prolonged droughts, and unpredictable weather can disrupt crop yields, decrease pasture availability, and impact the overall resilience of these integrated farming systems.

South Sudanese is explicit in prioritizing projects that: i) should integrate adaptation needs from multiple sectors and pursue complementary activities; ii) should contribute to the further development of legislative and regulatory frameworks in South Sudan; iii) should promote livelihood diversification; iv) should build capacity (of human, institutional, technical and financial resources); v) should include indigenous knowledge; vi) should contribute to the further development of legislative and regulatory frameworks in South Sudan; vii) should consider land tenure issues; viii) should include gender issues; ix) should promote conflict resolution and peace-building.^{[38]⁴⁰}

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[2] Worldometer. (2023): Population of [South Sudan](#) (2023 and historical)

[3] The World Bank (2023). The World Bank in [South Sudan](#).

[4] AfDB. (2023). Africa Economic Outlook: [South Sudan](#)

[5] World Bank, 2019, South Sudan Economic Brief, Washington, DC

[6] Human Development Index by country: [South Sudan](#)

[7] Government of South Sudan. (2021). South Sudan's Second Nationally Determined Contribution ([NDC](#))

[8] United Nations South Sudan. (2023). United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)

[9] United Nations South Sudan. (2023). United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)

[10] World Bank. Systematic Country Diagnostic: [South Sudan](#)

[11] Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. (2020). “South Sudan: IPC Acute Food Insecurity and Acute Malnutrition Analysis for January – July 2020, issued in February 2020”

[12] The World Bank (2023). The World Bank in [South Sudan](#)

- [13] World Bank ,Poverty profile of southern states, 2011
- [14] South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics (SSNBS)
- [15] Government of South Sudan. (2022). Nationally Determined Contributions (second). [South Sudan](#)
- [16] Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan’s National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change
- [17] AfDB. (2023). [South Sudan](#) Economic Outlook
- [18] UNOCHA (2023): [South Sudan](#)
- [19] Government of South Sudan. (2021). South Sudan's Second Nationally Determined Contribution ([NDC](#))
- [20] Notre Dame Global Adaptation (ND-Gain) Index: South Sudan
- [21] Government of South Sudan. (2021). South Sudan's Second Nationally Determined Contribution ([NDC](#))
- [22]The World Bank (2023). The World Bank in [South Sudan](#)
- [23] Wetlands International (2023). National Disaster Management Strategic Plan for [South Sudan](#)
- [24] AfDB. (2023). [South Sudan](#) Economic Outlook
- [25] Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan’s National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change
- [26] All data is based on the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP) Fast Track output. Simulations use the greenhouse gas emission scenario RCP8.5, an emission scenario that leads to around 4°C global warming by 2100. The graph shown uses a no-irrigation scenario, with 2020 as the baseline year
- [27] UNOCHA. (2023). Humanitarian Needs Overview [South Sudan](#)
- [28] Government of South Sudan. (2021). South Sudan's Second Nationally Determined Contribution ([NDC](#))
- [29] OCHA Services. (2023). 10 countries at risk of climate disaster: [South Sudan](#)
- [30] Information regarding on tree cover loss in the table is based on Global Forest Watch: [South Sudan](#)
- [31] Government of South Sudan (2018). National Biodiversity Strategy And Action Plan - [NBSAP](#) (2018-2027)
- [32] Global Forest Watch: [South Sudan](#)
- [33]Government of South Sudan (2018). National Biodiversity Strategy And Action Plan - [NBSAP](#) (2018-2027)
- [34]Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan’s National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change
- [35] Government of South Sudan (2018). National Biodiversity Strategy And Action Plan - [NBSAP](#) (2018-2027)
- [36]Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan’s National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change
- [37] World Bank Group (2023). Country Profile [South Sudan](#).
- [38]Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan’s National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project description

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF’s policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section

should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the PIF guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

Project Description

The project is designed within states that are dominated by agro-pastoral livelihood activities (refer to Fig 1). Agriculture is important to national economy and livelihoods. The sector dominates the economy in South Sudan, with over 75% of the population almost entirely reliant on subsistence agriculture and livestock production for their livelihoods. Over 95% of the total land area of South Sudan is considered suitable for agriculture. Subsistence farming is prevalent, with traditional crops like sorghum, maize, millet, and vegetables being cultivated primarily for domestic consumption. Livestock, including cattle, goats, and sheep, are also vital assets for pastoral communities, contributing to food security and cultural significance.

Given the reliance on agriculture, the sector is therefore, the first line of defense in adapting to the impacts of extreme weather events, poverty and restoration of production landscapes; preventing them from further degradation. Challenges, however, abound. Erratic rainfall patterns, poor infrastructure, and lack of access to modern farming techniques limit agricultural productivity. Also, desert locust attacks cause widespread damage to farms and pastures. Widespread rains in late March create conducive conditions for new swarms of locusts; leading to increased locust movements in East Africa, including South Sudan. Locust invasions of Eastern Equatoria, Lakes and Central Equatoria States, for example, are a common phenomenon. Additional generation of locusts are expected in May, June and July, which coincides with the start of the harvest. Moreover, conflict and ethnic tensions lead to land disputes that disrupt farming activities. Lack of mechanization and limited storage facilities contribute to post-harvest losses. Agricultural productivity and value-added processes remain low because farmers rely upon traditional farming practices, with only 30% of households reporting any expenditure on agricultural inputs. For the most part, agriculture is based on small, hand-cultivated land units often farmed by women-headed households.^{[1]⁴¹}

Women have traditionally been central to household farming; however, their contribution has been neither understood nor appreciated. Men and women often perform separate roles in agriculture, but women frequently end up with more tasks and more time at work. Roles and responsibilities tend to vary across geographies and ethnic groups and are shaped by the effects of war. Female-headed households working in agriculture has grown because of war, HIV and rural-urban migration.

South Sudan is therefore, a complex vulnerable context compounded by human and natural-induced factors. Within this context, the project will seek to strengthen the agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable communities and improve capacities for natural resources management to enhance the resilience of the socioecological contexts of selected states in South Sudan. It will primarily focus on strengthening policy and institutional capacities to support the growth and transformation of agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable communities in support of resilience building but also the management of natural resources. Also, the project will support a private sector-led market systems to build absorptive and adaptive capacities of local communities in target states. The adaptive capacities will include diversification of climate resilient livelihood options and development of financial service models that are adaptable and tailored to the scales of production of communities in target states.

The support towards creating and strengthening an enabling environment, as well as creating space for the private sector in transforming agro-pastoral systems will have positive socioeconomic and environmental ripple effects. The project's theory of change is undergirded by the logic that building and protecting asset portfolios that are both agricultural and non-agricultural within an appropriate enabling institutional and policy environment will strengthen agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable communities and their ability to manage natural resources better – thus strengthening the resilience of their socioecological systems. Embedding socioecological resilience considerations in the project's approach is critical. It offers multiples advantages and outcomes when different aspects of human-environment systems and interactions are simultaneously addressed to build adaptive capacities to impacts of climate change.^{[2]⁴²} The project therefore, will support a combination of both concrete adaptation actions and creating an enabling environment. In this regard, the project will be more holistic and ensure a more coherent institutional and policy support across various sectors that are aligned with fighting the impacts of climate change in South Sudan – the country's NAPA^{[3]⁴³} identifies these to be the water, environment, agriculture and forestry sectors.

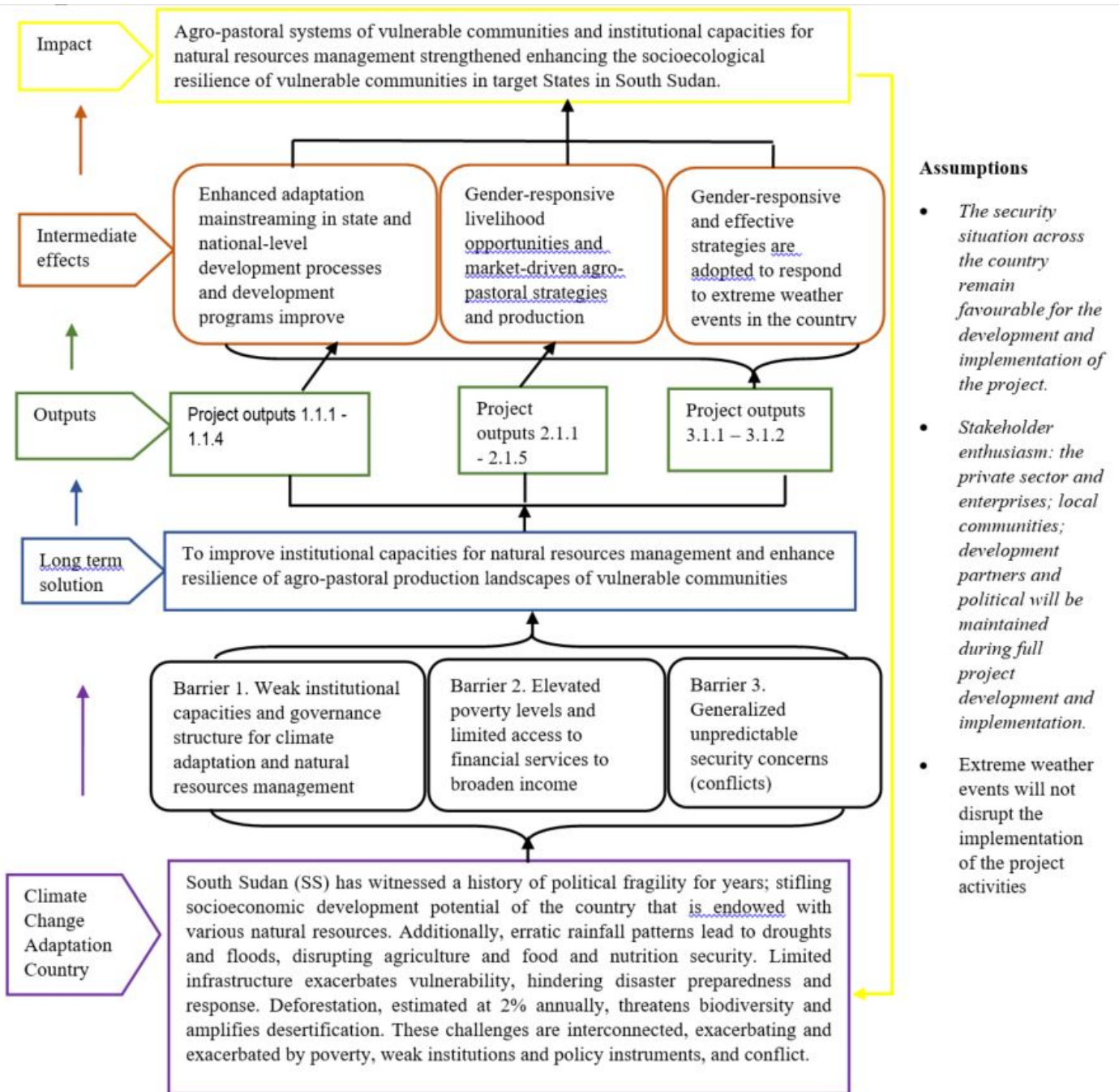
Overall, the project's Theory of Change is that if an enabling environment is established and strengthened to support agro-pastoral systems including requisite capacities at institutional, community and individual producer levels, the project will enhance the socioecological system's adaptive capacities to withstand extreme weather events in particular, and climate change in general. The agro-pastoral systems will need to be transformed to support a transition from community humanitarian assistance to more self-reliant crop and pastoral communities – who through improved productivity and broadened income streams, can generate positive socioeconomic opportunities and benefits such as reducing conflicts over resources, narrowing gender disparities, knowledge transfer, capacity building, job creation, re/investments in more climate-resilient and environmentally-friendly production systems, among others. This is the desired transformation to sustainably build the resilience of rural communities in target states while improving the management of natural resources in a country that is fractured by years of political fragility, persistent inter-communal conflicts over resources, chronically elevated poverty levels and an economy that is in doldrums with weak institutional and policy structures. Thus, capacities for adaptation to the increasingly frequent and severe extreme weather events are so low, both at national and community levels.

In response, the proposed project envisages strategic pathways that are axed on a) institutional capacity development; b) investments in livelihoods; and c) access to climate related information to support informed decision making vis-à-vis extreme weather events. This strategic focus is conceived to achieve: enhanced adaptation mainstreaming in state and national-level development processes and development programs improve; gender-responsive livelihood opportunities and market-driven agro-pastoral strategies and production; and gender-responsive and effective strategies are adopted to respond to extreme weather events in the country. The proposed pathways for the project are on the following assumptions: the security situation across the country remains favourable for the development and implementation of the project; the private sector and enterprises; local communities; development partners and political will be maintained during full project development and implementation; and extreme weather events will not disrupt the implementation of the project activities

Combined, these effects will culminate into strengthening the agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable communities and institutional capacities for natural resources management and enhancing the socioecological resilience of vulnerable communities in target States in South Sudan – including creating jobs, improving food and nutrition security and general wellbeing. To achieve this, the project’s investment will focus on activities related to:

- Climate-smart agricultural practices that are resilient to floods and droughts and restoration of degraded production agricultural land of 12,000 ha;
- Diversification of on and off-farm income sources;
- Accessing financial services for investments in both agricultural and non-agricultural activities to better cope with extreme weather events;
- Accessing early warning systems to improve communities' ability to respond effectively to floods and droughts, and mitigate or avert potential damages – this is consistent with the priorities of the National Disaster Management Action Plan;
- Establishing and capacity building of community-based organizations that can support and consolidate climate-smart local development initiatives;
- Accessing private sector expertise, resources, and market linkages to sustainably support agro-pastoral production systems;
- Participating in knowledge generation and transfer through workshops, training programs, and awareness campaigns on climate adaptation and sustainable practices.

Below an illustration of the Theory of Change diagram:



Project outputs:

Component 1 outputs	Component 2 outputs	Component 3 outputs
1.1.1: Tailored training programs for 2,000 personnel (50% being female) in climate science, risk assessment, and sustainable practices conducted 1.1.2: Early warning systems established and strengthened in the target states to benefit 20,000 households, 50% being female-headed.	2.1.1: Restoration of degraded of 12,000 ha agro-pastoral production landscapes 2.1.2: 8,000 ha of production landscapes in target States under sustainable agro-pastoral practices	3.1.1: Awareness campaign strategies and information dissemination mechanisms developed and rolled out ensuring 50% women outreach. 3.1.2: Lessons and knowledge products, including those capturing gender perspectives, systematically collected and disseminated to intended audiences (50% being women).

<p>1.1.3: Climate change adaptation related national policies reviewed and aligned to improve cross-sector climate change adaptation policy coherence</p> <p>1.1.4: Inclusive and gender-responsive multi-stakeholder climate change adaptation platform (for knowledge sharing, fostering partnerships, and integrating climate considerations into development planning) established and operationalized</p>	<p>2.1.2: 5 socioeconomically viable agro-pastoral gender-responsive value chains developed</p> <p>2.1.3: Market digital information infrastructure of selected agro-pastoral value chains developed and rolled out</p> <p>2.1.4: Storage facilities at strategic places climate-proofed.</p> <p>2.1.5: Farmer training programs on market dynamics, negotiation, quality standards etc conducted, ensuring 50% women representation in trainings.</p>	
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In response to the already mentioned barriers, and in light of the afore-described theory of change, the project will be designed around the following components to create the requisite institutional and policy environment, and diversify resilient livelihoods:

Component 1: Strengthening institutional, policy and technical capacities to enhance adaptation implementation in South Sudan

Outcome 1.1: Strengthened institutional, policy and technical capacities systematically enhance adaptation mainstreaming in state and national-level development processes and development programs

Enabling and supportive environments for adaptation share common governance characteristics, including multiple actors and assets, multiple centres of power at different levels and an effective vertical and horizontal integration between levels (*high confidence*). Enabling conditions can support livelihood strategies that do not undermine human well-being.^{[4]⁴⁴} Local institutions shape impacts of climatic shocks on communities, however, for the case of South Sudan, the absence of public administration in many counties means that deforestation policies may be difficult to enforce.^{[5]⁴⁵} This component is premised on the recognition that there is an inextricable link between the role of institutions for climate adaptation and development. The success of adaptation efforts generally hinges upon the nature of existing formal and informal rural institutions. Institutional arrangements are really key to adaptation as the latter rarely occurs in an institutional vacuum. The role of institutional, policy and technical capacities in adaptation can be appreciated with regards to the provision of weather and climate information, technological interventions that help increase productivity (and which are not necessarily targeted towards climatic change but livelihood challenges in general), financial support to assist with implementation of these technologies and leadership efforts that promote collective action for adaptation.^{[6]⁴⁶} Under component 1, the project will therefore, seek to strengthen institutional, policy and

technical – in specific response to the insufficient capacity – institutional and technical – at both national and state level to implement adaptation activities in the country (as noted in the country NAPA[7]⁴⁷). It is noted under this component that when policies are not harmonized across sectors and levels of government, adaptation efforts become piecemeal and ineffective. The absence of integration between climate considerations and development planning leaves communities vulnerable, with missed opportunities for synergistic approaches. The project will support early warning systems; establishing and strengthening them – this will be complimented by capacity development of the relevant personnel to facilitate farmer access to the required information.

Also, under component 1, the project will build institutional and technical capacity through tailored training programs for 2,000 personnel in climate science, risk assessment, and sustainable practices. The project will establish and strengthen early warning systems in the target States. Under this component, the project will establish and operationalize an inclusive and gender-responsive multi-stakeholder climate change adaptation platform (for knowledge sharing, fostering partnerships, and integrating climate considerations into development planning) – within the context of enhancing an enabling context for adaptation implementation in the country.

Overall, the private sector's significant contributions to climate adaptation have long been underestimated, especially in impoverished communities, which have fewer resources and options to combat the damage caused by climate change. [8]⁴⁸ The project will therefore, seek to establish an enabling policy environment to support private-sector involvement in adaptation in South Sudan. It is well noted that the private sector space is constrained by various factors in the country. Thus, the project will develop financing models that will ensure a win-win situation for both agro-pastoral communities and the private sector. On this front, the project will seek to engage mobile phone companies operating in the country to establish and strengthen mobile banking service platform to facilitate financial inclusion even for those in remote areas. The project will support the policy environment for the creation of microfinance institutions tailored to local needs crop producers and pastoral communities, ensuring that local entrepreneurs are supported to establish small-scale financial enterprises bolster economic resilience and widen financial accessibility. Combined, these efforts will support and facilitate access to finance and financial services community-based financial literacy programs including market literacy, building on financial products and services that will be developed that reflect the production systems and cycles of agro-pastoral communities in the target states. The component has both local, state-level and national level scope. Finally, incentivizing and supporting.

Component 2: Diversifying inclusive and gender-responsive resilient livelihood opportunities and improving market linkages of selected agro-pastoral products

Outcome 2.1: Diversified and enhanced inclusive and gender-responsive livelihood opportunities and market-driven agro-pastoral strategies and production systems strengthen community socioecological resilience to climate change in the target States

The scientific basis of component 2 is that climate change has become one of humanity's greatest challenges, as it has caused profound impacts on both natural and human systems. This is especially true in rural and

sensitive production areas (pastoral and cropland), where rural communities typically suffer from poverty, which greatly decreases their ability to respond to the changes,^{[9]⁴⁹} particularly in contexts with poor or non-existing early warning systems such as in South Sudan. It is acknowledged that livelihood diversification strategies are implemented by households in rural environments as a response to threats and opportunities to manage risk and increase or stabilize income and consumption. Most households in rural areas of developing countries rely on rain-fed agriculture for their livelihoods and, as such, are highly dependent on climatic conditions.^{[10]⁵⁰} Under the specific case of South Sudan, diversification of livelihoods is critical on the understanding that climate change reduces capacities for adaptive responses and limits choices and opportunities for sustainable development. Also, climate change increases the threat of chronic and sudden onset development challenges, such as poverty traps and food insecurity.^{[11]⁵¹} Given the poverty levels in South Sudan, and the context of historical conflicts, gender dynamics, and weak institutional and policy arrangements, rural communities are least able to adapt. They have very limited adaptation opportunities and have little influence on decision making because their agro-pastoral activities are climate-sensitive livelihoods in very precarious extreme weather events and socioeconomic conditions.

Against this background, the project under component 2 will seek to build inclusive and gender-responsive^{[12]⁵²} adaptive capacities across all activities. Activities will focus on supporting access to improved inputs (such as improved seed varieties suitable/adapted in target states recognizing the extreme weather events and disease outbreaks prevalent in the target states) and access to markets; support women and youth-focused agriculture-based entrepreneurship; promoting climate-smart agricultural practices ^{[13]⁵³} like agroforestry, where trees are integrated into farming systems, enhancing soil fertility and water retention^{[14]⁵⁴} that are resilient to floods and droughts on 3,000 ha and restoration of degraded production agricultural land of 12,000 ha (this will also support the implementation the government's proposal to plant 10 million trees in the ten states);^{[15]⁵⁵} development of socioeconomically viable and sustainable agro-pastoral value chains; sustainable agro-pastoral practices on 8,000 ha and sustainable fishing practices. Under sustainable agro-pastoral practices, the project will support activities such as agroforestry to promote biodiversity, and crop-livestock integration, where animal waste serves as organic fertilizer, enhancing soil quality and crop productivity. The project will promote water harvesting techniques; market linkages (facilitate connections between medium-scale farmers and local markets, processors, and retailers to ensure their produce reaches consumers and fetches fair prices); value addition (promote value addition activities such as food processing and packaging, enabling farmers to access higher-value markets and reduce post-harvest losses); market information infrastructure (provide timely market information to farmers through mobile apps or extension services, helping them make informed decisions on what and when to produce); market infrastructure (improve transportation and storage infrastructure to reduce market access barriers and enhance the shelf-life of agro-pastoral products); and market training (offer training and capacity-building programs to farmers on market dynamics, negotiation skills, and quality standards to

enhance their competitiveness in the markets) – all these interventions will ensure an equal, that is, 50% representation of women as beneficiaries but also as agents of change in the target States.

Component 3: M&E and knowledge management and learning

Outcome 3.1: Knowledge management and lesson sharing are timely captured and foster capacity-building, informed decision making processes and empower farmers and public and private institutions to adopt effective strategies in the face of extreme weather events

Under disaster reduction and livestock production themes, South Sudan, respectively, seeks to: i) increasing knowledge on climate change and environmental issues through a national awareness-raising campaign; and ii) develop the livestock sector through enhanced rangeland management, increased knowledge and improved animal health systems to reduce the vulnerability of pastoral communities to climate change.[\[16\]](#)⁵⁶

Under component 3, the project will concentrate on activities that promote a dynamic process of learning from both successes and failures, fostering adaptive capacity and enhancing resilience to climate change impacts. The scope of activities will focus on: i) creating awareness on natural resource management and conservation; ii) anticipatory actions in the face of extreme weather events; iii) building and strengthening capacity of relevant stakeholders through evidence-based policies, structures, institutions, and documentation (linked to component 1); and iv) supporting a platform and networks to support community adaptation learning processes; and v) documenting and disseminating indigenous Knowledge and traditional responses to climate change calamities – it is noted that many communities have developed strategies to cope with climate variability appropriate to their geographic location and ecological context in South Sudan (including different farming techniques, specific crop varieties or small-scale adaptation technologies).[\[17\]](#)⁵⁷ Building on the South Sudanese NAPA aspiration, the project acknowledges that knowledge management and learning play a crucial role in climate change adaptation by facilitating informed decision-making, fostering innovation, and enhancing resilience. Sharing and disseminating knowledge about climate science, best practices, and successful adaptation strategies empower communities, policymakers, and practitioners to make well-informed choices.

Through continuous learning, stakeholders can understand evolving climate patterns and their impacts, improving preparedness and response strategies. Lessons from successful and failed adaptation initiatives contribute to more effective planning, resource allocation, and implementation. Knowledge management also encourages collaboration and the exchange of experiences across different regions and sectors, enabling the adaptation community to collectively address challenges.

Moreover, knowledge management aids in identifying gaps and emerging issues in adaptation efforts. By staying updated on the latest research and data, communities and governments can refine their strategies to align with new realities. Ultimately, a robust knowledge management and learning framework supports adaptive capacity-building, enabling societies to navigate the complexities of climate change and enhance their resilience to its impacts.

Therefore, SABRELA is conceived consistent with the profile of projects to respond to the development and climate change challenges that South Sudan grapples with. The country's NAPA is specific in terms of priority projects, and SABRELA responds to the following project profiles, presented at sectoral level:^{[18]⁵⁸}

<i>No.</i>	<i>Project description</i>	<i>Sector in the NAPA</i>		<i>SABRELA component</i>
1.	Promotion of reforestation and agroforestry to reduce vulnerability to droughts and floods	Environment		Component 2
2.	<i>Introduction of rainwater harvesting techniques to increase water supply under conditions of climate change</i>	<i>Water resources</i>		<i>Component 2</i>
3.	Promotion of climate-smart agricultural techniques to improve livelihoods and food security under changing climatic patterns	Agriculture		Component 2
4.	<i>Establish improved drought and flood early warning systems in South Sudan through improved hydro-meteorological monitoring network.</i>	<i>Disaster Reduction</i>	<i>Risk</i>	<i>Component 1</i>
5.	Building or Strengthening Institutional Arrangements to Develop Climate Change Resilience	Policy Institutional Framework	and	Component 1
6.	<i>Building institutional arrangements for climate change adaptation at state, county, payam and boma levels</i>	<i>Policy Institutional Framework</i>	<i>and</i>	<i>Component 1</i>
7.	Increasing knowledge on climate change and environmental issues through a national awareness-raising campaign and inclusion into school curricula	Disaster Reduction	Risk	Component 3

The implementation of the project will be shaped by collaborative efforts from different stakeholders in South Sudan. The lessons will be learned from rich experiences from humanitarian efforts from institutions such as WFP and FAO. Beyond these two institutions, the Seed Association of South Sudan (STASS) has expressed strong commitment to the project, and has provided a letter of their willingness to work and support (see attachment) the implementation of the project. More stakeholders will be confirmed at PPG, however, many stakeholders have been part of the design of the project concept note. Women groups, government institutions, bilateral institutions, multilateral development bank, UN agencies were represented during the initial consultations that informed the contents of this concept note.

STASS will play a critical role in supporting the market-driven livelihood and agro-pastoral production interventions, while women groups will be critical in ensuring gender and inclusive considerations are duly mainstreamed in the project processes at design, implementation and monitoring and reporting stages. UN agencies will provide useful insights and lessons to inform community mobilization in the context of socioeconomic and political fragility. It should be recalled that this project will build on the IFAD-implemented South Sudan Livelihoods Resilience Programme being implemented in Jonglei, Eastern Equatoria and Central Equatoria. The government agencies will be important in providing policy checks and balances to the projects;

ensuring that the project strengthens the institutional, policy and capacities in a way that is aligned with the NAPA and the sustainable development agenda.

The table below summarises stakeholders that the project will continue engaging throughout its life through meetings, workshops, technical support missions, and other means.

Stakeholder category	Stakeholder	Potential role in SABRELA
Government national-level agencies and departments	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	This is the project's Executing Entity, ensuring project compliance with government development as promised in the project.
	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security	The Ministry will share the role of executing the project with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry.
	Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare	To offer technical guidance on Government priorities with regards to gender and youth development priorities.
	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries	To provide technical guidance but also policy compliance with regards to the development of socio-economically viable and sustainable agro-pastoral value chains and sustainable agro-pastoral practices and sustainable fishing practices
	South Sudan Department of Meteorological Service	To provide technical guidance with regards to the establishment and strengthening of early warning systems in the target States.
	National Communication Commission	The Commission will provide policy guidelines with regards to communication policy and data use in connection with mobile financial services in target States.
Government subnational-level agency	State line Ministries; County administrations; and Payam authorities	To support the execution of project activities, ensuring compliance with government development priorities at County, Boma and Payam levels.
Civil Society Organizations	South Sudan Women Empowerment Network (SSWEN)	To facilitate the mobilization of women to participate in the project across all the target States.
	South Sudan Youth Organizations Coalition	To facilitate the mobilization of the youth to participate in the project across all the target States – drawing on youth membership and capacities as identified in the coalition.
Community-level stakeholders	Community members and local leadership	To support the identification and prioritisation of project activities, participation in the execution of project activities and as beneficiaries of project interventions in the target States.
Development partners	World Bank UNEP UNEP	These Partners have active projects that constitute a baseline scenario of SABRELA. They will provide lessons and opportunity for experience exchange and knowledge generation.

Stakeholder category	Stakeholder	Potential role in SABRELA
	UNIDO	
The private sector / Micro Financial Institutions /enterprises	MTN, Zain	To facilitate community access to financial services by providing mobile platforms.
	Sudan Microfinance Institution, Finance Sudan Limited, Rural Finance Initiative and Manna Microfinance.	They will be engaged to develop financial services and delivery mechanisms that fit the socioeconomic and production cycles of the communities in the target States.
	Seed Association of South Sudan (STASS)	Supporting the market-driven livelihood and agro-pastoral production interventions

On the gender front, the project is cognizant that gender roles have evolved in the country due to ongoing conflict, leaving many women-headed households who now play a major role in agricultural production. Also, the ongoing conflict, displacement and pervasive insecurity have worsened the incidence of Gender-based Violence and contributed to the increased exposure particularly of women and girls to varying forms of violence. The project will further undertake a gender assessment to identify gender imbalances that exist and come up with tangible activities that can be built into the project to address them. The project will also strengthen specific GRM systems to better capture GBV issues related to the project early.

By contributing to addressing gender gaps and working collaboratively with a wide range of stakeholders, the project is posed to contribute to the following global environmental and adaptation benefits:

- Climate-smart agricultural practices that are resilient to floods and droughts on 3,000 ha and restoration of degraded production agricultural land of 3,000 ha;
- Strengthened market-linkages provides access to diverse income streams, reducing dependence on climatically sensitive crops. Diversification allows for better risk management, improved financial stability, and the ability to invest in adaptive practices. It enhances economic security in the face of climate variability;
- Strengthened institutional and policy arrangements provide a supportive framework. Coordinated policies (policy coherence across relevant sectors), secure land tenure, and access to resources ensure farmers can adopt climate-smart practices. Strengthened institutions offer guidance, resources, and a platform for collective action, fostering resilience;
- Capacity development empowers smallholder farmers with knowledge and skills needed to adapt to climate change. Training in sustainable agricultural practices, water management, and disaster preparedness equips them to mitigate risks, optimize resource use, and enhance their ability to withstand climate-related challenges, ultimately bolstering resilience; and
- Value addition to agro-pastoral strengthens smallholder farmer adaptation and resilience by transforming raw products into higher-value goods. Processing, packaging, and marketing diversify income sources, mitigate losses from climate shocks, and improve market access. This approach buffers against agricultural challenges, fostering economic stability amid climate uncertainties.

The sustainability of the afore-mentioned benefits hinge on both institutional and community capacities that will be built, but also on the sector that will be positively affected. The agriculture sector is the most important for rural livelihoods in the face of climate change, therefore, strengthening the sector will support sustainability of project interventions in the target states. Improved access to financial services, for example, will help to diversify income streams. It is noted here that rural livelihood diversification maintaining and adopting a diverse portfolio of activities to survive and improve living standards is essential for reducing vulnerability to climate change.^{[19]⁵⁹}

As has been mentioned, South Sudan has various development agencies working on different aspects of humanitarian assistance. This is critical given the historical and current socioeconomic but also political context. As a development project, this project will draw lessons from other initiatives in the country.

The project will build on lesson learnt from ongoing/past projects summarized as follows:

Preliminary lessons from past/ongoing projects:

- *Project delays and interruptions in the country:* Learning from other projects in the country, delays and project implementation interruptions can be triggered by two factors: country insecurity context and extreme weather events. There is an appreciable level of progress on the security front in the country. However, the situation generally in the country remains fragile. For example, intercommunal conflicts in some rural areas are not unusual. These conflicts can delay the implementation of activities on the ground. Secondly, extreme weather events, particularly heavy seasonal rains and flooding have become a common phenomenon that can: i) delay the implementation of project activities; and ii) potentially undo any gains that have been achieved such as washing away infrastructure that has been supported by the project.
- *Weak institutional capacities:* Generally, capacities are low in the country – at both national and local levels. Implementing certain activities may be affected by this challenge. Therefore, the design of community-focused projects such as SABRELA requires strong aspects of capacity development at both national and local levels. For example, this is underlying logic in the South Sudan Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods Project through its deliberate effort to build local level capacities using community development planning in Payams.
- *Adaptive management, grit and agility:* Building on point two above, it is critical to ensure community participatory capacity development to enhance ownership, project replication and sustainability; and continued engagement with other partners in the country to build and strengthen mechanisms for collaborative efforts in supporting community-level socioeconomic structures to address the impacts of climate change within a socioeconomically and politically fragile context.
- *Transition from handout, humanitarian approach to self-sustainability to enhance resilience:* Implementing climate change adaptation interventions in the country has to accommodate the need to respond to the immediate community needs and empowering communities to transition to self-sustainability where they are better able to cope with extreme weather events. This aspect is reflected

in the Enhancing Community Resilience and Local Governance Project Phase II Additional Financing project and the South Sudan Enhancing Community Resilience and Local Governance Project. In sum, building resilience and adaptive capacities in South Sudan needs to duly acknowledge the country context socioeconomic fragility in the design.

- *The role of the youth and the women:* The youth have an important role to play in building resilience in agro-pastoral communities. They are active in managing herds of cattle, and the future of pastoralism hinges on their continued engagement in the sector. Beyond pastoral communities, unemployment rates are high among the youth – they have little space to participate in capacity development. Women are equal team players in addressing the impacts of climate change in communities despite bearing the brunt of political and socioeconomic fragility in the country. The design of interventions to address climate change adaptation challenges needs to duly mainstream the youth and women; creating space for them to participate in building capacities at both national and local levels.

The project will draw more lessons from the projects after additional consultations with development partners in the country at PPG stage. Overall, the success of SABRELA will partly depend on how these lessons are embedded in the full development of the project, but also its implementation – building on on-going efforts but also using lessons to improve project design and implementation strategy, acknowledging the country context dynamics.

[1] Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan’s National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change

[2] Deppisch, S., & Hasibovic, S. (2013). Social-ecological resilience thinking as a bridging concept in transdisciplinary research on climate-change adaptation. *Natural Hazards*, 67, 117-127

[3] South Sudanese NAPA observes that climate change considerations are not taken into account in the development of both national and sectoral development plans related particularly to the water, environment, agriculture and forestry sectors.

[4] Birkmann et al., (2022). Poverty, Livelihoods and Sustainable Development. In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the [IPCC](#) [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegria, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 1171–1274

[5] Government of South Sudan (2018). National Biodiversity Strategy And Action Plan - [NBSAP](#) (2018-2027)

[6] Mubaya & Mafongoya. (2017). The role of institutions in managing local level climate change adaptation in semi-arid Zimbabwe. *Journal of Climate Risk Management*

[7] The South Sudanese NAPA lists a number of institutional, policy and capacity-related barriers, including: Insufficient capacity – institutional and technical; Lack of a clear and transparent institutional framework for climate change adaptation; Limited coordination; and Poor infrastructure, especially roads, making it difficult to access rural areas (p.16). Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan’s National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change

[8] Cao, S., & Zheng, H. (2016). Climate change adaptation to escape the poverty trap: role of the private sector. *Journal of Ecosystem Health and Sustainability*

[9] Cao, S., & Zheng, H. (2016). Climate change adaptation to escape the poverty trap: role of the private sector. *Journal of Ecosystem Health and Sustainability*

[10] FAO. 2016. Diversification under climate variability as part of a CSA strategy in rural Zambia, by Aslihan Arslan, Romina Cavatassi, Nancy McCarthy, Leslie Lipper, Federica Alfani and Misael, Kokwe. ESA Working Paper No. 16-07. Rome, FAO

[11] Birkmann et al., (2022). Poverty, Livelihoods and Sustainable Development. In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the [IPCC](#) [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegria, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 1171–1274

[12] It should be noted that the SS’ NAPA is explicit about the consideration of gender equality in the design of adaptation projects

[13] Promotion of climate-smart agricultural techniques to improve livelihoods and food security under changing climatic patterns ranks number 1 in South Sudanese’s NAPA for agricultural adaptation strategies.

[14] The project will employ Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to increase farmers’ resilience against changing conditions; leveraging the ecosystem’s natural processes, supporting farmers to cope with climate uncertainties while fostering sustainable agricultural practices and safeguarding the environment.

[15] Reforestation and tree planting to combat desertification ranks number 1 in South Sudanese's NAPA for disaster risk reduction strategies.

[16] Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan's National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change

[17] Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan's National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change

[18] Information in the table is excerpted from Government of South Sudan. (n.d). Republic of South Sudan's National Adaptation Programme of Actions ([NAPA](#)) to climate change

[19] Beltrán-Tolosa et al. (2022) Rural livelihood diversification is associated with lower vulnerability to climate change in the Andean-Amazon foothills. [PLOS Clim](#)

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Does the GEF Agency expect to play an execution role on this project?

If so, please describe that role here. Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing

In terms of institutional arrangements, The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) will be the lead executing agency for the Project. Building on the lessons learnt and ongoing developments in the country, SABRELA will be implemented through tailored implementation arrangements where the core technical components will be implemented by a Third Party Implementing Agency (IA), under the oversight of a Government-led **Single** Project Coordination Unit (**S-PCU**). IA's will be selected during the PPG phase. This same arrangement is **in application** for IFAD's larger investment program, **SSLRP and READ**.

SABRELA will seek to coordinate with the following ongoing projects:

- *South Sudan Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods Project*: The project is implemented by the World Bank with a budget of \$62.50 million, approved in 2021. The objective of the project is to improve agricultural production and develop farmer institutions in project areas.
- *South Sudan Enhancing Community Resilience and Local Governance Project*: The project is implemented by the World Bank with a budget of \$45 million, approved in 2020. The objective of the project is to improve access to basic infrastructure and to strengthen community institutions in selected counties in South Sudan.
- *Enhancing Community Resilience and Local Governance Project Phase II Additional Financing*: The project is implemented by the World Bank with a budget of \$30 million, approved in 2023. The objective of the project is to improve access to services, strengthen flood resilience, and enhance institutional capacity for local service delivery and integrated disaster risk management at the national and sub-national levels.
- *South Sudan Livelihoods Resilience Programme*: The programme is implemented by IFAD with a total budget of \$40.43 million (2021-2027). The objective of the programme is to empower communities to participate in decision-making processes that will recover agriculture livelihoods, build household resilience and promote stability. As the baseline investment for SABRELA, this project has been designed around the following components: disaster response and risk mitigation; community driven development planning; agriculture production and rural livelihood support; and project support and capacity building. The project has a baseline context that SABRELA is proposing to scale up and catalyze.

- *Promoting Sustainable Approaches to Ecosystem Conservation in the Imatong landscape of South Sudan:* The project is implemented by UNEP with a GEF total project cost of \$3.5 million (2023-2028). The objective of the project is to promote Sustainable Approaches to Ecosystem Conservation in the Imatong landscape of South Sudan.
- *Watershed approaches for climate resilience in agro-pastoral landscapes:* The project is implemented by UNEP and UNIDO with a GEF total project cost of \$9.4 million (2022-2027). The objective of the project is building resilience to climate change risks amongst agricultural and pastoral communities of South Sudan.
- *Strengthening the Capacity of Government and Communities in South Sudan to Adapt to Climate Change:* The project is implemented by UNEP with a GEF total project cost of \$9.0 million (2020-2025). The objective of the project is to increase the capacity of government and vulnerable communities to adapt to climate change in South Sudan.
- **Rural Enterprise for Agriculture Development (READ).** The project is implemented by IFAD with a total budget of \$ 25.5 million (2023-2030). READ aims to improve food security, income, and resilience among the targeted rural households. The Project Development Objective is to “empower Rural Producers’ Organizations (RPOs) as sustainable and resilient food value chain players”.

Core Indicators

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

META INFORMATION – LDCF

LDCF true	SCCF-B (Window B) on technology transfer false	SCCF-A (Window-A) on climate Change adaptation false
Is this project LDCF SCCF challenge program? false		
This Project involves at least one small island developing State(SIDS). false		
This Project involves at least one fragile and conflict affected state. true		
This Project will provide direct adaptation benefits to the private sector. true		
This Project is explicitly related to the formulation and/or implementation of national adaptation plans (NAPs). false		
This project will collaborate with activities begin supported by other adaptation funds. If yes, please select below		
Green Climate Fund false	Adaptation Fund false	Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) false

This Project has an urban focus.

false

This project will directly engage local communities in project design and implementation

false

This project will support South-South knowledge exchange

false

This Project covers the following sector(s)[the total should be 100%]: *

Agriculture	40.00%
Nature-based management	38.00%
Climate information services	12.00%
Coastal zone management	0.00%
Water resources management	7.00%
Disaster risk management	0.00%
Other infrastructure	3.00%
Tourism	0.00%
Health	0.00%
Other (Please specify comments)	0.00%
Total	100.00%

This Project targets the following Climate change Exacerbated/introduced challenges:*

Sea level rise	Change in mean temperature	Increased climatic variability	Natural hazards
false	true	true	true
Land degradation	Coastal and/or Coral reef degradation	Groundwater quality/quantity	
true	false	true	

CORE INDICATORS – LDCF

	Total	Male	Female	% for Women
CORE INDICATOR 1 Total number of direct beneficiaries	20,000	10,000.00	10,000.00	50.00%
CORE INDICATOR 2 (a) Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha) (b) Coastal and marine area managed for climate resilience (ha)	20,000.00 0.00			
CORE INDICATOR 3 Number of policies/plans/ frameworks/institutions for to strengthen climate adaptation	3.00			
CORE INDICATOR 4 Number of people trained or with awareness raised	2,000	1,000.00	1,000.00	50.00%
CORE INDICATOR 5 Number of private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience action	0.00			

Risks to Project Preparation and Implementation

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

Risk Categories	Rating	Comments
Climate	Substantial	The occurrence of extreme weather events (droughts, floods) and pests and diseases have informed the choice the target states. These events are frequent and growing in severity. The project will support investments in building resilience and reducing vulnerability of rural communities.
Environment and Social	Moderate	There is overreliance on the exploitation of natural resources, largely due to chronic poverty levels in the target states. The institutional and policy capacities are also weak. The project will support activities that will lesson overreliance on the exploitation of natural resources while supporting an enabling environment for mainstreaming adaptation in state and national-levels development processes and policy coherence across sectors.
Political and Governance	High	South Sudan has known years of political fragility, and as noted above, institutional and policy context is weak. This has serious implications on governance that cannot be downplayed. As noted above, the project will support policy coherence and adaptation mainstreaming in development processes. Additionally, there are frequent communal conflicts among crop producers and herders which could lead to exclusion and or disruption of project activities. Given the frequency of conflicts, this is a high risk. As a mitigation measure,

		the project will work closely with and engage communities, but also focus more on Payams within the target area where conflicts are less frequent.
Macro-economic	High	South Sudan's macro-economic context is marked by challenges such as oil dependency, economic instability due to conflict, high inflation, limited infrastructure, and underdeveloped diversification beyond oil. The project is designed to diversify livelihood income streams for smallholder producers.
Strategies and Policies	Low	South Sudan has a number of important policies to support adaptation to climate change, particularly the NAPA. The biggest challenge is lack of implementation linked to weak institutional capacities and financial constraints. The project will therefore, catalyse the implementation of certain aspects of the NAPA while contributing to policy coherence across important sectors.
Technical design of project or program	Low	IFAD is currently implementing the South Sudan Livelihoods Resilience Programme. Therefore, there is already experience in the field to support the technical design of the project. Additionally, the project will build institutional and community capacities that will be critical in developing technically sound project activities
Institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability	Low	The institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability is generally low in the country, and would present a substantial risk if this were the first intervention. However, the project will build capacities, but also use institutional

		arrangements of the South Sudan Livelihoods Resilience Programme.
Fiduciary: Financial Management and Procurement	Low	Though the capacities are generally low in South Sudan, the project will build on the successes and lessons of the South Sudan Livelihoods Resilience Programme to ensure sound financial management and procurement processes.
Stakeholder Engagement	Low	There is various stakeholders in South Sudan working on different development challenges that the country is going through. There are opportunities for collaboration and engagement to facilitate the implementation of the project.
Other		
Financial Risks for NGI projects		
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	There are aspects of risks that are beyond the reach of the project. For those within the influence of the project, the project will remain strategic and facilitate capacity building, cross-learning and engagement with other on-going initiatives and stakeholders to minimise risks.

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

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

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

The design of the project takes into consideration the socioeconomic, political and environmental vulnerabilities of South Sudan. The project's strategic approach is focused on addressing institutional, policy and capacity barriers as well as those barriers associated with chronic poverty levels that stifle people's adaptive capacities. By investing resources in land restoration and broadening and diversifying socioeconomic opportunities for vulnerable communities in the target communities, the project will be complementary to the healthy planet, healthy people framework to support a healthy planet and resilient populations of humans and other species. The project will use Nature-based solutions actions on 3,000 ha to protect, sustainably manage,

or restore natural ecosystems^{[1]⁶⁰} thereby contributing to addressing challenges of vulnerable communities in target states. These challenges broadly relate to climate change, human health, food and water security, and disaster risk reduction effectively and adaptively thereby simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits.

The project is therefore, conceived consistent the GEF-8 LDCF programming priorities as well as levers for transformation, as demonstrated below.

Agriculture, Food security, and Health: Food and nutritional insecurity are chronic challenges in South Sudan, and the entire country needs humanitarian assistance year in, year out. Working with private entities such as STASS, the project will help to assuage the burden of food and nutrition insecurity in the country through support towards drought-tolerant crop species; post-harvest measures such as grain/fish storage and all-weather access to market; strengthening extension services; and enhancing capacity to spur more community-led adaptation initiatives.

Nature-Based Solutions: As noted above, NbS help to address societal challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and water scarcity. The project will support activities regarding the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices - to support economic growth, enhance social well-being, and promote resilience in the face of climate change, desertification and droughts on the Plateau and surrounding watershed.

At the level of transformational levers:

The proposed project identifies important and specific entry points that are relevant to the target states to address the challenges of vulnerability to climate change, extreme weather events, biodiversity loss, and land degradation. The identified solutions are envisaged to be innovative and impactful to enhance the communities' adaptive capacity and resilience and reduced vulnerability.

It is recalled that South Sudan faces escalating environmental and climate change challenges. Deforestation threatens biodiversity and amplifies desertification. Erratic rainfall patterns result in droughts and floods, disrupting agriculture and food security. Limited infrastructure hinders disaster preparedness and response. Oil exploration heightens pollution risks, endangering water sources and ecosystems. These intertwined issues exacerbate poverty and conflict, demanding urgent local and international collaboration for sustainable solutions and resilience-building.

Within the foregoing environment and climate change challenges, the project's resilience building impact cuts across institutional, social, economic and environmental dimensions of the target states. The project's support toward strengthening institutional, policy and capacities will enhance the multisectoral but also integral response to the environmental and socioeconomic challenges at both state and national levels. This will be achieved through mainstreaming adaptation and climate resilience in subnational policies and local development plans (policy coherence and mainstreaming of climate adaptation lever); adaptation planning

and investments in the states to reinforce institutional integration (strengthened governance for adaptation lever); and support towards sharing of best practices, and scaling-up of adaptation solutions from the South Sudan Livelihoods Resilience Programme and other projects within the target states and beyond.

In addition to the GEF-8 programming directions and priorities, SABRELA has been conceived in consistence with South Sudanese national policy priorities, notably the following:

- ◆ **Nationally Determined Contributions 2022:** The document details how South Sudan has significantly increased its climate ambition of reducing emissions across its sectors by 109.87 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent while sequestering an additional 45.06 million tons by 2030.
- ◆ **National Disaster Management Strategic Plan 2018:** The Plan focuses on strengthening preparedness and response while at the same time, alleviating poverty, engaging the affected community in well planned and managed public works that have disaster-proofing content and supporting development programs that combine disaster prevention and mitigation measures. It is envisioned that all development programs will develop contingency plans to avoid disruption of ongoing development programs when an emergency occurs in the disaster-prone region.
- ◆ **Food Security Policy 2012:** Supports policy measures and strategies meant to mitigate the adverse effects and impacts from climate change in the medium and long-term. These include the development of community adaptive capacity for climate change through the development of crops that can resist droughts and floods.
- ◆ **Environmental Protection Policy 2015-2025:** Provides policy guidance on how to address climate change issues by developing a national strategy and climate change policy, and mechanisms for adaptation and mitigation. It encourages the formulation and enactment of laws that maintain and preserve ecological functions and the integrity of forests that conserve biological diversity and, water and soil resources in fragile ecosystems and that promote passive and non-invasive forest management activities as alternative sources for income generation (livelihood improvement).
- ◆ **Environmental Protection Bill 2013:** Aims to protect the environment in South Sudan and to promote ecologically sustainable development that improves quality of life. It provides for the preparation of a National Environmental Action Plan and designation of Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) for the actual or prospective habitat of any environmentally sensitive species required to be protected for the purpose of meeting the government's international obligations under any of the Multilateral Agreements (MEAs).
- ◆ **The Agriculture Sector Policy Framework for 2012-2017:** Provides for the protection of plants, seed management and development of a plant genetic resources conservation programme and a biosafety framework. This includes promoting in situ and community conservation and management and creating awareness of plant genetic resources.

- ◆ **Policy on Agriculture and Livestock 2012:** Aims to transform agriculture and livestock from traditional/subsistence systems to achieve food security, wealth creation and national economic growth through science based, market oriented, competitive, and profitable agricultural systems.

- ◆ **Fisheries Policy 2012 – 2016:** Aims at responding to climate change and natural disasters through research and development of strategies. Provides a framework to manage fisheries resources to maximise production and avoid overfishing and to prevent destruction of wetlands and promote their conservation.

- ◆ **Draft Policy on Wildlife Conservation and Protected Areas 2012:** Recognises climate change as a global reality with serious implications for natural ecosystems and wildlife resources. The policy calls for designing coping strategies to address the impacts of climate change on habitats and populations of wildlife species.

- ◆ **Forest Policy 2014:** Recognises the critical role played by forests in providing “critical environmental services, water catchment and in mitigating climate change.” The forestry policy proposes the ratification of the UNFCCC so that the country can benefit from the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). It also proposes establishing a designated national authority “to facilitate the flow of climate change benefits to South Sudan.” The policy also emphasises the need for measures “so that South Sudan can access financing under REDD.” (REDD refers to Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation). It calls for delineation and gazettement of forests to attain a national forest cover of 20 per cent of land area.

The Water Bill 2013: Aims to provide mechanisms to protect water sources from pollution, erosion or any other adverse effects by creating protected zones within a catchment draining to, or above, any water facility forming part of a water supply or any catchment, lake, reservoir, aquifer, wetland, spring, or any other source of water. It also aims to conserve available water resources, to manage water quality and to prevent pollution of ground and surface waters; manage floods and droughts and mitigate water-related disasters and establish appropriate management structures, including mechanisms for inter-sectoral coordination and stakeholder participation.

[1] Through the use of species that are landraces and adapted to the target states to avoid introduction of toxic or invasive species which would translate into maladaptation

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment:

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

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

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

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: Yes

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector: Yes

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

Given the security context of the country at the time of PIF development, two stakeholder consultation sessions were held in Juba, the nation's capital, and other one with women in the peripheries of Central Equatoria State to learn from them the gendered impacts of extreme weather events. The session was held on July 11, 2023 with stakeholders based in Juba, including government agencies, development partners, women group representatives and the private sector entities.



Break session during consultation session at Palm Africa Hotel | 11.07.2023



Family photo after stakeholder consultation session at Palm Africa Hotel | 12.07.2023

The second one was held on July 12, 2023 with stakeholders who were pooled from all the ten states of the country. Consultations were held and included the following:

- Community experiences of extreme weather events and coping mechanisms;

- Most impacted states and gender-based experiences of extreme weather events in the states;
- What activities could be prioritized to support community coping and adaptation strategies;
- Challenges that communities face in responding to extreme weather events;
- Policy and institutional arrangements in the country; and

Project landscape in the country working on adaptation-related interventions.



Consultative Meeting Participant List July 12, 2023, Palm Africa Hotel Juba South Sudan

S/No.	Full Names	Gender	Position	Telephone	Ministry/ Organization	State	Signature
1	Winnie Rahad	F	DG	0923476391 092649550	Cooperatives and Rural Development	Western Equatoria State	
2	MATUR CHOL	M	DG	0921194321 0922428414	Agriculture, Government Forests	Lakes	
3	Mark Dengud	M	D/G	0921222660	Cooperatives & Rural Development	Lakes	
4	Michael Joseph	M	D/G	092600716	Ministry Agriculture	Jonglei	
5	Chal Wilson Atanu	M	Director	0926234444	Ministry of Agric. Env. Forestry	Jonglei	
6	James Marior	M	Director	0926126699	Ministry Agric. Environment forestry	Lakes	
8	Joseph RENTAR	M	D/G	0927741729	Cooperatives and Rural Development	WBGs	
11	Wadar yak	M	D/G	0927777175	Ministry Agriculture	Unity State	
12	Chikhen Peter	f	AGD	0923424428	Ministry of Agriculture & Animal Husbandry	Unity State	
13	Joseph Kev	m	D/G	0914726576	MINIFC	Rudolf	
14	Regina Rina	m	AGD	0922914960	State Min	WES	
15	Manley Bau	m	D/G	0923166976	SMARF	CBS	

Summary of attendance lists

S/No.	Full Names	Gender	Position	Telephone	Ministry/ Organization	State	Signature
1	Dr. John Lijo C.	M	DG/ESD	0922222326	SMARF CES	CES	
2	Fanni Mustapha	M	PhD/consultant	0917891914	VIFG	Juba	
3	Fiona Alex	F	CEO	0928665240	GHFCS	CES	
4	Tibiri huata	M	CONST	0927029220	IFAD	Tuba	
5	Eng/Achwil Deng	M	D/G	0928551218	CRD/	U.N.S	
6	ANNA ITWARI	F	D/G	0923704509	SMARF/GES	EES	
8	Sharon James Apin	F	AGD/AG	0917766470	GHFCS	CES	

S/No.	Full Names	Sex	Position	Telephone	Ministry/ Organization	Signature
1	Fadia Platato	M	Environment Specialist	0922416202	MAFS	
2	Nelson Uinat	M	PM	0921997816	VIFG	
3	Fanni Mustapha	M	Environmental Specialist	0917891914	VIFG	
4	Leah Maggie King	F	MOEF/RS	0925811370	MOEF/RS	
5	Lucy Kinyo	F	Researcher	09262092	MAFS	
6	Esther Kinyo	F	AGD/ESD	0928773077	MAFS	
8	Joseph Apin	M	S/inspector	0928859527	MOEF	
11	TIBIRI HUATE	M	Consultant	0927029220	IFAD	



Seed Trade Association of South Sudan (STASS)

"Quality Seeds for Sustainable Development"

24th July 2023

The Global Environment Facility CEO
 1818 H Street, NW
 MSN N7-700
 Washington, DC 20006 USA

Dear Sir,

Ref: Participation in the GEF LDCF Project in South Sudan

We have learned that the Government of South Sudan has requested the support of the United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to develop a project to build resilience and communities' adaptive capacities for them to better cope with the impacts of climate change in South Sudan.

As the Seed Trade Association of South Sudan (STASS), we were honoured to have been engaged by IFAD and participated in the stakeholder consultations to inform the development of the project. We are a registered Association in South Sudan with a membership of 15 companies. As an Association, we have been in existence since 2018, and have a business model to support smallholder farmers in South Sudan to grow and produce food crops using climate-resilient seed varieties.

In this project under development, we see our role to be more in terms of strengthening the business case of smallholder producers particularly regarding value addition of their produce, including reducing post-harvest losses and creating partnerships that link them to better markets while providing technical support in the production of crops using quality declared seeds that are best suited to the climatic conditions of the country.

By this letter, we wish to register our confirmation of our participation in the stakeholder consultations but also our readiness to play a role in the project. We look forward to further engagements with IFAD and the government of South Sudan, and our additional contribution to the eventual formulation and implementation of the project.

Sincerely,




Francis Ayiga Okaka
 Chairman, Seed Trade Association of South Sudan (STASS)

+211922107667

Seed Trade Association of South Sudan -- STASS, Mumuki Block B, Samuel Abu John Rd, Next to CBC Church
 0922107667 / 0926512468; seedtradeassociation@gmail.com

Letter of expression of interest from a private sector entity, the Seed Trade Association of South Sudan to be part of the project

At PPG, further engagements with additional stakeholders will be done to allow for a better understanding of the adaptation challenges of vulnerable communities but also the roles of what other different stakeholders

can play, and the potential platforms to enhance knowledge generation and learning processes to improve preparedness and responses to the extreme weather events and impacts of climate change.

During consultations, the project has learned that there is a risk of social exclusion of women in accessing project interventions and services due to traditional gender roles. The risk of exclusion or inequity will be mitigated by relying on a participatory, inclusive and transparent community-based targeting mechanism where communities will be able to identify beneficiaries based on clear eligibility criteria and supported with tailored approaches. Additionally, gender-based violence perpetration is fueled by underlying norms, economic structures and dynamics that perpetuate power imbalances between men and women. The ongoing conflict, displacement and pervasive insecurity have worsened the incidence of GBV and contributed to the increased exposure particularly of women and girls to varying forms of violence.

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

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

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

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Yes

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate			

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described in the Project Description (Section B)

Yes

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

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

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
IFAD	LDCF	South Sudan	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	8,932,420.00	848,580.00	9,781,000.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)						8,932,420.00	848,580.00	9,781,000.00

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

200000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

19000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non- Grant	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
IFAD	LDCF	South Sudan	Climate Change	LDCF Country allocation	Grant	200,000.00	19,000.00	219,000.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)						200,000.00	19,000.00	219,000.00

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

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

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
CCA-1-1	LDCF	5,432,420.00	24662300
CCA-1-2	LDCF	3,500,000.00	15767700
Total Project Cost		8,932,420.00	40,430,000.00

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	IFAD	Grant	Investment mobilized	40430000
Total Co-financing				40,430,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The level of Investment Mobilized takes into account the implementation of IFAD's investment in South Sudan - the Sustainable Agricultural Development Project (SADeP) (2024-2030) which has an overall budget of \$50,260,547

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Juan Carlos Mendoza Casadiegos				juancarlos.mendoza@ifad.org
GEF Agency Coordinator	Janie Rioux				j.rioux@ifad.org
Project Coordinator	Paxina Chileshe				p.chileshe@ifad.org
Project Coordinator	Caroline Mwongera				c.mwongera@ifad.org

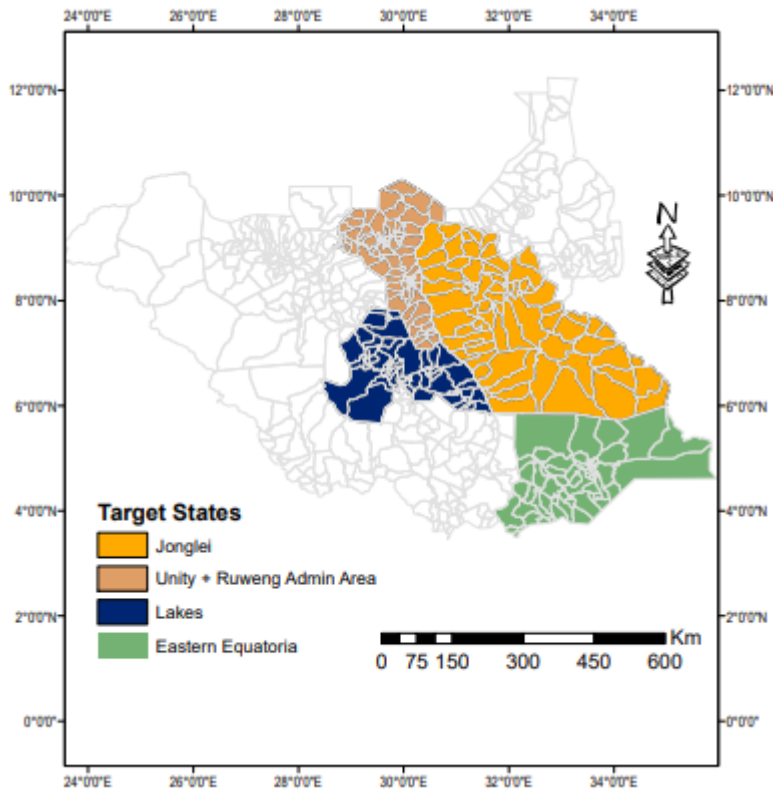
Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Mr David Batali Oliver	Director for Pollution Control	Ministry of Environment and Forestry	10/17/2023

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

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

The map below shows the target states for the implementation of the project: Jonglei, Unity (with Ruweng Admin Area) Lakes and Eastern Equatoria.



ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

(PIF level) Attach agency safeguard screen form including rating of risk types and overall risk rating.

Title

GEF8-South Sudan -SECAP ESC offline Screening

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

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

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Influencing models			
	Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making		
	Convene multi-stakeholder alliances		
	Demonstrate innovative approaches		
Stakeholders			

	Private Sector		
		Financial intermediaries and market facilitators	
		SMEs	
		Individuals/Entrepreneurs	
	Beneficiaries		
	Local Communities		
	Civil Society		
		Community Based Organization	
		Non-Governmental Organization	
		Academia	
	Type of Engagement		
		Information Dissemination	
		Partnership	
		Consultation	
		Participation	
	Communications		
		Awareness Raising	
		Behavior Change	
Capacity, Knowledge and Research			
	Capacity Development		
	Knowledge Generation and Exchange		
	Learning		
		Theory of Change	
	Knowledge and Learning		
		Knowledge Management	
		Innovation	
		Capacity Development	
		Learning	
	Stakeholder Engagement Plan		
Gender Equality			
	Gender Mainstreaming		
		Beneficiaries	
		Women groups	
		Sex-disaggregated indicators	
		Gender-sensitive indicators	
	Gender results areas		
		Access and control over natural resources	
		Participation and leadership	
		Access to benefits and services	
		Capacity development	
		Awareness raising	
		Knowledge generation	
Focal Areas/Theme			
	Biodiversity		
		Protected Areas and Landscapes	
			Productive Landscapes
		Mainstreaming	
			Agriculture & agrobiodiversity
			Fisheries
	Land Degradation		
		Sustainable Land Management	
			Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands
			Ecosystem Approach
			Sustainable Livelihoods
			Sustainable Agriculture
		Land Degradation Neutrality	
			Land Productivity
	Climate Change		
		Climate Change Adaptation	
			Least Developed Countries
			Climate information
			Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			Livelihoods

