GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

General Project Information

Project Title
Conserving terrestrial and marine biodiversity and restoring ecosystem services in globally relevant and vulnerable sites in Somalia

Region	GEF Project ID
Somalia	11414
Country(ies)	Type of Project
Somalia	FSP
GEF Agency(ies):	GEF Agency ID
UNDP	6330
Executing Partner	Executing Partner Type
Climate adaptation and Sustainable Environment International (CASE International)	CSO
GEF Focal Area (s)	Submission Date
Multi Focal Area	10/18/2023

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Taxonomy

Climate Change Adaptation, Climate Change, Mainstreaming, Biodiversity, Focal Areas, Stakeholders, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Tourism, Biomes, Tropical Rain Forests, Mangroves, Community-based adaptation, Climate resilience, Least Developed Countries, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Forest, Drylands, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Income Generating Activities, Ecosystem Approach, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Sustainable Livelihoods, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Pasture Management, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Influencing models, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Beneficiaries, Communications, Education, Awareness Raising, Public Campaigns, Behavior change, Strategic Communications, Civil Society, Academia, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Consultation, Participation, Information Dissemination, Private Sector, SMEs, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Local Communities, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Gender results areas, Access and control over natural resources, Access to benefits and services, Participation and leadership, Capacity Development, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Theory of change, Adaptive management, Innovation

Type of Trust Fund	Project Duration (Months)
GET	60
GEF Project Grant: (a)	GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)
12,448,395.00	0.00
Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)	Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

1,120,356.00	0.00
Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d) 13,568,751.00	Total Co-financing 6,500,000.00
PPG Amount: (e) 300,000.00	PPG Agency Fee(s): (f) 27,000.00
PPG total amount: (e+f) 327,000.00	Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f) 13,895,751.00
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)

Somalia's rich terrestrial and marine biodiversity, characterised by high levels of endemism, forms key parts of the Horn of Africa Biodiversity Hotspot and the East African Coastal Forest Biodiversity Hotspot. Cyclical droughts, increasing impacts from climate change and armed conflict have contributed to biodiversity loss, deforestation, and land degradation, affecting ecosystems and resource-dependent livelihoods. Capacities for biodiversity conservation are low, although localised examples demonstrate potential, although there are currently no formal protected areas in place. In 2022, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change was created, demonstrating commitment towards strengthening environmental management. This project will work with MoECC to improve the conservation of both terrestrial and marine biodiversity by establishing protected areas with active community participation and leadership, utilising formal laws and institutions as well as cultural, religious norms and structures, and engaging diverse stakeholders at local, State and Federal government levels. The project will support the resilience of both communities and the ecosystems they depend on for livelihoods, and will yield multiple GEBs, including the conservation of biodiversity, reduced forest loss and degradation, forest conservation, and more sustainable livelihoods for local and forest-dependent communities. The project will support adoption of sustainable practices that promote sustainable use and conservation. This project aligns with the GEF-8 Focal Area strategies for Biodiversity and LD and will contribute to GEF CI 1 (193,000 ha), 2 (194,000 ha), 3 (6,000 ha), 4 (3,500 ha) and 11 (200,000 people/50% women). The project directly contributes to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets 2, 3, 9 and 11.

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

Conserve Somalia's terrestrial and marine biodiversity by establishing sustainably managed protected areas through community-led approaches, addressing biodiversity loss and enhancing ecosystem resilience.

Project Components

Component 1: Strengthen FGS and FMS policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks for Protected Areas (PAs)

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
1,276,359.05	650,000.00

Outcome:

1.1. Improved enabling environment in place for effective community-led PA management of both terrestrial and marine PAs, emphasizing gender-responsive strategies.

Indicators and Targets:

New/updated policies and laws in place and approved for implementation

Federal PA System Strategy consolidated and comprised of new sites, gazettement decrees adopted.

1.2: Strengthened institutional and technical capacities for PA management and integrated land use planning

Indicators and Targets:

Completion of National Biodiversity Spatial Assessment and Land Use Plan prepared by Ministry of Environment and Climate Change in collaboration with FMS leadership

Establishment of a web-based database and KM platform on PAs.

Output:

1.1.1: Conduct a bottom-up comprehensive review of existing legal, policy, institutional, and land tenure frameworks to assess gaps in current natural resource governance, including for biodiversity conservation.

1.1.2: Revise, update, upgrade, and provide technical support to design new gender-sensitive bills, policy, and institutional frameworks as identified by the gap assessment, relevant to FGS, FMS, customary and religious systems to guide PA establishment and management.

1.1.3 Formulate and adopt a cohesive strategy for FGS and FMS terrestrial and marine PAs, integrating gender mainstreaming principles *(Strategy will encompass potential expansion plans, ensuring all sites are well-documented with adequate maps and data.).*

1.1.4. Develop and execute strategy for the effective financing and financial management of Somalia's consolidated system of terrestrial and marine PAs.

1.2.1 Facilitate specialized training for MOECC personnel on terrestrial and marine PA system planning to undertake (a) METT assessments of all future PAs with national and sub-national partners; (b) National Biodiversity Spatial Assessment and Land Use Plan with national and sub-national partners, including relevant clan and religious group leaders.

1.2.2. A knowledge management platform, including GIS system, to manage, exchange, present information about terrestrial and marine areas.

Component 2: Established and improved management of selected terrestrial and marine areas

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
6,722,249.00	3,250,000.00

Outcome:

2.1. Establishment of legally recognized terrestrial and marine PAs with clearly defined boundaries and management plans.

Indicators:

- 11 terrestrial and marine PAs re-established with detailed management plans covering approximately 387,000 ha (2 Terrestrial and Marine-335,000 ha; 5 Terrestrial-25,500 ha; and 4 Marine-26,500 ha)

(GEF Core indicator 1.1 and 2.1)

Number of gender-sensitive PA management plans prepared and under implementation.

2.2 Improved management effectiveness in the 11 newly established PAs through targeted management interventions.

Area of degraded forest and forest land under restoration inside the PA (GEF Core Indicator 3.2)

- Replanted multipurpose trees/ mangroves and assisted natural regeneration with >75% survival (target 5,000 ha Acacia, 1,000 ha mangroves).

Indicators:

Increase in METT Scores for PAs (+25% from baseline) by end of project

Output:

2.1.1 Participatory analysis conducted to identify gaps in the current system (i.e., ecological gap analysis) and inform future management objectives for PAs *(in line with the IUCN PA categories I-VI)*

2.1.2 Detailed multistakeholder consultations to inform PA boundary delineation, re-definition and infrastructure development for the 11 proposed PAs .

2.1.3 Gender-sensitive PA management plans, including with monitoring system prepared and under implementation with participation of local communities for effective and equitable terrestrial and marine biodiversity conservation.

2.2.1 Development and implementation of training and capacity building programs for community management teams, park wardens, with women and youth involvement in implementation of PA management plans.

2.2.2 Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs) in coastal regions and implementation of community-led sustainable management practices in line with customary law and sustainable fisheries and coastal management practices.

2.2.3: Implementation of key PA management interventions (i.e., species monitoring, control of invasive species, habitat restoration, assisted natural regeneration and wildlife migration corridors) in the Protected Area estate

Component 3: Integrated Landscape Management in multi-use landscapes around targeted PAs promoted to increase the flow of ecosystem goods and services for improved livelihoods and conservation outcomes.

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
3,484,734.00	2,080,000.00

Outcome:

3.1. Sustainable land management practices of landscapes and natural ecosystems supported around targeted PAs

Indicators and Targets:

Integrated land use plans for communal landscapes developed and approved for implementation

Ground vegetation density increased by 25%

Area of landscapes under improved practices (GEF Core Indicator 4.3)

- Replanted multipurpose trees/ mangroves and assisted natural regeneration in communal land with >75% survival (target 3,000 ha Acacia, 500 ha mangroves).

Output:

3.1.1 Degradation assessments conducted across a range of landscapes and ecosystems, including spatial mapping to determine the level and type of degradation, identify priority areas and inform restoration and management interventions (ILUPs)

3.1.2 Development and implementation of a national

capacity building program and M&E system for tracking impacts of ILM and restoration interventions, ensuring equitable participation and leadership opportunities for women and men.

3.1.3 Establishment of community-managed pasture and woodland/mangrove nurseries in strategically selected locations in communal landscapes, with a focus on gender equity in management roles and decision-making processes. Encourage the participation of women's groups in nursery operations, ensuring that both men and women benefit from the knowledge and economic opportunities arising from these nurseries.

3.1.4 Restoration of degraded mangroves and woodlands through community-led interventions, with targeted technical advisory support, ensuring increased access to advise, knowledge and benefits for women

3.2.1 Development and promotion of community-based Income Generating Activities (IGAs) and local markets for sustainable products, with a gender-inclusive approach that recognizes and enhances the roles of women in pastoralism, community-based tourism, sustainable agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, apiculture and NTFPs

3.2.2 Training and technical advisory support for local communities, with a gender-responsive curriculum that ensures women have equal access to training opportunities and the necessary resources to apply their skills in value addition, processing and marketing (e.g., seed and mangrove nursery management, agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and NTFPs)

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
373,569.00	20,000.00

Outcome:

4.1: Project-generated knowledge and lessons shared and results and impact communicated and disseminated for wider learning

Indicators and targets

No. of knowledge products developed and shared with local/national and global audiences

4.2 Adaptive management of project activities in line with UNDP and GEF M&E and SES policies.

Indicators and targets:

Effective M&E Framework placed.

MTR and TE delivered on time and according to expected quality (targets: MTR, TE and PIR independent quality ratings S or better).

Output:

Output 4.1.1 Develop and implement strategies for sharing/ exchanging knowledge, lessons and communicating project results and impacts, showcasing benefits for men and women (i.e., gender-disaggregated data)

Output 4.1.2 MTR and TE conducted, and reports shared with UNDP and GEF IEOs Output

Output 4.1.3 Social and environmental safeguards plan (including gender considerations) developed and applied.

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing ($)	Co-financing ($)
Component 1: Strengthen FGS and FMS policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks for Protected Areas (PAs)	1,276,359.05	650,000.00
Component 2: Established and improved management of selected terrestrial and marine areas	6,722,249.00	3,250,000.00
Component 3: Integrated Landscape Management in multi-use landscapes around targeted PAs promoted to increase the flow of ecosystem goods and services for improved livelihoods and conservation outcomes.	3,484,734.00	2,080,000.00
M&E	373,569.00	20,000.00
Subtotal	**11,856,911.05**	**6,000,000.00**
Project Management Cost	591,483.95	500,000.00
Total Project Cost ($)	**12,448,395.00**	**6,500,000.00**

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

Somalia, located in the biodiversity-rich Horn of Africa and at the northern end of the Eastern Africa Coastal Forests range, is home to a plethora of unique species. Somalia is semi-arid and its population predominantly consists of traditional pastoralist communities, with heavy reliance for livelihoods on pasture as well as on forest resources (charcoal, frankincense) and fisheries. Recent cycles of drought indicate significant increased pressure on natural resources due to the effects of climate change, which have exacerbated existing threats to biodiversity from charcoal production and other human activities like overgrazing and deforestation, and unsustainable management of rangeland resources. These activities have resulted in significant land degradation and loss of vegetation cover. Moreover, invasive species, particularly the *Prosopis juliflora*, have overtaken vast land areas, disrupting natural ecosystems and their ability to generate goods and services essential for livelihoods of local communities. The coastal and marine ecosystems also face challenges. Coral reefs have suffered extensively due to elevated sea surface temperatures associated with climate change, leading to potential repercussions for fisheries and coastal communities. The mangrove forests, essential for coastal resilience, are also under threat from unsustainable practices driven by increasing demand and population growth.

At the same time, Somalia's governance institutions lack capacity to implement effective measures for environmental protection, following decades of armed conflict, political contestation, and the ongoing evolution of the system of governance between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and Federal Member States (FMS). The Provisional Constitution of the FGS obligates it to protect, conserve, and preserve the environment against anything that may cause harm to natural biodiversity and the ecosystems (Article 45). As of 2016, the FGS recognises six member states, each with state-level government machinery: Galmadug, South-West State, Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Puntland and Somaliland. Whilst recognised by the FGS and international community as part of Somalia, Somaliland was self-declared as independent following the civil war in 1991. The project proposes to establish effective protected areas in each of these FMS, thus requiring action at both FGS and FMS levels. Within these FMS, areas proposed for greater protection include regions experiencing the most severe environmental degradation, such as forested areas affected by charcoal production, regions overtaken by invasive species like Prosopis juliflora, and coastal areas where coral reefs and mangrove forests are under threat. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) was created in 2022 (an upgrading of the former Directorate of Environment and Climate Change) and is in the final stages of agreeing a new strategy for 2023-2028. MoECC engages with its counterparts within FMS[1][1], although these vary in terms of structures, capacities and approaches. It is envisaged that the project will both necessitate greater institutional cooperation between FGS and FMS structures and will facilitate this.

Whilst the FGS and its emerging legal and policy frameworks are fundamental, Xeer (customary laws and practices) and Sharia law also play integral roles in governing the affairs of Somali communities, especially concerning the use of and access to resources, land use practices and conflict resolution. These institutions have high levels of authority and legitimacy and are functioning components of Somalia's political and legal infrastructure with power at local levels. The initiative will seek to bring these intersecting governing institutions together to design and implement, locally appropriate, feasible and effective approaches to protected areas management which is likely to vary across the FMS. The project intends to leverage existing capacities of institutions involved in natural resource management throughout Somalia, seeking to strengthen the wider system supporting environmental protection.

This project aims to address Somalia's environmental issues by: 1) creating a conducive environment for effective management of protected areas (both terrestrial and marine); 2) strengthening institutional and technical capacities; 3) legally recognizing and managing these protected areas; and 4) enhancing biodiversity conservation through targeted interventions. The initiative will support nature-based solutions, including conservation, restoration, and sustainable

ecosystem management to mitigate the impacts of climate change and offer socio-economic and environmental benefits. The project was chosen due to its alignment with current investment landscapes and its potential to build upon baseline and ongoing projects. By addressing the drivers of environmental degradation and climate vulnerabilities, the project integrates lessons from prior national projects. Additionally, it aligns with Somalia's national policies, strategies, and plans that prioritize environmental and natural resource management. It is also expected that the interventions will complement wider international support for environmental management in Somalia, particularly effects to support climate change adaptation.

Global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address and root causes

Biodiversity Threats

Somalia is a biodiversity hotspot with high levels of endemic species. An IUCN assessment (1993) revealed that there are 150 wild mammal and 645 bird species recorded, 1,332 animal species of which 518 are believed to be endemic are found in Somalia. However, as of 2020, the IUCN Red List[2][2] ranked 146 species as Threatened (15 CR, 26 EN, 105 VU), with 145 Near-Threatened and 188 Data Deficient. While African Elephant *Loxodonta africana* VU, Lion *Panthera leo* VU, and Wild Ass *Equus africanus* CR, the Black Rhino *Diceros bicornis* CR and Swayne's Hartebeest *Alcelaphus buselaphus swaynei* EN have already been wiped out from the country on paper, community sittings of Wild Ass *Equus africanus,* Lion *Panthera leo* are occasionally reported.

Somalia is also home to 3,028 species of higher plants of which 700 species of them are endemic. It's estimated that 151 plants in Somalia have medicinal values. The IUCN[3][3] (2020) also establishes that 3 plant species are critically endangered, 22 endangered, 28 vulnerable while data on conditions of 13 plant species is lacking. Non-timber forest products such as Gum Arabica from *Acacia Senegal*, myrrh from *Commiphora*, and *Yicib* nuts from *Cordeauxia edulis* (now endangered) are abundant to Somalia compared to other countries. Somalia has over 604 fish species of which 420 are commercially harvested and exported.

Forest degradation and vegetation cover changes

Forest cover in Somalia is estimated to be between 10-12% of the country's total land mass (637,540 km^2) of which only 1% is under some sort of formal protection. Annual vegetation loss stands at 1% caused mainly by charcoal production for local consumption and for illegal exports controlled by groups involved in armed conflict in southern Somalia. The charcoal production in Somalia, which significantly contributes to annual vegetation loss, is deeply intertwined with the conflict-related economy, as armed groups in southern Somalia control its illegal exports. This dynamic not only exacerbates environmental degradation but also fuels and sustains ongoing conflicts. Further analysis of the conflict-related economy and its environmental implications, along with strategies to mitigate potential negative impacts, will be undertaken during the PPG stage to ensure that project interventions do not inadvertently exacerbate existing tensions.

In Somalia, productive lands support healthy vegetation cover that sustain diverse wild species, provide habitats, and support livelihoods of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities. However, the rate of degradation of productive lands is alarming and it is posing a major threat to biodiversity and ecosystem functions. The main causes of land degradation are human activities such as overgrazing, deforestation and unsustainable use and management of rangeland resources, leading to loss of vegetation cover. Additionally, the increased frequency of droughts and prolonged dry seasons, have made soils vulnerable to water and wind erosion.

The loss of vegetation cover in Somalia has been exacerbated by the rapid spread of the highly invasive, fast growing and drought tolerant *Prosopis juliflora.*[1] (see land cover map 2015 in annex). Introduced in the 1970s and 1980s as a measure against desertification and shifting sand dunes, this drought-resistant plant has, in just over three decades, dominated vast agricultural and grazing lands. Its proliferation has displaced native, nutritious vegetation essential for

livestock, impacting the livelihoods of communities, disrupting the local economy, and posing a significant threat to biodiversity.

Coastal and marine threats

In coastal and marine areas, more than 90 – 95% of shallow coral reefs were affected in 1997-1998 by the massive coral reef mortality and bleaching event that occurred in many Indian Ocean reefs, caused by elevated Sea Surface Temperatures (SST) due to an intensification of the El Nino southern Oscillation phenomenon which is linked to global warming. Mean SSTs have been forecast to rise above 1998 values, and reefs on the Somalia coastline are predicted to suffer repeated mortalities, which will impact heavily on fisheries and coastal communities. Sea-level rise, coastal erosion, saltwater intrusion, and flooding may increase as polar ice and alpine glaciers melt. With expected sea-level rises of between 50 and 95 cm this will significantly impact coastal ecosystems and livelihoods and economies.

Mangrove forests *(Avicennia marina, Rhizophora mucronata, Ceriops somalensis, Bruguiera gymnorrhiza, Sonneratia alba* and *Xylocarpus obovatus)*, are found along the coast in the northern and southwestern parts of the country and have been subjected to unsustainable practices that have contributed to degradation and deforestation (growing demand for tree cutting for fodder, firewood and construction). Despite community protection and enforcement of customary laws, it has been challenging to protect mangroves due to population growth and a constant influx of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

Lack of legal and institutional mechanisms to protect biodiversity

Since the onset of the civil war and the fall of the central government at the beginning of the 1990s, Somalia's biodiversity management has faced significant challenges. The civil war marked a pivotal turning point, rendering previous conservation arrangements obsolete and leading to a lack of effective management of biodiversity resources. Protected areas, which had been legally established, no longer had clear delineated boundaries. Prior to this, a National Parks Agency had been established in March 1971 with the objective to establish and maintain national parks and reserved areas however their specific boundaries and areas are not known. Further, in 1989, guidelines on the conservation of biodiversity entitled the Mogadishu Manifesto to establish national parks and game reserves. At that time, thirty-two National Parks and Game Reserves were established in Somalia, but were never implemented (Amir,1998 cited in Gedow AO, De Leeuw J, Koech G., 2017).

Currently, the governance structure comprises the FGS and the FMS. The FGS, based in Mogadishu, serves as the national governing body, while the FMS are semi-autonomous regional entities with their own local administrations. This federal system was designed to accommodate the diverse and complex clan affiliations that play a pivotal role in Somali society. Clan politics deeply intersect with formal political structures, often influencing decision-making processes, political alliances, and power dynamics at both the federal and state levels. Historically, clans have been the primary social and political units, and their significance persists in contemporary politics. The integration of clan dynamics into the formal political system is evident in the power-sharing arrangements and the allocation of parliamentary seats, ensuring representation and inclusivity of various clans in governance.

Today, there are significant institutional weaknesses in natural resource management and environmental protection monitoring. One of the most critical constraints is the absence of legislation for the effective management of protected areas and the lack of conservation infrastructure. Despite this context, the 2015 NBSAP, presented a draft map of existing and proposed protected areas in the country including 16 national parks, 17 wildlife reserves, 1 forest reserve, and 2 mangrove protected areas. However, and according to the World Database on PAs (WDPA) information updated in 2018, there are only 21 protected areas reported in Somalia. Critically, none of these protected areas have spatial boundaries and no area has been listed in WDPA. As these are just point records, it is impossible to determine the exact area for the coverage of these protected areas.

Against this backdrop, the project seeks to assist in transformative changes. It aims to streamline and support the legal policy and institutional frameworks that govern protected areas at both the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States levels. A significant emphasis will be placed on demarcating clear spatial boundaries for protected areas, particularly focusing on 11 areas (see Annex C), as indicated by the MOECC. Legal recognition and protection of these areas, chosen for their geographical representation, habitat diversity, and blend of terrestrial and marine environments, will be at the forefront of the project's endeavours. By fostering a conducive environment for effective protected area

management and prioritizing ecosystem restoration through community-led initiatives, the project aspires to pivot from the existing state of uncertainty to a future marked by clarity, proactive management, and robust community involvement in safeguarding Somalia's biodiversity.

Barriers, enablers and current baseline

Since establishing the federal system, the Federal Member States (FMS) and the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) have developed different relevant natural resources management policies and legal frameworks which cover certain geographical areas and are not generally aligned with each other or across the different sectors. Although there are no specific policies for biodiversity conservation, there is a national environmental policy and draft national environmental management Act as well as environmental and natural resources related policies in Puntland and Somaliland.

In Somalia, customary law (or Xeer) is strongly observed as well as informal governance through the clan system, particularly in certain areas. Through customary law enforcement there is some informal biodiversity protection. For example, some communities have banned wildlife killing and tree cutting for firewood/charcoal, habitat degradation and conversion of wildlands to settlement. These community-driven conservation efforts have seen the resurgence of certain wildlife species (hyenas, ostriches, etc), coexisting peacefully with pastoral communities and demonstrate lessons to be incorporated in future formal protection measures. Yet, challenges persist, such as human-wildlife conflicts leading to the retaliatory killing of predators perceived as threats or for their supposed medicinal values.

The extent of biodiversity loss in Somalia remains unclear due to outdated assessments and scarce data. Known threats to the country's flora and fauna include civil unrest, habitat loss, droughts, deforestation, overexploitation, and invasive species. Other key drivers of degradation include fragmentation of habitats, uncontrolled exploitation of wildlife and poaching, illegal, unregulated, and uncontrolled use of marine and coastal resources, depletion of mangroves, overgrazing and deforestation for production of charcoal and for firewood, expansion of agriculture, mining, impacts of climate change (droughts and floods), and the armed conflict in the country. Factors like urbanization, population growth, agricultural expansion, and lack of awareness further exacerbate habitat loss.

A significant barrier to conservation efforts is the absence of recent data on biodiversity, hindering informed decision-making. Very little is known about the condition, composition of the biodiversity and its distribution in Somalia. The limited knowledge about the state and distribution of biodiversity in Somalia makes it challenging to devise effective conservation strategies. Such information is necessary for mainstreaming, designing appropriate protection and conservation mechanisms to support both the terrestrial and marine biodiversity.

Somalia needs to address the key barriers that are contributing to biodiversity loss and land degradation. First, the absence of strong legal and institutional frameworks to prioritize conservation and protection of terrestrial and marine biodiversity has led to the reduction of the biodiversity in Somalia. Second, the existing institutional frameworks and arrangement present constraints and lack capacity to enforce, coordinate and deal with the threats to biodiversity at all levels of governance. In the few areas where community driven conservation has been implemented, good impacts were reported, but their efforts have been hindered by the fact that trees and animals they have protected are cut and killed in the neighbouring areas due to the absence of unified national and customary laws. Consequently, this conservation has become a burden on communities to sustain due to the absence of an enabling environment (government strategies, laws, policies) and support for scaled- up biodiversity conservation across the country.

The proposed project therefore aims to support the government's endeavours to tackle the root causes of biodiversity loss through direct protection and conservation through PAs, and the promotion of nature-based solutions for sustainable management and restoration ecosystems and landscapes. The project will also address climate change impacts and socio-economic challenges through enhanced capacity of landscapes and ecosystems to withstand stressors and generate ecosystem goods and services. The initiative will build on, support and scale up already successful biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management approaches in collaboration with communities. The project will capitalize on the existing capacities of institutions involved in natural resource management and enhance their capacities, skills and tools (e.g., data, equipment) to more effectively deliver on their mandates.

This project was selected to address the drivers of environmental degradation and/or climate vulnerabilities in preference to other potential options because it fits well within the current landscape of investments and builds on the baseline and

ongoing investments. The project builds on and integrates the lessons learned from the implementation of the following national projects, among others:

- UNDP/GEF Somalia "*Strengthening national capacities for improved decision-making and mainstreaming of global environmental obligations*" in the context of improving environmental governance to mainstream and implement the three Rio conventions;

- the *United Nations Joint Program on Charcoal Production (PROSCAL) in Somalia* addressing the impacts of the unsustainable charcoal production and support efforts on reforestation and rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems;

- the UNDP/GEF Somalia *Support for Integrated Water Resources Management to Ensure Water Access and Disaster Reduction for Somalia's Agro-Pastoralists* supporting sustainable water management, reforestation and re-seeding measures.

- IFAD/GEF Somalia *Adaptive Agriculture and Rangeland Rehabilitation Project (A2R2*) enhancing the climate resilience of poor rural households in Somalia through sustainable natural resources management on multiple levels: improved water resources and rangelands management; eco-agriculture and climate-proof livelihoods; forest/habitat rehabilitation; improved governance and information systems for land degradation and biodiversity

The project will build on the foundational work laid out by the UNDP-GEF initiative on environmental governance, utilizing established frameworks and capacities to enhance decision-making processes. This will ensure continuity and strengthen the integration of global environmental obligations into national policies. The experiences gained from the United Nations Joint Program on Charcoal Production (PROSCAL) will inform actions aimed at mitigating the impacts of unsustainable charcoal production, while also drawing on successful reforestation and ecosystem rehabilitation strategies. Similarly, the project will leverage the methodologies and approaches from the UNDP-GEF project on Integrated Water Resources Management, particularly those related to sustainable water management and reforestation, which are crucial for the conservation of biodiversity and the management of protected areas. Regarding IFAD-GEF A2R2 project, although it has not started at time of submission, the design of this new project anticipates collaboration and learning between projects. The project teams will engage with A2R2 from its inception, sharing knowledge, strategies, and approaches that can be mutually beneficial. This anticipated engagement is expected to allow for the exchange of insights and the refinement of project activities based on emerging lessons from A2R2's implementation.

The new project is not isolated but is part of a broader portfolio of environmental initiatives in Somalia. It is designed to be adaptive and responsive, capable of integrating new lessons and insights as they become available from these related projects. This approach ensures that the project remains relevant and effective in achieving its goals, while also contributing to the collective impact of environmental investments in Somalia.

The biodiversity conservation and land restoration approach of the project fits with the national development and crisis recovery plans and strategies. It is in conformity with the priorities of 9th National Development Plan (NDP9) of Somalia, which considers environment and natural resources management as imperatives for economic and social development of the country. It is also aligned with the National Environmental Policy (2019) which puts emphasis on biodiversity conservation and in addressing the challenges of land degradation. The project approach is also consistent with Somalia's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP 2016 – 2030), with the proposed actions of the National Adaptation Program of Action Update (NAPA) on strengthening resilience of biodiversity and with the UNFCCC National Determined Contribution (NDC) in terms of the recommendations related to nature-based solutions and achieving protection of habitats and reversing ecosystem degradation. The project will also contribute to the achievement of the national Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets.

Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder engagement is critical for the project's success. In addition to the participation of government institutions, it requires the involvement of civil society and non-governmental organizations, community-based organisations, private sector, professional associations, cooperatives, and academia all of which are critical to delivering the project's intended outcomes and all adaptation benefits. Among the private sector, certain dynamics have emerged in Somalia that align with the SDG). Recent research indicates a growing commitment from the private sector to support these goals, making them key stakeholders in this initiative. All these entities are indispensable in delivering the project's intended outcomes and

ensuring the realization of all adaptation benefits. It is expected that the proposed project stakeholders, specifically, stakeholders such as local community leaders, marine resource managers, and private sector representatives involved in sustainable practices will play a pivotal role in implementing project interventions and achieving the desired outcomes. Federal Government level and Federal Members State institutions' capacity will be enhanced and strengthened to ensure a more effective conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. A more detailed account of stakeholder engagement is given in section B (project description).

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

The project aims to conserve and restore biodiversity and sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services in Somalia by strengthening institutional and legal frameworks for biodiversity conservation management, establishing, and improving management of a network of community-led terrestrial and marine Protected Areas (PAs). The project will improve the enabling environment for effective PA management of both terrestrial and marine PAs, strengthen institutional and technical capacities, knowledge, and skills for PA management, establish legally recognized terrestrial and marine PAs with clearly defined boundaries and management plans, and improve conservation of globally important biodiversity through targeted management interventions in 11 selected areas to be protected. The project will ensure that the revived PA system is redesigned as a bottom-up network, each terrestrial and marine PA having community level management systems recognised within their respective FMS and functioning as a cohesive network coordinated at the FGS level. The PA system will be designed in a way to maximise social as well as global environmental benefits and to enhance reliance in a country that has become increasingly exposed to the interlinked risks of climate change and biodiversity loss. The project will also result in the conservation and restoration of natural resources and ecosystem functions around targeted PAs and in wider landscapes, through SLM and INRM and enhance the livelihoods of the local communities by supporting adoption of sustainable practices and enhancing economic opportunities in line with customary practices that promote sustainable use and conservation. The pathways to achieve those results are presented in the following section.

Theory of Change

The project is anchored in a comprehensive theory of change that envisions a transformative approach to and through biodiversity conservation and integrated landscape management. At its core, the project seeks to address the multifaceted challenges facing Somalia's rich biodiversity by implementing a series of strategic interventions that are interconnected and mutually reinforcing.

Starting with the foundational layer, the project recognizes the critical importance of a robust legal, policy, and institutional framework for terrestrial and marine protected areas. By developing and implementing this framework at both federal and sub-national levels, driven from the community-level, and informed by data and diverse perspectives, the project aims to create an improved enabling environment for effective PA management, with a particular emphasis on gender-responsive strategies (see Outcome 1.1) and localised benefits. This foundational step is crucial, as it sets the stage for all subsequent interventions, ensuring they operate within a supportive and standardized framework. Building on this foundation, the project then seeks to address the capacity gaps that have historically hindered effective PA management in Somalia and reduced the benefits that can be drawn from the system. By strengthening both institutional and technical capacities, the project ensures that the necessary human and technical resources are in place to manage PAs comprehensively (see Outcome 1.2). This capacity-building component is vital, as it empowers local stakeholders, equipping them with the tools and knowledge they need to take ownership of conservation efforts, including PA management itself.

Building on the supportive framework and enhanced capacities in place under Component, the project will invest significantly in establishing and effective PA estate in in priority terrestrial and marine areas. By establishing legally

recognized PAs with clear boundaries and management plans, organised as a network at the federal level, the project ensures that these critical biodiversity hotspots are protected and managed effectively (see Outcome 2.1), with communities in these landscapes. Furthermore, by targeting 11 specific PAs for improved conservation, the project adopts a focused approach, ensuring that interventions are tailored to the unique needs of each area (see Outcome 2.2).

Lastly, recognizing that conservation efforts cannot operate in isolation, the project will support landscape level intervention promoting sustainable land management (SLM) practices and restoration interventions in multi-use landscapes surrounding the targeted PAs, focusing on viable land, coastal and marine-based practices relevant to the area both in terms of customary governance and to the context of the natural environment. This holistic approach ensures that the benefits of conservation extend beyond the boundaries of the PAs, promoting sustainable practices that enhance both the environment and local livelihoods (see Outcomes 3.1 and 3.2).

Underpinning this entire theory of change are a number of **key assumptions**:

1) that by addressing the root causes of biodiversity loss – such as policy gaps and capacity deficiencies – the project can create lasting and resilient change;

2) that local communities, when engaged, empowered and equipped with the right tools, will become active stewards and proud managers of their natural environment; and

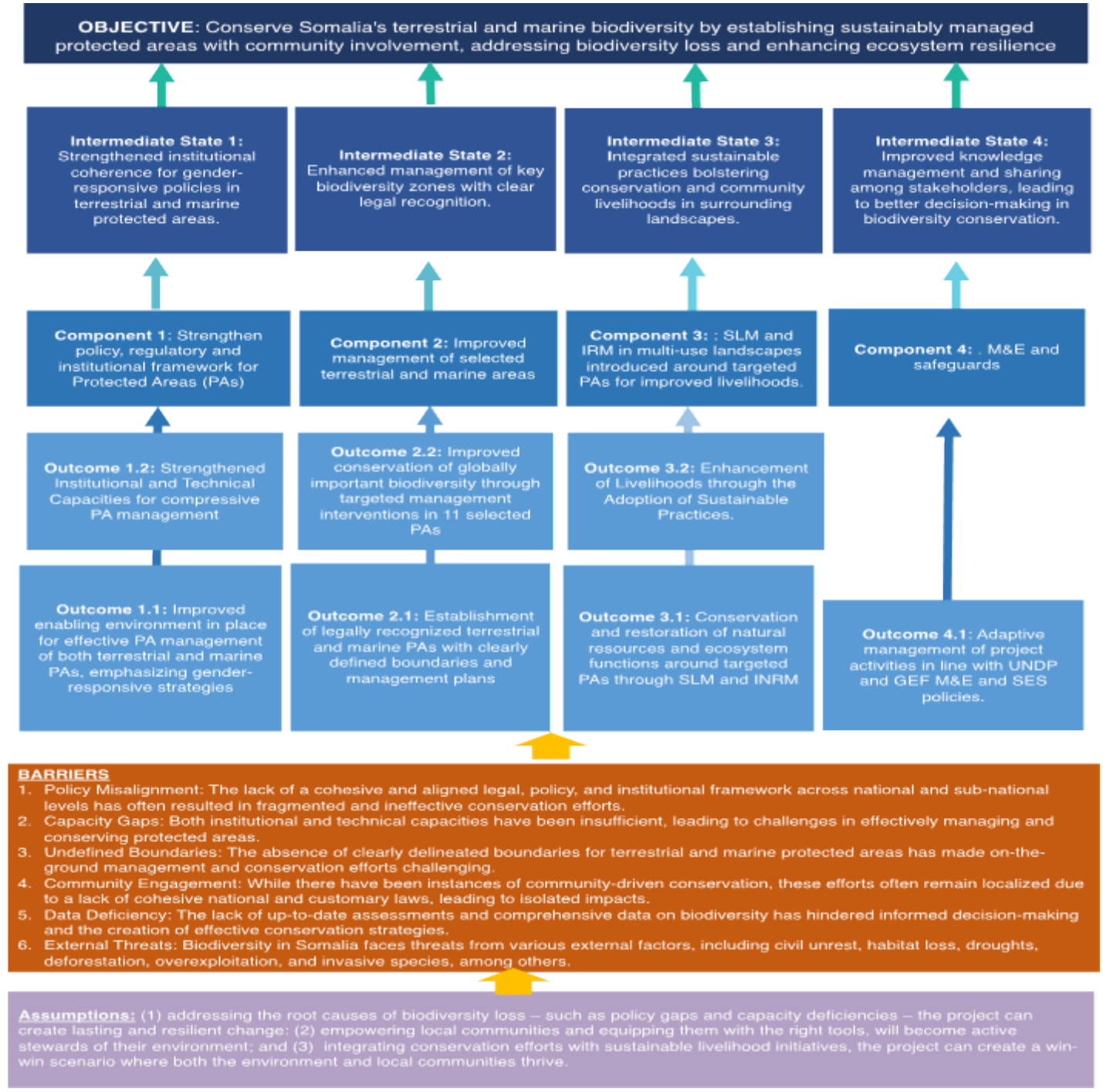
3) that by integrating conservation efforts with locally accepted and understood sustainable livelihood initiatives, the project can create a win-win scenario where both the environment and local communities thrive.

Figure 2 below provides a diagram to help show the overall project's logic, outputs, and outcomes.

A successful implementation of this project proposal hinges on addressing several key barriers that have historically impeded biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management in the country,

- Policy Misalignment: The lack of a cohesive and aligned legal, policy, and institutional framework across FGS and FMS levels, interwoven at federal, customary and religious-system organisational levels, has often resulted in fragmented and ineffective conservation efforts.
- Capacity Gaps: Both institutional and technical capacities have been insufficient, leading to challenges in effectively managing and conserving protected areas.
- Undefined Boundaries: The absence of clearly delineated boundaries for terrestrial and marine protected areas has made on-the-ground management and conservation efforts challenging.
- Community Engagement: While there have been instances of community-driven conservation, these efforts often remain localized and impacts are isolated due to a lack of cohesive national laws and to different approaches to customary law across the different regions of Somalia.
- Data Deficiency: The lack of up-to-date assessments and comprehensive data on biodiversity has hindered informed decision-making and the creation of effective conservation strategies.
- External Threats: Biodiversity in Somalia faces threats from various external factors, including armed conflict and violent extremism, habitat loss, droughts, overexploitation, migration, and invasive species, among others.

Figure 1: Theory of change



Given the recurrent climate impacts in the country that are affecting people and ecosystems, this project will contribute to increase their resilience through adaptation interventions. It will also reduce people's dependency on natural resources for their subsistence by providing them with alternatives and incentives that will mitigate this impact by contributing to their income, well-being, and food security. Different project stakeholders will be actively involved in the implementation of the project activities, from government institutions, universities, NGOs, CBOs, and private sector to traditional clan leaders and local communities.

The activities under this project are aligned with the Somalia NBSAP, with the CBD national reports in terms of its key actions and future directions as well as with the CBD Aichi target 11 which calls for the protection of "at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services". Reforestation activities will also support and be aligned with President Hassan

Sheikh's National Regreening Initiative which is targeting to plant 10 million of trees across the country with the objective to increase biodiversity in Somalia. Project interventions will promote and support gender equality and will ensure the development of women's capacities, knowledge, and participation in project activities.

Project components

Four interlinked and integrated components are proposed to achieve the objectives of the project. The components consist of outcomes, and the outcomes use outputs for the activities that deliver the pathways of the theory of change.

Component 1: **Strengthen FGS and FMS policy, regulatory and institutional framework for Protected Areas (PAs)**

Under this component, activities will take place to review, analyze and assess existing policies, legal and regulatory frameworks at the national and sub-national levels, customary, clan-based and religious community levels to identify what needs and gaps need to be put in place for relevant institutions to operate effectively. In this regard, an assessment will be made of the customary laws (Xeer Soomaali) for the different communities that have made progress in conserving the natural resources and how these can be incorporated into local-level PA management, marine and terrestrial.

In order to address institutional weaknesses and capacity gaps at both national and sub-national levels and to leverage the progress made in mainstreaming the Rio conventions component of the Cross-Cutting Capacity Development project currently implemented by UNDP, activities will be implemented to strengthen and enhance institutional capacities to plan, establish and manage terrestrial and marine PAs. This component will support the creation, implementation, and management of community-led terrestrial and marine PAs. By supporting the establishment and effective management of these PAs, the project aspires to conserve globally significant biodiversity and sustainably manage terrestrial, coastal, and marine resources in Somalia, in collaborating with local communities, to ensure local relevance, support and benefits. The component will support the following outcomes.

Outcome 1.1. Improved enabling environment in place for effective PA management of both terrestrial and marine PAs, emphasizing gender-responsive strategies

This outcome will address the lack of a legal framework for both terrestrial and marine PAs in Somalia. Federal and sub-national legal and institutional frameworks on biodiversity and land tenure will be reviewed and assessed (Output 1.1.1), which will identify the gaps that need to be addressed and strengthened and that will lead to the improvement and update of policies and to the technical support to develop new bills (Output 1.1.2) and advocacy for the enactment of the Protected Areas legislation. The review of the legal and institutional frameworks for biodiversity and land tenure will also consider alignment with UNDP's policies and standards and will identify potential compliance gaps. A terrestrial and marine PA system strategy will be developed (Output 1.1.3) supported by an effective federal network and financing and financial system that will be developed and supported. Understanding of the differing roles, capacities and needs of men and women within approaches to PA management will inform the outcome.

Outcome 1.2. Strengthened institutional and technical capacities, knowledge, and skills for PA management

Capacities for PA management, including planning, monitoring, and reporting, are either weak or non-existent, and need to be built and/or strengthened among key national and sub-national institutions and their personnel. This Outcome will support capacity building and training for both MOECC and site-level community PA managers on marine and terrestrial Protected Areas system planning to undertake Biodiversity spatial assessments and land use plans as well as METT assessments (Output 1.2.1) nationally and sub-nationally, as important tools for guiding interventions for strengthening PA management effectiveness. As part of this activity on capacity strengthening, technical support and capacity on safeguards implementation will be provided to the PMU and project implementing partners. This support and capacity will be backed by a digital/web-based knowledge management platform and tool that will facilitate data and information storage, management, analysis, sharing and dissemination with different stakeholders, including the Somalian public and decision-makers at national and sub-national levels and other stakeholders elsewhere interested in PA management issues in Somalia (Output 1.2.2). It will also help strengthen Somalia's capacity to report to the MEA secretariats on the country's contributions to global conservation goals.

Component 2: Established and improved management effectiveness of selected terrestrial and marine areas

The traditional institutions (leaders) shall be enabled to lead the local-level management of conservation efforts, develop site-level PAs in marine and terrestrial sites and lead the prevention and management of natural resources-based conflicts and disputes. These local level institutions will be supported to ensure active engagement and participation of all stakeholders, including women and youth, in the process of establishing and managing PAs. This component will support the preparation of PA management plans, backed by a robust monitoring system and supportive of and enable co-management with local communities. , The project will also ensure promote integrated landscape management approaches, facilitating engagement with stakeholders in the wider landscape where PAs are part of a mosaic of land uses, and also strengthen connectivity within the landscape and between conservation areas, such as the wildlife migration corridors linking areas in Somalia to those in Kenya. An example is the Lag badana or Bushbushle, one of the proposed new PAs, which borders the Boni National Reserve in Kenya, which would necessitate engagement and cooperation with Kenya Wildlife Service. Given the role and importance of Marine Protected Areas in protecting coral reefs and marine ecosystems, this outcome will contribute and support the sustainable management of marine and coastal resources through the establishment of Marine Protected Areas. In collaboration with the coastal and fishing communities, activities will also explore the benefits of setting up and implementing Locally Managed Marine Protected Areas that can be effective in the conservation of marine biodiversity and sustainably support their livelihoods. At the same time, these conservation instruments will contribute to the national blue economy in terms of fisheries, ecotourism and marine ecosystem services.

Outcome 2.1. Establishment of legally recognized terrestrial and marine PAs with clearly defined boundaries and management plans

Following multistakeholder consultations and participatory gap analysis to inform future management objectives (Output 2.1.1), 11 (eleven) terrestrial and marine PA boundaries will be demarcated and delineated and supporting PA infrastructure put in place (Output 2.1.2), establishing 2 combined marine and terrestrial PAs totalling 335,000 ha, 5 Terrestrial PAs covering 25,500 ha and 4 Marine PAs totalling 26,500 ha (see table below and Annex C for further details about the potential sites). Gender-sensitive management plans will be developed and implemented collaboratively with local communities to ensure that conservation of the terrestrial and marine biodiversity is effective in protecting biodiversity and yields tangible benefits to local communities as well (Output 2.1.3). These management plans will be supported by a monitoring system to track the impact of investments in protecting biodiversity and in generating global environmental benefits associated with protected areas.

Table 1. Protected Areas Name, Type and Location

No	Name	Type	State
1	Hobyo lebad	Marine and terrestrial protected area	Galmudug state
2	Harardhere	Wildlife reserve	Galmudug state
3	Chilani & mnari islands (barawe area)	Marine protected area	Southwest state
4	Roobow (barawe area)	Wildlife reserve	Southwest state
5	Jawhar	Wildlife reserve	Hirshabelle state
6	Cadale	Marine protected area	Hirshabelle state
7	Lag badana or Bushbushle*	Marine and Wildlife reserve	Jubland state
8	Kismayo park	Wildlife reserve	Jubland state
9	Daalo Mountain/forest	Forest and Wildlife reserve	Somaliland
10	Sacadin Zayla Archipelago	Marine protected area	Somaliland
11	Eyl, Garacad	Marine Protected area	Puntland

A Process Framework, to be developed during PPG as part of the project's safeguards architecture, will determine the process through which communities will be actively engaged in assessing potential access restrictions related to the establishment of these new PAs, and in identifying suitable arrangements and measures to mitigate such impacts, including through alternative income-generating activities.

Outcome 2.2. Improved management effectiveness in the 11 newly established PAs through targeted management interventions

To ensure the sustainability of the project investments and based on current experiences with customary law enforcement for the protection of biodiversity, communities will play an important role as custodians of biodiversity, including as park managers. To enable their active participation and contribution to the success of the PA management efforts and facilitate integrated landscape management capacities, communities, including women and youth, will be trained, as PA managers and park wardens to support implementation of PA management plans aimed at strengthening PAs as habitat and refuge for biodiversity (Output 2.2.1). Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs) will be strategically identified during project implementation in collaboration with local coastal communities, emphasizing areas of high marine biodiversity and critical habitats. In managing these LMMAs, local stakeholders will take the lead in defining, managing, and monitoring marine zones, ensuring that traditional knowledge and practices are integrated with modern restoration and conservation techniques including mangroves tree planning and assisted natural regeneration. The LMMAs are under the MPA and will prioritize sustainable marine resource management, balancing conservation goals with the livelihood needs of the community. By empowering local communities to manage these areas, the initiative ensures that marine resources are used sustainably, benefiting both the environment and the local economy. Unlike other conservation models, LMMAs are rooted in community ownership and decision-making, ensuring that conservation efforts are tailored to the unique ecological and socio-economic context of each area (Output 2.2.2). As part of implementing PA management plans, key interventions will be undertaken in the PA estate (Output 2.2.3) including actions such as species monitoring, control of invasive species, habitat restoration, replanting multipurpose trees/mangroves and conduct assisted natural regeneration in degraded area within the PA (target 5,000 ha Acacia and 1,000 ha mangroves) and wildlife migration corridor management and community education and awareness raising on terrestrial and marine and coastal biodiversity, and values and contributions and strategies to prevent biodiversity loss. Community-based approaches will be utilized to implement restoration interventions aimed at increasing forest and vegetation cover, enhancing ecosystem services such as food and fuel provisioning for livelihoods, regulating functions like mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting the restoration and connectivity of habitats for biodiversity enhancement.

Component 3: Integrated Landscape Management in multi-use landscapes around targeted PAs promoted to increase the flow of ecosystem goods and services for improved livelihoods and conservation outcomes

This component will address deforestation and land degradation pressures around the targeted PAs by supporting sustainable management practices and restoration of landscapes and ecosystems in the wider landscapes. To strengthen support for PA establishment, reduce threats on PAs and create viable alternatives for local communities who will lose access to resources inside the newly established PAs, the project will support alternative income generation activities and access to basic services that improve the lives of local communities and reduce their dependence on unsustainable practices that lead to nature degradation. It will support training and skills for value chain development and facilitate market access for sustainable locally produced and sourced goods and services. It will promote and support community-level ecotourism by working with specialist tourism operators to strengthen capacity, create new products, increase access to market and foster new small-scale nature tourism experiences that will raise conservation awareness, generate local employment and contribute to local economic development.

Outcome 3.1: Sustainable land management practices of landscapes and natural ecosystems supported around targeted PAs

Degradation assessments will be conducted in the communal landscapes, jointly with communities, to determine the degree and extent of land degradation, identify priority areas for improved management and restoration and identify appropriate interventions (Output 3.1.1). GIS and spatial mapping tools will be employed to strengthen data and information to guide management decisions and inform integrated land use planning in the communal landscapes, to ensure that all needs are catered for in management decisions, and to limit land use conflicts. Replanted multipurpose trees/mangroves and assisted natural regeneration around the PA will be undertaken (target 3,000 ha Acacia and 500 ha mangroves). A national capacity building program and M&E system for tracking the impacts of ILM and restoration interventions will be supported (Output 3.1.2) to aid adaptive management, ensuring strong community participation, especially women, in tracking and monitoring progress. Based on the degradation assessments conducted, sustainable management interventions will be implemented across degraded pastures, woodlands, forests, and mangrove ecosystems, supported by community-managed nurseries established in selected locations. The restoration activities cover assisted natural regeneration of woodlands, planting of community woodlots, community based multipurpose nursery establishment, the establishment of shelterbelts, practices to enhance soil and water conservation and erosion control. Restoration and the management of restored and existing degraded forest areas will be addressed through comprehensive land-use planning and protection measures. Activities will increase forest and vegetation cover, improve of ecosystem

services such as provisioning on food and fuel for livelihoods, regulating such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting on restoring and connecting habitats for biodiversity. Restoration interventions will be implemented through community-based approaches. (Output 3.1.3 and Output 3.1.4).

Outcome 3.2 Enhancement of livelihoods through the adoption of economically, socially and ecologically sustainable practices.

To support community livelihoods, reduce direct dependence on natural resources and reduce pressure on protected areas and resources within them, this component will support alternative income generation activities, aligned with already proven and culturally-appropriate best practice uses of natural resources, and aligned with locally agreed conservation and restoration goals, as defined in integrated land use plans and PA management plans (3.2.1). These investments will be supported by a complementary Output (3.2.2.) to train and build the capacity of communities to acquire new and additional skills and receive technical support and technologies and equipment for value addition, processing and marketing for sustainably produced goods and services in order to earn new and additional income from engaging in sustainable practices. Examples include ecotourism, climate-smart agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and Non-Timber Forest Products. This support will especially targets and strongly engage local women and youth. Community conservation-oriented ecotourism will be supported for both local and international markets with the involvement of specialist tourism operators. Local people who can demonstrate skills and interest in business and the tourism will be trained as tourist managers and guides.

Component 4: Knowledge management, M&E and Safeguards

This component will facilitate knowledge production, management and dissemination, and support awareness raising and learning among local communities, government institutions and the wider public on biodiversity conservation, PA management, ILM practices and restoration, to inform future investments, policy reforms and upscaling and wider adoption across landscapes.

Outcome 4.1: Project-generated knowledge and lessons shared and results and impact communicated and disseminated for wider learning

Output 4.1.1 will help to develop and implement strategies for sharing/exchanging knowledge, lessons and communicating project results and impacts, showcasing benefits for men and women, building on and utilising data and information from Output 3.1.2 on the benefits of ILM and restoration and 2.1.3 on implementation of management plans, and in Output 1.2.2 (KM platform on PAs). A Knowledge Management Plan will guide the collection, packaging and dissemination of lesson learned and results to various audiences through appropriate measures and a project Communication Strategy will ensure use of multiple channels appropriate for different audiences at local, national and international levels.

Outcome 4.2 Adaptive management of project activities in line with UNDP and GEF M&E and SES policies.

The project M&E plan will be implemented, and results reported through the Project Board, quarterly and annual reports (PIRS). The M&E plan will be prepared at PPG stage and validated at the inception of project implementation, and periodically reviewed and adjusted to respond to the project context. Output:4.2.1 will ensure the conduct of an MTR and a TE, and reports shared with UNDP and GEF IEOs, while Output 4.2.2 will ensure that the project social and environmental safeguards plans, including gender considerations and stakeholder engagement plans developed and implemented and monitored. In addition to the pre-liminary SES risk assessment undertaken as part of the PIF preparation, the PPG will conduct detailed assessments and prepare risk mitigation and management plans that will form part of the full project package to be approved for implementation, with clear budgets and monitoring and reporting protocols.

Contribution to global environmental benefits

As a direct outcome of the conservation of biodiversity resources in Somalia, the project will contribute to the following global environmental benefits:

1. *Conservation of globally significant biodiversity.* As a result of supporting legal frameworks, delineation, and an effective management in terrestrial and marine Protected Areas, the project will contribute to the conservation of biodiversity in Somalia, simultaneously increasing the benefit of biodiverse natural resources to communities.

2. *Reduced rate of forest loss and forest degradation.* Reducing the rate of deforestation through afforestation and reforestation interventions in and around the selected PAs, marine and terrestrial, will decrease the rate of habitat loss, which is vital for the survival of species. It will also aim to decrease the area currently covered by invasive trees in and around the selected PAs, which will create an opportunity for other species to return and replenish once again.

3. *Maintenance of the range of environmental services and products derived from forests.* The project will support communities around selected PAs to take advantage of the benefits provided by the biological resources and ecosystem services such as preventing storm surges, water retention, food, fodder for livestock, NTFPs and preserve cultural practices, including customary approaches to both marine and terrestrial natural resources .

4. *Enhanced sustainable livelihoods for local communities and forest dependent peoples*. The project will improve the livelihoods of communities who are dependent on the forest resources directly. Improvement of livelihoods options will reduce the pressures that lead to unsustainable use of forest resources.

Stakeholders

Biodiversity conservation falls under the responsibility of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Federal Government of Somalia. Other important federal level instructions include the Ministry of Livestock, Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Water. Related ministries, although with different mandates, exist at Federal Member States (FMSs). At all levels, biodiversity conservation is perceived important but very little has been accomplished. Collaboration between federal-level institutions and FMS-level institutions exists and will be further strengthened through this project.

The legal frameworks and policies for environmental management in Puntland, Galmudug, Jubaland, Southwest and Hirshabelle conform with those at the Federal level. This is also true for other policies and legal frameworks such as financial, procurement, human resources, etc. The conformity is different for Somaliland, which seeks autonomy status and has also got different policies and legal frameworks and has institutions that do not collaborate with the federal level institutions. However, urge and need to conserve biodiversity exists across respective institutions in Somaliland, other States and at the Federal level.

Capacities to conserve biodiversity vary from state to state; Puntland and Somaliland, having enjoyed considerable relative peace and government structures established in the 1990s, have better capacities than the other states in terms of personnel and experience. The MOECC is the current GEF Focal Point and is staffed with qualified personnel with technical capacities to provide strategic guidance and plan for biodiversity conservation. The opportunity to improve the institutional capacity is increased by the presence of local universities which provide courses on natural resources management and the relative peace attracting the diaspora with educational background in natural resources management.

The project will bring together a wide and varied group of stakeholders and men and women of different ages, who will play critical roles in the project. It will also build on existing collaborations, partnerships, and initiatives with a focus on institutions and projects most relevant to PA management, biodiversity conservation, and management.

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), Federal Government of Somalia, is the national authority responsible for the formulation, management, oversight, coordination and effective implementation of environmental laws, policies, standards, and strategies. It promotes sustainable management and standards for protecting critical habitats, combatting desertification, enhancing stewardship and ownership, restoration, and utilization of natural resources, in accordance and collaboration with the relevant government structures at Federal and State levels. The MOECC is responsible for localizing and mainstreaming the global environmental laws and providing periodic updates on progress for implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements.

During the PPG, a detailed stakeholder analysis will be carried out to identify all relevant project-affected groups and other interested and affected parties, which may include relevant clan groups, minorities and land or natural

resource groups, potentially including groups meeting the criteria under UNDP's Standard 6. A Comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) will be prepared, including customized strategies for engagement of each category of stakeholder and any groups with needs and interests, such as internally displaced persons (IDPs) or various land-or resource-use groups. If stakeholder groups meeting the criteria for Standard 6 are found in the project area, specific culturally appropriate engagement and consultation mechanisms will be developed and included in the SEP. A provisional list of key stakeholders is provided below.

Entity	Mandate and role in the project
UNDP	UNDP will act as the GEF Implementing Agency and in this role will provide technical and administrative oversight as well as co-financing, quality assurance, as well as social and environmental safeguards accountability. UNDP in Somalia also operates under Direct Implementation Modality (DIM), working with others such as NGOs and private sector. During the PPG, detailed assessments will be conducted to determine the capacity of other entities that could play a potential role in execution of some project interventions under the direction and supervision of and in collaboration with UNDP and MOECC.
Government (Federal and Federal member states)	
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), Federal Government of Somalia in collaboration with its counterparts at federal member states	The MOECC is the national authority responsible for the formulation, management, oversight, coordination and effective implementation of environmental laws, policies, standards, and strategies. It promotes sustainable management and standards for protecting critical habitats, combatting desertification, enhancing stewardship and ownership, restoration, and utilization of natural resources, in accordance and collaboration with the relevant government structures at Federal and State levels. The MOECC is responsible for localizing and mainstreaming the global environmental laws and providing periodic updates on progress for implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements. The MOECC will be the federal level lead agency for this project and will have the overall responsibility for achieving the project goal and objectives. It will have a joint role with UNDP for coordination and oversight. During project implantation MOECC will collaborate with its counterparts at federal member states in the target areas.
Federal Ministry of Livestock, Forest and Rangeland and Ministries of Livestock at Federal Member States	The Federal Ministry of Livestock, Forest and Rangelands has role to play in the conservation of national tree forest conservation, range management, grazing management systems in rural development programs, and contribution to drought and desertification combatting efforts. The ministry and its counterparts at state levels will be an important key members of the federal and state level inter-ministerial working group, which will be responsible for coordinating conservation efforts, information, and knowledge sharing, and providing guidance to the strategic plans of the project.
Federal Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy and Ministries of Fisheries at Federal Member States.	The Federal Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy is responsible for the sustainable utilization fisheries for economic development as well as the marine conservation and ecosystems. The ministry and its counterparts at state levels will be an important key members of the federal and state level inter-ministerial working group, which will be responsible for coordinating conservation efforts, information and knowledge sharing, and providing guidance to the strategic plans of the project on the conservation of marine ecosystems.

Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development and Ministries of Planning at Federal Member State levels	The federal ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development is responsible for coordinating all government and non-government agencies as well as developing medium and long-term strategies and plans for sustainable economic development and growth. The ministry develops and monitors the National Development Plans, National Adaptation Plans, etc, while also seeking for donor support and funding of the national priorities. The federal ministry and its counterparts at state levels will be members of the federal and state level inter-ministerial working group and will help in seeking for funds and mainstreaming the biodiversity conservation plans and strategies.
Federal Ministry of Finance and Ministries of Finance at Federal Member State levels	The federal Ministry of Finance is responsible devising and administering economic and financial policy of the country, including mobilization of internal and external resources and their allocation. The federal ministry of finance and its counterparts at levels will be members key members of the federal and state level inter-ministerial working group, which will be responsible for coordinating of financing for conservation as well as engage customs at seaports and airports for controlling of wildlife crimes.
Local Government	Local governments will provide the necessary support required for the demarcation and legal framework and management of the PAs. Through their actions, they will be responsible for coordinating with the traditional leaders and in partnership with the local communities overseeing biodiversity protection within the PAs and outside of the PAs in their districts. The LG will enforce the biodiversity conservation legislations and also have a standby response police unit ready to act swiftly to prevent and deal with offenders. The districts have District Pastoral Associations (DPAs) who are involved in the management, coordination with districts, awareness, and sensitizations, as well as enforcement of customary laws.
Civil Society Organisations	Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Environment International (CASE International), an NGO, has preliminarily been identified to undertake execution of the project. During PPG stage, UNDP will conduct detailed capacity and risk assessment to determine the modality under which funds are transferred to CASE International and these will be comprehensively outlined in the CEO Endorsement Request as appropriate.
Community Based Organisations	
Traditional leaders, women, youth, pastoral communities, fisherfolk	At the start of the project, community level stakeholder mapping will be conducted to ensure full representation and participation of community groups in the project. Communities will be actively involved and will participate in biodiversity conservation, law enforcement and restoration of ecosystem services efforts in and around the protected areas and economic incentives will be provided to offset their dependence on natural resources.
Private sector, professional associations, cooperatives	
Private sector	The potential development of local tourism in and around Terrestrial and Marine Protected Areas is expected to attract the private sector (tour operators) that will generate additional income to communities and at the same time contribute to raise awareness for nature-based tourism in the country. Private sector will also be engaged in the sustainable production and commercialization of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) in collaboration with local communities.

Media	The media will help with awareness raising for environmental conservation and project goals. Throughout the project field activities, trainings and awareness, the media will be present to provide outreach to not only the beneficiary communities but also to wider public. Additionally, print and electronic/social media will both be engaged for advocacy and education.
Academia	
Universities and Research Institutes	State universities, colleges, research institutes and schools will be engaged for collaboration and knowledge generation and to advocate for the inclusion of biodiversity conservation and environmental related work.

Gender

Throughout the project's implementation, there will be a concerted effort to interweave gender considerations and equity principles to ensure that the benefits and responsibilities of biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management are equitably shared among men and women. Under Component 1, as policies, legal, and regulatory frameworks are reviewed at national and sub-national levels, special emphasis will be placed on examining them through a gender lens to understand how they impact both genders and to identify areas where gender inclusivity can be enhanced. The customary laws (Xeer Soomaali) will also be assessed for their gender implications to ensure that the rich history of conserving natural resources is inclusive of all gender dynamics. In Component 2, gender considerations are vital, as traditional leaders and local communities collaborate in conservation efforts. The project will focus on the development of a gender-sensitive PA management plans. This ensures that both men and women have equitable roles in defining, managing, and benefiting from the protected areas. Moreover, particular attention will be given to gender equity in initiatives such as community-based monitoring systems and management plans. With the selection of protected areas such as Lag badana or Bushbushle, emphasis will be on the involvement of both men and women in the decision-making and implementation processes. For Component 3, SLM and restoration interventions will not just address deforestation and land degradation but also aim to provide alternative livelihoods that are gender- responsive. There's an intention and commitment to involve communities, with special attention to women and youth, in ecotourism initiatives, conservation, and sustainable practices. As community assets are mapped and income-generating activities are developed, the project will ensure that both men and women have equal access to training and opportunities, amplifying the roles of women and youth in the market.

This project will promote gender equality and plans to have more than 50% participation of women in its activities. It will use gender-disaggregated indicators to track gender equity in roles and benefits from the project; the role of women in the decision-making process at various stages of design, implementation, and management will be prioritized in order to ensure the sustainability of investments and improve the quality of life. Considering Somalia's low gender inequality index, the project will leverage the existing support provided by UNDP to various institutions at federal and member states in addressing the gender inequality and ensure that no one is left behind in the development process.

During the PPG phase, a full gender analysis and gender- segregated assessment will be undertaken to understand the current role of women in natural resource use and management in the project area and to identify potential barriers/challenges for women's participation in the project activities. This analysis will support the mainstreaming of gender considerations into the design of project activities and the project's strategic results framework. The results of this gender analysis will be captured into a Gender Analysis and Action Plan (GAAP), to be developed during the PPG phase and appended to the Prodoc.

Knowledge management

Knowledge management is core to the project, which will curate knowledge generated from the project and other relevant sources. The project will establish a knowledge platform to support itself during its life span and beyond for future needs. One of the key outputs of outcome 1.2 of component 1 is a knowledge management platform, including GIS system, to manage, exchange, and present information about terrestrial and marine including LMMAs and use it for decision making and public awareness. The knowledge will support monitoring the implementation of the project and streamlining and rectify project course and progress as needed. It will also support the learning process for improved

project and PAs management and transfer the learning to other and future projects and PAs management. Outcome 4.1 is designed to consolidate the project's activities around KM and strategic communications to ensure that project learning is well packaged, shared and communicated across various audiences.

The following highlights some of the tracks for generating and using knowledge in the project:

The National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plans has two national targets directly related to exchange of knowledge between technical and local knowledge and recommends the skills transfer scientific knowledge to local communities in order to enhance the management of biodiversity resources. The project will support research and the development of a training needs assessment for relevant government agencies and delivery of high-value training programs. The project will also support peer to peer knowledge exchange and sharing of experiences within federal and member states. The knowledge management process shall be continuous throughout the project and will be built into the post project phases by conducting periodic dialogues within stakeholders, financing studies and assessments, dissemination of knowledge generated, and establishing web-based data collection and information management systems.

The project will identify best conservation, restoration and sustainable management measures that require testing, research-oriented and capacity-building for wider adoption. Part of such measures will include entrance fees for terrestrial and marine PAs, community nature-based tourism, protected area activity fees, among others that will help mobilize and channel resources to communities engaged in conservation and restoration of the selected terrestrial and marine PAs (see Annex C). Lessons learned and good practices will be compiled and ensure long-term adoption and dissemination of developed knowledge and know-how by the implementing partners. A relevant knowledge management system will be built that will help to collect, manage, analyze, and present information, including to support decision-making. It will also integrate gender-sensitive approaches in knowledge and learning products. By integrating gender perspectives, the project will promote inclusion and address existing gender inequalities and biases and promote gender equality and women's empowerment.

It will be important that this information is made available and disseminated to a wide audience in Somalia, the Horn of Africa region, the Sahel region and beyond, so that the knowledge built is addressed as a global common good. Relevant dissemination channels will be used, and communications will ensure the widespread use of information. It will also support and facilitate knowledge management and information sharing with other projects in Somalia. Training and capacity-building activities should also not be one-time activities but should be made available to a broad audience as well not only in Somalia but also abroad. Storage of training material and online learning options will be considered so a maximum of interested stakeholders can learn on best conservation, restoration and sustainable management measures and practices for the PAs.

Alignment with national policies

The project is fully aligned with Somalia's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP 2016 – 2030). The project will contribute to the recommendations of the UNCCD National Adaptation Program[1][4] (NAP) which recommends three strategic focus areas i.e., i) Integrated land and water management; ii) Access and rights to communal land; and iii) Zoning and urban land use. The project will also contribute to the achievement of the national LDN target. The project is in line with the proposed actions of the NAPA on strengthening resilience of biodiversity. Particularly, the project will contribute to the actions such as i) large scale tree planting programs; ii) conservation of soil and water to reduce flooding; iii) development and enforcement of legal frameworks; iv) widespread awareness campaigns; v) protection of biodiversity and wildlife; and vi) establishment of research centres for enhanced understanding of conditions and management of the flora and fauna of Somalia.

The proposed project is closely aligned with Somalia's national policies (including the National Environment Policy, 2019), strategies, and plans, ensuring that it supports the country's goals for sustainable development and environmental conservation. The project supports the National Development Plan (NDP) 2020-2024[2][5], which sets forth a blueprint for economic growth and poverty alleviation, with environmental sustainability and climate resilience as cross-cutting

themes. The project's initiatives to establish protected areas and enhance biodiversity conservation are in harmony with the environmental rights enshrined in the Provisional Constitution of Somalia (2012), advocating for the citizens' right to a healthy and balanced environment. Additionally, the project's activities are congruent with the Economic Recovery Plan (ERP)[3][6], which includes strategies for natural resource management and environmental protection, crucial for Somalia's post-conflict economic recovery. By aligning with these national directives, the project ensures its contributions are woven into the fabric of Somalia's broader development and governance agenda, reinforcing its commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable resource management.

The project is in line with the recommendations of the UNFCCC National Determined Contribution[4][7] particularly those related to the protection of habitats and reversing the ecosystems degradation. These recommendations are i) reforestation using community-level tree regeneration and plantation of indigenous tree species; and ii) sustainable land management and food security through enhanced productivity.

Innovation and scaling up toward wider transformation

This project will be innovative in Somalia by supporting, for the first time in the country, the delineation, legal framework, and effective management of both terrestrial and marine PAs, which will benefit the national biodiversity conservation efforts. Based on this initiative, the government while considering economic development will also be pursuing efforts to meet its own global commitments to conserve the biodiversity and will upscale the terrestrial and marine PA network. This will be guided baseline assessments conducted under the project. The coherent policies and strategies supported by the project will also help sensitize people and institutions to consider biodiversity conservation in their planning and decision-making processes.

Another innovative aspect of this project is the development of community-based ecotourism associated with the terrestrial and marine Protected Areas for local and international tourism, which is also is expected to attract the private sector and generate income and contribution to the local economy. Potential private sector partners will be identified, and partnerships pursued, following due diligence screening applying UNDP's Private Sector Partnerships risk screening tool.

The project will seek to find potential use for the invasive *Prosopis* species from in and around the terrestrial protected areas, which has currently taken up and continues to encroach into more productive lands across Somalia. Ongoing mechanical control measures (cutting down the tree) have not produced significant results and are generally project-based activities intended to support community livelihoods in the form of temporary income generation. Under the proposed project, the tree shall be viewed as a potential for animal feeds especially storing the feed to be used in the dry seasons[5][8] and during droughts. The booming livestock intensification (camel milk trade) around cities and towns will also be potential markets for the yield.

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[1] https://knowledge.unccd.int/sites/default/files/naps/2018-06/NAP%20Full%20Report%20-%20Final%2023%20May%20digital.pdf

[2] file:///Users/administrator/Downloads/somalia_national_development_plan_2020_to_2024.pdf

[3] https://www.mof.gov.so/sites/default/files/2019-01/Somalia-Economic-Recovery-Plan-2014-2015.pdf

[4] https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Somalia%20First/Somalia%27s%20INDCs.pdf

[5] http://www.fao.org/technical-cooperation-programme/success-stories/detail/en/c/292367

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

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

No

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

The project will be executed by the Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Environment (CASE International), in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. Given the size and complexity of the project, substantial procurement needs are envisaged, in addition to the need for technical support in areas such as review and update of existing legal, policy, institutional, and land tenure frameworks. In view of this, the PPG phase will undertake detailed assessments of potential gaps in capacity that may impede timely and effective implementation of the project, and potential providers of the support, in line with the GEF Policy, and in consultation with the GEF Secretariat.

As the Implementing Partner for the project, during the PPG, UNDP will conduct full technical capacity assessment of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Environment (CASE International), and any other entity proposed by government to determine their roles in execution of the project and formally engage them as Responsible Parties in line with UNDP rules and procedures (e.g., through Letters of Agreements) including the articulation of fund disbursement modalities that will apply during implementation. Other institutions at Federal and State levels will also be assessed to determine capacity needs and role in implementation. Project implementation arrangements will be such that the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) will lead on the overall implementation of the project activities on the ground. The preparation of project workplans and budgets will be handled by CASE International and approved by the Project Steering Committee/Project Board chaired by MOECC. At State levels, the respective ministries of environments shall be the responsible institutions of the project. Utilizing the existing structures or forming inter-ministerial working groups on environment and natural resources management at federal and state levels, the project coordination activities will take place for either federal level institutions, state level institutions or federal and state level institutions combined.

At federal and state levels, the inter-ministerial working groups will include ministries and government with key mandates on Environment, Agriculture, Climate Change, Livestock, Forestry, Range, Wildlife, Fisheries, Water, Land, Finance, Planning, Rural Development, Interior and Local Governments and Security. Coordination meetings will be organized together with MOECC at different levels and will be held once every six months. Relevant stakeholders such as UN and I/LNGOs, private sector and key stakeholders will also be invited to take part in the meetings.

The proposed project will benefit from cooperation with the ongoing UNDP projects in Somalia such as, the UNDP/GEF Integrated Water Resources Management project which is currently assisting rural households across Somalia to access water for farming and livestock use. It is also supporting the water management capacities at all levels, specifically by establishing new water points and providing flood control and early warning mechanisms. In addition, UNDP/GEF-LDCF Building Urban Resilience and Transitioning to Green Economy in Somalia project which is currently developing the project proposal and it will enhance the resilience of urban systems and improve the adaptive capacity of vulnerable urban communities and ecosystems to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change on urban areas in Somalia.

Collaboration will also take place with the UNDP Resilience Hub through Water, Environment and Disaster Management project which is building the capacity of the Somali authorities and communities in their efforts to promote sustainable and resilient development through targeted support in the areas of integrated water resource management, environmental governance, and disaster risk reduction.

The UNDP/GCF National Adaptation Plan, which is currently being prepared, is also relevant to this initiative and collaboration and will be sought in terms of how impacts of climate change are exacerbating conflicts over natural resources and how the effects have contributed to biodiversity loss, deforestation and land degradation which have affected the quality of ecosystem services.

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

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

193000	0	0	0

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
193000	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
Harardhere		Protected Landscape/Seascape	1,000.00			
Hobyo lebad		Protected Landscape/Seascape	500.00			
Jawhar		Protected Landscape/Seascape	23,500.00			
Lag badana or Bushbushle*		Protected Landscape/Seascape	167,000.00			
Roobow (barawe area)		Protected Landscape/Seascape	1,000.00			

Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
194000	0	0	0

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
194000	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
Cadale		Protected Landscape/Seascape	22,500.00			

Chilani & mnari islands (barawe area)		Protected Landscape/Seascape	4,000.00			
Hobyo lebad		Protected Landscape/Seascape	500.00			
Lag badana or Bushbushle*		Protected Landscape/Seascape	167,000.00			

Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
6000	0	0	0

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

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

Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
6,000.00			

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

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

Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) under restoration

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

Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
3500	0	0	0

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

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

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

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

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
3,500.00			

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

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

Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

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

Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (direct)	1175939	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (direct)	1,175,939			
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting	2025			
Duration of accounting	20			

Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.3 Energy Saved (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Total Target Benefit	Energy (MJ) (At PIF)	Energy (MJ) (At CEO Endorsement)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at MTR)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at TE)
Target Energy Saved (MJ)				

Indicator 6.4 Increase in Installed Renewable Energy Capacity per Technology (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	100,000			
Male	100,000			
Total	**200,000**	**0**	0	**0**

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

This project will contribute to the establishment of 11 Terrestrial and Marine Protected Areas nationally and sub-nationally (5 Terrestrial, 4 Marine, 2 are combined marine and terrestrial). These areas have been identified based on geographic representation, FMS priorities and having a stable security situation. The IUCN protected area management categories will be adopted to determine what is the most suitable type of management category to apply to each protected area.

In total, the project will re-establish with detailed management plans covering approximately 387,000 hectares for terrestrial and marine PAs (indicator 1.1 for 193,000 ha and indicator 2.1 for 194,000 ha) in Galmudug, Southwest, Hirshabelle, Jubland, Somaliland and Puntland. The project will restore 6,000 hectares degraded mangroves and forestlands in the inside of the protected area through community-led interventions (indicator 3.2: Mangroves Forest restoration 1,000 ha and Acacia Forest restoration 5,000 ha). Moreover, the project will support 3,500 ha for sustainable land management in production systems (indicator 4.3: 500 ha of Mangroves Forest and 3,000 ha of Acacia Forest landscapes under improved practices) including improvement of terrestrial and mangrove ecosystems. The project is expected to avoid 1,175,939 tonnes of CO2eq over 20 years due to restoration activity. The target will be accurately reviewed and validated during the PPG stage.

Given that the marine protected areas (MPAs) will be new in the country, there is limited information on the areas of interventions, as well as the communities living around the resources for protection. Due to the lack and imprecise data about the selected 11 area for protection (indicator 1 and 2), as well as restoration and landscapes under improved practices of Acacia and Mangrove forests (indicator 3 and 4), the area extent (hectares), and beneficiaries/target population (indicator 11) will be confirmed during the PPG phase when surveys of marine and terrestrial areas are conducted in collaboration with the MOECC and local communities.

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate	Substantial	Somalia's climate projections indicate escalating risks due to increased variability in rainfall, leading to more frequent and severe droughts and floods by 2050. These changes are expected to exacerbate biodiversity loss, disrupt livelihoods, and increase displacement. In response, the project will conduct a detailed climate risk assessment to inform the integration of targeted mitigation measures. Strategies will include the promotion of drought-resistant species in reforestation, climate-smart agricultural practices, and adaptive capacities at community and institutional levels. This approach will be informed by the latest IPCC reports and STAP guidance on climate risk screening, ensuring that interventions are resilient to the identified climate hazards of intensified droughts, flooding, rising temperatures, sea-level rise, and extreme weather events.
Environmental and Social	Moderate	Environment: Charcoal production, use and commercialization have contributed to land degradation and serious deforestation in the country and most likely in PA candidates. Initiatives such as PROSCAL have been successful to contribute to reducing charcoal obtained by deforestation. As a mitigation strategy, this project will support interventions for the conservation, reforestation, and restoration of

		degraded lands in PAs candidates. Social: Women and men have unequal access to natural resources based on the intersectionality. A gender responsive conflict analysis and overall risk analysis will be undertaken during PPG stage to understand the risks and to introduce mitigation actions.
Political and Governance	Substantial	The ongoing armed conflict in the country affects and conditions of movement and consultations in areas that are deemed not safe. However, this project will assess the situation and will take the necessary measures accordingly. Fragile coordination relationship between Federal and state level institutions can delay implementation. A clear coordination mechanism and responsibilities will be discussed and set up at PPG level to ensure smooth implementation of activities across the country.
INNOVATION		
Institutional and Policy	Moderate	The risk associated with strategies and policies is assessed as low, as the project is designed to align with Somalia's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) National Reports, Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). Somalia will also participate in several other related initiatives, including those funded by the GEF (e.g., development of Biodiversity Finance Plans) that will help create a momentum at the national policy level in terms of policy dialogue and multistakeholder platforms around GBF implementation that this project will also build on and contribute towards. This alignment ensures that the project supports and is supported

		by national strategies and policies, minimizing the risk of policy-related disruptions.
Technological	Low	The technical design risk is considered low due to the project being developed through a collaborative process involving UNDP, the Government of Somalia, state-level authorities, and local communities. This inclusive design process ensures that the project's technical aspects are well-informed and tailored to the local context, reducing the likelihood of technical design flaws.
Financial and Business Model	Low	The macro-economic risk for the project is assessed as low, given the specific focus on environmental conservation and sustainable practices that are generally less vulnerable to macro-economic fluctuations. However, the project operates in a context where economic instability could potentially affect project financing and costs. To mitigate this risk, the project will adopt flexible financial planning, with contingencies built into the budget to accommodate inflation and currency fluctuation. Additionally, the project will seek to diversify funding sources and engage with local economic actors to build resilience against macro-economic changes. Regular economic analyses will be conducted to anticipate and respond to economic trends that may impact project activities.
EXECUTION		
Capacity for Implementation	Moderate	The risk related to institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability is considered moderate. While the project includes plans to enhance the capabilities of the Federal Ministry of Environment and

		Climate Change and its state-level counterparts, the existing institutional frameworks and human resource capacities may not fully meet the complex demands of managing new protected areas. To mitigate this risk, the project will implement a robust capacity-building program, including training workshops, technical assistance, and the development of management tools. Additionally, the project will establish clear lines of responsibility and accountability, and foster partnerships with experienced international organizations to provide ongoing support and knowledge transfer. Regular assessments will be conducted to monitor institutional performance and adapt capacity-building strategies as needed
Fiduciary	Moderate	Fiduciary risks, including financial management and procurement, are moderate. The project will be executed by CSO, which involves close collaboration with the Government with regards to decisions on project financial resources management and reporting. UNDP Somalia will provide financial and audit services, appoint independent financial auditors and evaluators, and ensure compliance with UNDP and GEF procedures for all activities, including procurement, contract management and financial services.
Stakeholder	Low	The risk associated with stakeholder engagement is low. A detailed stakeholder mapping and consultation process will be carried out during the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase to ensure that all relevant stakeholders are identified and engaged. This will facilitate the

		development of a comprehensive engagement strategy, including a project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), to support project implementation and sustainability.

Other		

Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	

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 proposed project will contribute to the GEF – 8 strategy in terms of conserving and sustainably using biodiversity by supporting the creation and expansion of marine and terrestrial protected areas as well as restoring landscapes in Somalia. It will contribute to core indicators 1, 2, 4 and 11 and it is aligned with the following GEF – 8 programming strategies.

Biodiversity Focal Area Investment and Associated Programming:

Objective 1. To improve conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of natural ecosystems.

a. The project components 1,2 and 3 will support efforts to achieve the objective of this strategy through multistakeholder approaches, by 1) Mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes; 2) addressing direct drivers of biodiversity loss and protecting habitats and species; 3) developing policies, legal and regulatory frameworks; 4) creating and strengthening the management of terrestrial and marine protected areas; and 5) ensuring that sustainable livelihoods benefit local communities and contribute to improved biodiversity conservation such as sustainable harvest, production and commercialization of NTFPs.

Land Degradation Focal Area Strategy and Associated Programming:

Objective 1. Avoid and reduce land degradation through sustainable land management (SLM).

b. The project components 3 will directly contribute to the objective in the strategy by 1) Supporting on ground implementation of sustainable land management; 2) Creating an enabling environment to support voluntary LDN target implementation; 3) Support climate smart agriculture activities that will contribute to increase the adaptive capacity, resilience and income of the communities living in the areas adjacent to the protected areas.

Objective 2. Reverse land degradation through landscape restoration.

c. The project components 1, 2 and 3 will contribute to some of the main objectives of the strategy 1) Addressing the drivers of forest loss; 2) supporting rational land use planning across mixed-use landscape; 3) supporting interventions for the conservation, reforestation, and restoration of degraded lands; and 4) identification and valuation of ecosystem services that could help generate income for the local communities.

In terms of private sector involvement, and through outputs 3.2.1, and 3.2.2., this project will not only support women and youth entrepreneurship development but also SMEs to improve the sustainability of their products, the supply chains

and access to new markets. The project will assist with private sector engagement and collaboration with local communities in the sustainable production and commercialization of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) such as aloe vera, frankincense, myrrh, Gum Arabica, resins, wild fruits, dyes and medicinal herbs, honey, and handicrafts from plants.

It will contribute to Somalia National Determined Contribution (2021)' adaptation options specifically in terms of building capacity in climate-resilient agronomic practices for smallholder farmers; promote livelihood diversification for coastal communities; mangrove and shoreline restoration; increase in areas under agroforestry and reforestation of degraded forests; and enhance the participation of women and youth in activities related to adaptation and environmental conservation in order to empower them and enhance their adaptive capacity.

The project will generally contribute to the achievement of the 2020 national Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets and it aligned with two program priority areas of the Somalia UNCCD National Adaptation Programme (2016), specifically *i) Integrated land and water management; and ii) Access and rights to communal land.*

The proposed project has been designed to be aligned and directly contribute to Somalia's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP 2016-2030), particularly relating to Strategic targets: 1, 5, 9, 12, 18, and 19. The activities under this project are aligned with the Somalia NBSAP, with the CBD national reports in terms of its key actions and future directions as well as with the CBD Aichi target 11 which calls for the protection of "at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services".

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) drafted its five-year strategic plan (2023-2028) and identifies the importance of biodiversity conservation for ecosystem resilience, maintenance of ecological balance and supporting sustainable livelihoods. The strategy calls for strengthening conservation efforts, establishing protected areas, and combating wildlife trafficking which will be addressed by this project.

The Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Rangeland Management developed the strategy (2022-2032) and clearly identify biodiversity loss as of the major causes of declining rangeland productivity in Somalia. The strategy prioritizes the biodiversity conservation through establishment of protected areas, community awareness raising and audit and valuation of biodiversity and their ecological roles in Somalia. The priorities identified under the strategy are in line with this project[6][9].

It is also in line with the proposed actions of Somalia National Adaptation Program of Action Update (NAPA) 2013[7][10] on strengthening resilience of biodiversity and will contribute to the actions such as i) large scale tree planting programs; ii) conservation of soil and water to reduce flooding; iii) development and enforcement of legal frameworks; iv) widespread awareness campaigns; v) protection of biodiversity and wildlife; vi) establishment of research centers for enhanced understanding of conditions and management of the flora and fauna of Somalia.

The proposed project in Somalia is strategically designed to contribute to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly aligning with targets 2, 3, 9, and 11. The project's efforts to restore and conserve ecosystems (Target 2) will be realized through the rehabilitation of degraded lands and the establishment of community-led conservation areas, which will also bolster ecosystem services and resilience to climate impacts. Target 3, which focuses on reducing threats to biodiversity, will be addressed through the establishment of protected areas and the implementation of sustainable land management practices that mitigate habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation. By enhancing the policy framework and building institutional capacities, the project will promote the effective management of biodiversity and ensure that the use of natural resources is sustainable and equitable (Target 9), ultimately contributing to enhancing and maintaining nature's contributions to human wellbeing (Target 11).

This project is aligned with the Provisional Constitution of the Federal Republic of Somalia, 2012[8][11] that places strong emphasis on environment, land rights and natural resources. Article 25 highlights the right of individuals to a fair share

of the country's natural resources, coupled with protection from excessive and harmful exploitation. Article 43 emphasizes the imperative of sustainable land use and management, while Article 45 explicitly addresses environmental protection, directing the Federal Government to prioritize safeguarding, conserving, and preserving the environment from any threats to natural biodiversity and ecosystems.

The biodiversity conservation and land restoration approach of the project fits with the national development and crisis recovery plans and strategies. It is in conformity with the National Development Plan (NDP9) of Somalia 2020-24[9][12], which considers environment and natural resources management as imperatives for economic and social development of the country and manage Somalia's environment and its natural resources in sustainable way to reduce the poverty across the country. It is also aligned with the National Environmental Policy, 2019[10][13] which puts emphasis on biodiversity conservation and in addressing the challenges of land degradation.

Reforestation activities will also support and be aligned with President Hassan Sheikh's National Regreening Initiative which is targeting to plant 10 million of trees across the country with the objective to increase biodiversity in Somalia.

Additionally, the project's activities are aligned with the Economic Recovery Plan, which includes strategies for natural resource management and environmental protection, crucial for Somalia's post-conflict economic recovery. By MEA with these national directives, the project ensures its contributions are composed into the fabric of Somalia's broader development and governance agenda, reinforcing its commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable resource management.

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

24th of May 2023: A meeting took place at UNDP in Mogadishu with Ms. Hidaya Mursal from Seebeyond tour operator in Somalia, that provides services for local and international tourists. According to this tourism agency, there is a great market potential for community-based ecotourism in future Protected Areas that can contribute to raise conservation awareness and disseminate sustainable practices.

Initial consultations with the communities and CSOs in Jariiban, Eyl and Bander bayla have been conducted with MOECC to discuss the application of customary laws for the protection of biodiversity and the resulting prohibition of the establishment of new settlements in their districts.

(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 ($)
UNDP	GET	Somalia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	7,873,394.00	708,606.00	8,582,000.00
UNDP	GET	Somalia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-1	Grant	4,575,001.00	411,750.00	4,986,751.00
Total GEF Resources ($)						**12,448,395.00**	**1,120,356.00**	**13,568,751.00**

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount ($)

300000

PPG Agency Fee ($)

27000

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	PPG($)	Agency Fee($)	Total PPG Funding($)
UNDP	GET	Somalia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation: BD-1	Grant	200,000.00	18,000.00	218,000.00
UNDP	GET	Somalia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation: LD-2	Grant	100,000.00	9,000.00	109,000.00
Total PPG Amount ($)						**300,000.00**	**27,000.00**	**327,000.00**

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total($)
UNDP	GET	Somalia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	8,800,000.00
UNDP	GET	Somalia	Land Degradation	LD STAR Allocation	5,095,751.00

Total GEF Resources	**13,895,751.00**

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Co-financing($)
BD-1-1	GET	7,873,394.00	4000000
LD-1	GET	4,575,001.00	2500000
Total Project Cost		**12,448,395.00**	**6,500,000.00**

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	Investment mobilized	1500000
Recipient Country Government	MOECC	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	500000
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4500000
Total Co-financing				**6,500,000.00**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and donors (UNDP) will avail the resources amounting up to USD 6,500,000 million in support of the implementation of the GEF funded project “Conserving terrestrial and marine biodiversity and restoring ecosystem services in globally relevant and vulnerable sites in Somalia”. These parallel resources are to be delivered directly through the Ministry in the states in support of environmental conservation projects including marine ecosystem restoration. The mobilization of public investment is an important strategy for Somalia government to promote economic growth, create green jobs, and improve the living standards of Somalians. It helps to address social and environmental challenges by financing projects in areas of conservation, restoration of the ecosystems and land rehabilitation in project targeted sites.

The government and donor support will be in the form of availing logistical support, engaging technical staff and experts in relevant surveys, assessments, and technical backstopping in related interventions of the project. The support includes using of physical assets and infrastructure of biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration and land rehabilitation activities.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Nancy Bennet	3/18/2024			nancy.bennet@undp.org
Project Coordinator	Min Htut Yin	3/18/2024			min.htut.yin@undp.org

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

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Mr. Liban Mohamed Abdulkadir	GEF Focal Point	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change	3/17/2024

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

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

SHORTLIST OF SELECTED TERRESTRIAL AND MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN SOMALIA

No	Name	Type*	State	Area (hectare)	Geo Reference (DDMMSS)	
1	Hobyo lebad	Marine and terrestrial protected area	Galmudug state	1,000	5°21'3.60'	48°31'37.20'
2	Harardhere	Wildlife reserve	Galmudug state	1,000	4°47'31.20'	47°50'6.00'
3	Chilani & mnari islands (barawe area)	Marine protected area	Southwest state	4,000	1° 6'57.60'	44° 1'55.20'
4	Roobow (barawe area)	Wildlife reserve	Southwest state	1,000	3° 7'37.20'	43°40'26.40'
5	Jawhar	Wildlife reserve	Hirshabelle state	23,500	2°46'37.20'	45°30'7.20'
6	Cadale	Marine protected area	Hirshabelle state	22,500	2°45'46.80'	46°19'15.60'
7	Lag badana or Bushbushle*	Marine and Wildlife reserve	Jubland state	334,000	1°18'46.80'	41°31'15.60'
8	Kismayo park	Wildlife reserve	Jubland state	tbd	0°21'21.60'	42°32'45.60'
9	Daalo Mountain/forest	Forest and Wildlife reserve	Somaliland	tbd	10°48'0.00'	47°20'42.00'
10	Sacadin Zayla Archipelago	Marine protected area	Somaliland	tbd	11°26'9.60'	43°27'46.80'
11	Eyl, Garacad	Marine Protected area	Puntland	tbd	7°57'25.20'	49°50'27.60'

Geo-referenced information and map is provided in below annex: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jqs0OlFEYYDdAqy5y34u6pyKeX_R8qqh/view?usp=sharing, whereas the selected 11 Areas for protection were taken by the MOECC from the WDPA link

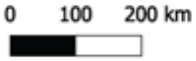
*The information in this table is based on the WDPA data, however, currently, there`s no protected areas for Forest, Wildlife and Marine Reserves in Somalia.

https://www.protectedplanet.net/country/SOM

TITLE: LOCATION MAP

PROJECT SUMMARY

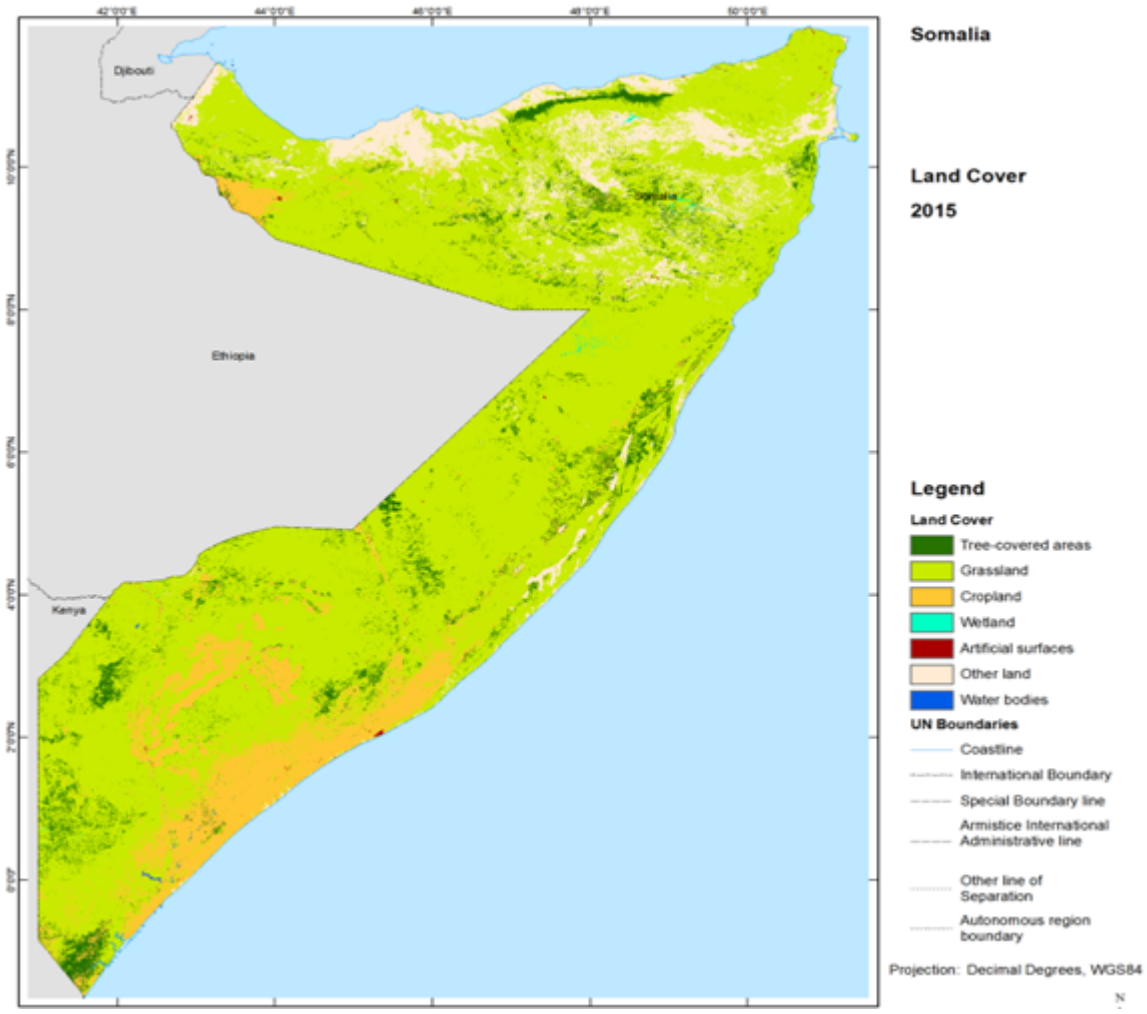
This project seeks to address the absence and/or ineffectiveness of a Terrestrial and Marine Protected Areas system with clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated, and managed through legal of other effective means to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.By promoting the establishment of national and sub-national terrestrial and marine Protected Areas.



Project Locations

Name	Type	State
Hobyo Lebad	Marine and terrestrial protected area	Galmudug state
Xarardhere	Wildlife reserve	Galmudug state
Chilani and mrani Island (Barawe Area)	Marine protected area	Southwest state
Roobow	Wildlife reserve	Southwest state
Jawhar	Wildlife reserve	Hirshabelle state
Cadale	Marine protected area	Hirshabelle state
Lag badana or Bushbushle	Marine and Wildlife reserve	Jubland state
Kismanyo Park	Wildlife reserve	Jubland state
Daalo Mountain	Forest and Wildlife reserve	Somaliland state
Sacadin Zayla Archipelago	Marine protected area	Somaliland state
Eyl	Marine Protected area	Puntland state

Somalia Land Cover Map 2015 Source: LDN Report



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
Somalia_PIMS6330_SESP for internal clearence_REV_Final_clean

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Significant Objective 1	Significant Objective 1	Principal Objective 2	Principal Objective 2

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Influencing models			
	Transform policy and regulatory environments		
	Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making		
	Convene multi-stakeholder alliances		
	Demonstrate innovative approaches		
Stakeholders			
	Private Sector		
		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	
		Education	
		Public Campaigns	
		Behaviour Change	
Capacity, Knowledge and Research			
	Enabling Activities		
	Capacity Development		
	Knowledge Generation and Exchange		
	Targeted Research		
	Learning		
		Theory of Change	
		Adaptive Management	
	Innovation		
	Knowledge and Learning		
		Knowledge Management	
		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	
Focal Areas/Theme			
	Biodiversity		
		Protected Areas and Landscapes	
			Terrestrial Protected Areas
			Coastal and Marine Protected Areas
			Community Based Natural Resource Management
		Mainstreaming	
			Tourism
		Biomes	
			Mangroves
			Tropical Dry Forests
	Forests		
		Forest and Landscape Restoration	
		Forest	
			Drylands
	Land Degradation		
		Sustainable Land Management	
			Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands
			Ecosystem Approach
			Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach
			Community-Based NRM
			Sustainable Livelihoods
			Income Generating Activities
			Sustainable Agriculture
			Sustainable Pasture Management
			Sustainable Forest/Woodland Management
			Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques
	Climate Change		
		Climate Change Adaptation	
			Least Developed Countries
			Climate Resilience
			Ecosystem-based Adaptation
			Community-based Adaptation
			Livelihoods
Rio Markers			
	Sustainable Development Goals		

	Climate Change Mitigation 1 Climate Change Adaptation 1 Biodiversity 2 Land degradation 2		