Global coordination project for the SFM Drylands Impact Program

Part I: Project Information

Name of Parent Program

Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program on Dryland Sustainable Landscapes

GEF ID

10253

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

☐ CBIT

☐ NGI

Project Title

Global coordination project for the SFM Drylands Impact Program

Countries

Global

Agency(ies)
FAO

Other Executing Partner(s):
IUCN

Executing Partner Type
GEF Agency

GEF Focal Area
Multi Focal Area

Taxonomy
Focal Areas, Climate Change, Climate Change Mitigation, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Technology Transfer, Financing, Forest, Forest and Landscape Restoration, REDD - REDD+, Drylands, Biodiversity, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Mainstreaming, Forestry - Including HCVF and REDD+, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Biomes, Tropical Dry Forests, Desert, Grasslands, Financial and Accounting, Conservation Finance, Payment for Ecosystem Services, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Sustainable Pasture Management, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Income Generating Activities, Sustainable Forest, Ecosystem Approach, Sustainable Fire Management, Sustainable Livelihoods, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Agriculture, Drought Mitigation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Cover and Land cover change, Land Productivity, Carbon stocks above or below ground, Influencing models, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Deploy innovative financial instruments, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Demonstrate innovative approache, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Beneficiaries, Communications, Education, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Private Sector, Large corporations, SMEs, Financial intermediaries and market facilitators, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Capital providers, Local Communities, Indigenous Peoples, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Academia, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Participation, Information Dissemination, Consultation, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Access to benefits and services, Capacity Development, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Participation and leadership, Access and control over natural resources, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Gender-sensitive indicators, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Innovation, Knowledge Exchange, Targeted Research, Learning, Indicators to measure change, Adaptive management, Theory of change, Knowledge Generation

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 1

Submission Date

12/13/2020

Expected Implementation Start

5/1/2021

Expected Completion Date

4/30/2026

Duration

60In Months

Agency Fee($)

725,119.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount($)	Co-Fin Amount($)
IP SFM Drylands		GET	8,056,881.00	16,113,762.00
			Total Project Cost($) 8,056,881.00	**16,113,762.00**

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

To maximize the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of GEF-7 investments in sustainable drylands management to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
1. Programmatic prioritization and coordination	Technical Assistance	1.1 Child project investments are prioritised, targeted and coordinated to maximise effectiveness, realise the potential for synergies, and address transboundary issues	1.1.1 Strategy documents defining objective, evidence-based regional and global priorities for investments in sustainable dryland management 1.1.2 Mechanisms for transboundary coordination of approaches and investments in sustainable dryland management	GET	1,755,022.00	3,725,673.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
1. System-wide capacity development, knowledge management, stakeholder engagement and outreach	Technical Assistance	2.1 Child projects are at the forefront of global best practice to maximize enduring, replicable results at scale to avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation 2.2 The program and its child projects contribute to local, regional and global stores of knowledge 2.3 Stakeholders at national, regional and global levels are effectively engaged and informed regarding the project and the models of sustainable dryland management, stimulating active participation and scaling up	2.1.1 Knowledge inputs provided to child projects 2.1.2 System-wide capacity development support for national and regional actors including harmonised methodological guidance to child projects 2.2.1 Harmonised methodological guidance for knowledge systematization and management by child projects 2.2.2 System for feeding knowledge and results generated by the project into regional and global knowledge hubs 2.3.1 Guidance for consistent stakeholder engagement, and branded outreach and results communication by child projects 2.3.2 Direct outreach by the GCP	GET	3,433,193.00	7,288,429.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing($)	Confirmed Co-Financing($)
3. Program-wide monitoring and adaptive management	Technical Assistance	3.1 The program and its child projects are subject to adaptive management, responding effectively to lessons learned and evolving conditions in order to maintain relevance and ensure sustainability	3.1.1 Programmatic M&E system incorporating child project M&E results and program-level indicators, guiding adaptive program management and reporting program-wide contributions to GEF-7 core indicators and SDGs 3.1.2 Harmonised methodological guidance and standards for child project M&E systems	GET	2,485,005.00	4,275,594.00
			Sub Total ($)		**7,673,220.00**	**15,289,696.00**
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
				GET	383,661.00	824,066.00
			Sub Total($)		**383,661.00**	**824,066.00**
			Total Project Cost($)		**8,056,881.00**	**16,113,762.00**

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount($)
GEF Agency	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	4,850,900.00
GEF Agency	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Other	Investment mobilized	11,262,862.00
			Total Co-Financing($)	**16,113,762.00**

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Investment mobilized will be drawn from a wide variety of sources across FAO's country, regional, and international programs. These efforts include the Global Programme on Sustainable Dryland Agriculture, the Dryland Restoration Initiative Platform, FAO's Action Against Desertification Program, the FAO South – South Cooperation Program, and ongoing work under Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands among many other planned and ongoing initiatives of direct importance to this Impact Program. Concurrent with the launch of the Dryland Sustainable Landscapes Program, FAO will also launch the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration along with a global effort to mobilize resources to advance restoration goals in all major ecosystems. Finally, FAO will mobilize and invest new resources in the domains of knowledge and capacity building through initiatives such as the Agroecology Knowledge Hub, the Farmer Field School Platform, the Pastoral Systems Knowledge Hub, the Global Soil Partnership, the Forest and Farm Facility, and the Committee on Forestry Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems.

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

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount($)	Fee($)
FAO	GET	Global	Multi Focal Area	IP SFM Drylands Set-Aside	8,056,881	725,119
				Total Grant Resources($)	**8,056,881.00**	**725,119.00**

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required

☐

PPG Amount ($)

200,000

PPG Agency Fee ($)

18,000

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount($)	Fee($)
FAO	GET	Global	Multi Focal Area	IP SFM Drylands Set-Aside	200,000	18,000
				Total Project Costs($)	**200,000.00**	**18,000.00**

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	79,918.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	79,918.00	0.00	0.00

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)
Akula National Park	125689	Select		79,918.00		

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)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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 3 Area of land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	45239.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	5,851.00		

Indicator 3.2 Area of Forest and Forest Land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	5,873.00		

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and shrublands restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	33,496.00		

Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (incl. estuaries, mangroves) restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	19.00		

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)
0.00	1201711.00	0.00	0.00

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

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	112,882.00		

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)

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)
	1,087,829.00		

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	1,000.00		

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

Title	Submitted

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

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

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (direct)	0	8306078	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)	0	238168	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)		7,221,553		
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)		238,168		
Anticipated start year of accounting		2021		
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)		1,084,525		
Expected metric tons of CO_2e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting		2021		
Duration of accounting		20		

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 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female		42,707		
Male		42,707		
Total	0	85414	0	0

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

Core indicators for the Global Coordination Project of the Dryland Sustainable Landscapes Impact Program have been estimated at a 10% increment above the sum of the indicators from the country investments in the Program.

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

1a. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description).

Context

1. This is the umbrella global coordination project (GCP) for the Dryland Sustainable Landscape Impact Program (DSL IP) child projects in 11 selected countries (Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malawi, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe).

Global importance of drylands and dryland ecosystems

2. Extending over 40% of the Earth's landmass, drylands are home to and support around two billion people (over 25% of the world's population), contain 44% of the world's agricultural land (58.4% of that in Africa) and supply about 60% of the world's food production. More than 30% of urban areas and 34% of the urban population are located in dryland regions (including dry sub-humid, semi-arid, arid and hyper-arid climates)[1][1]. Figure 1 shows the global extent of drylands, as defined by aridity (annual precipitation); as shown in Figure 2, the area of drylands is much larger if "presumed" drylands are included, defined as those areas that do not meet the criterion of low annual precipitation levels, but are affected by severe seasonal aridity stresses.

Figure 1. The global extent of drylands, as defined by aridity (World Atlas of Desertification, 2018)

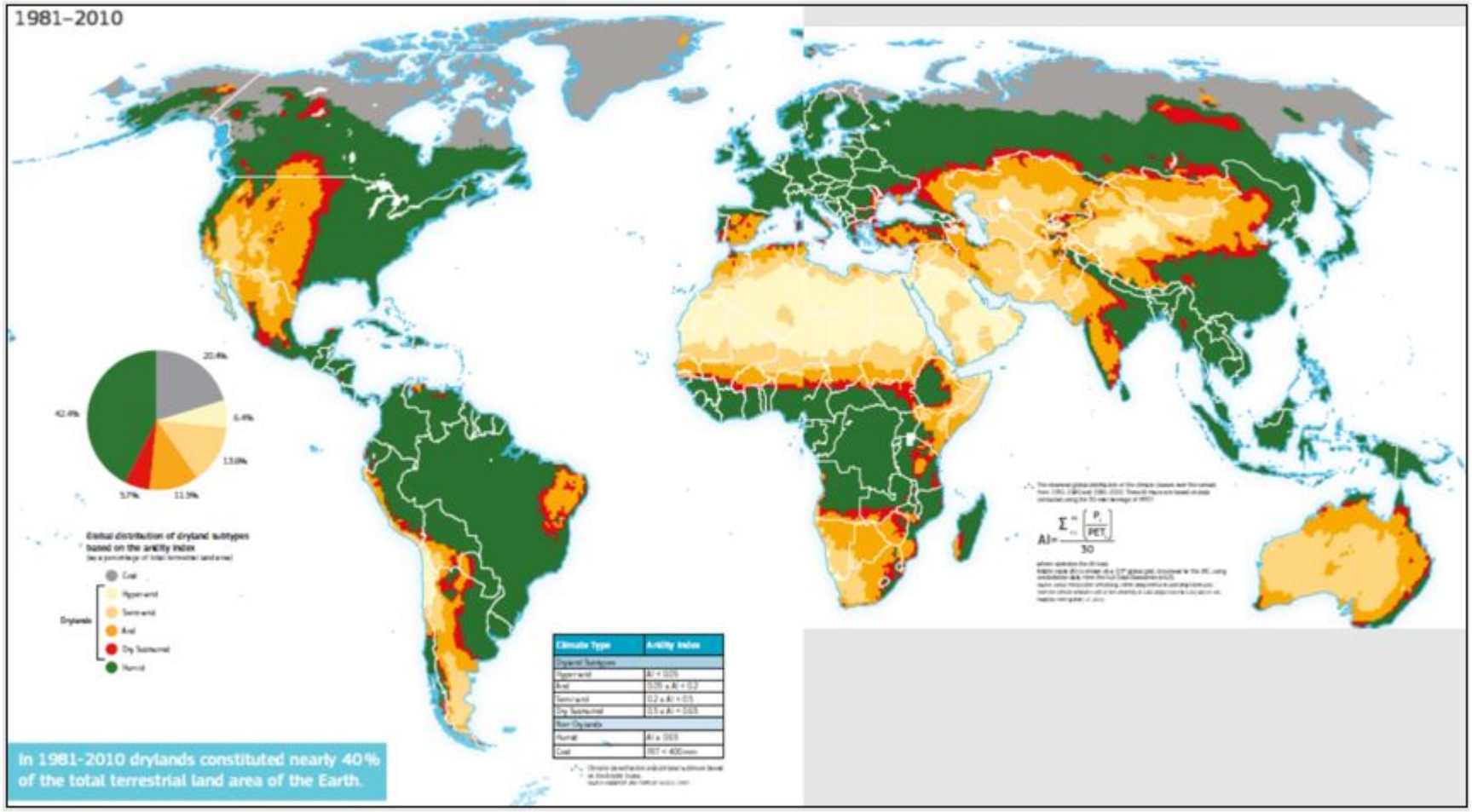
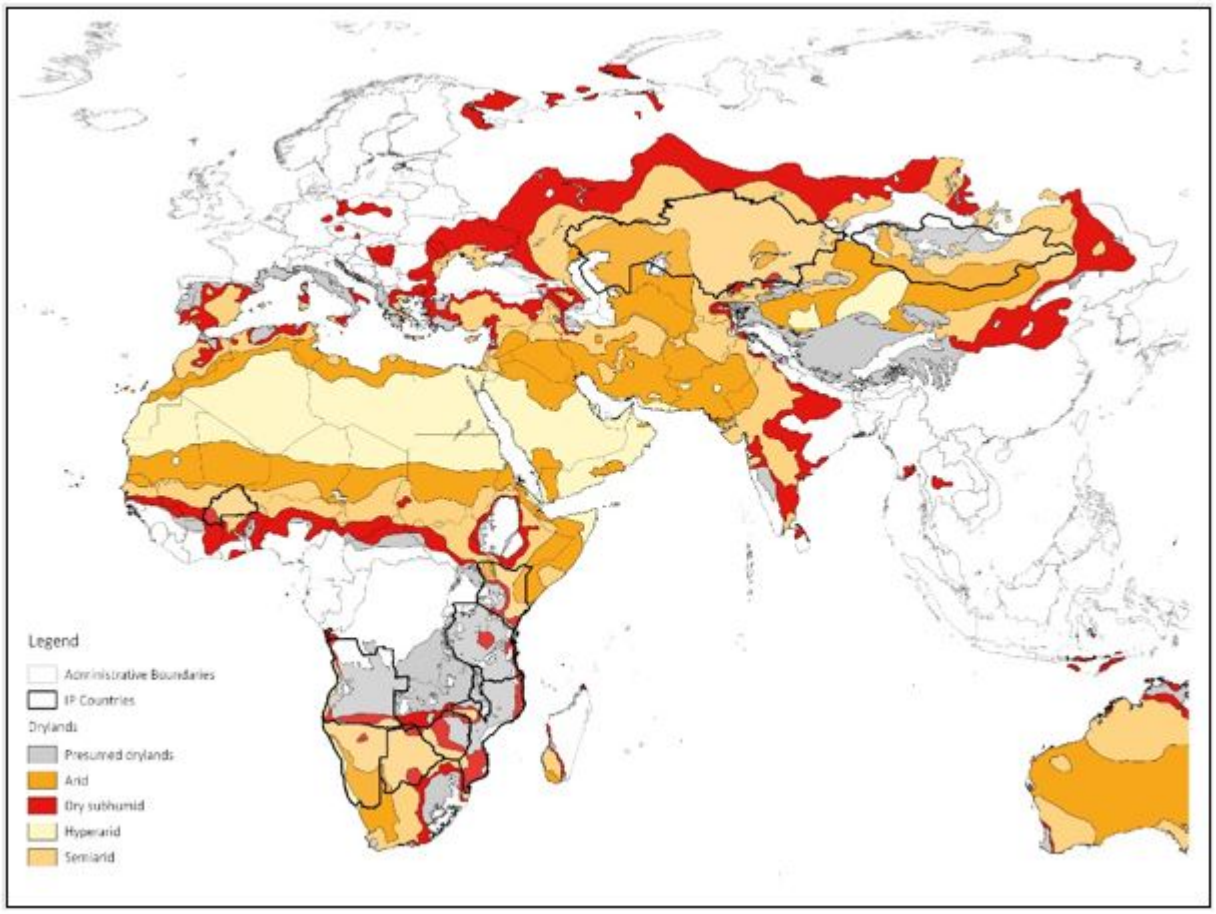


Figure 2. The extent of drylands in Africa and Asia, including "presumed drylands" (grey areas)



3. Tropical dry forests and woodlands constitute a large portion of the world's vegetation, covering one-sixth of the earth's surface and more than half of the African continent[2][2].

1) Miombo-Mopane

4. The Miombo–Mopane woodlands are the most predominant type of tropical dry forest and woodland vegetation in Southern Africa, and are considered wilderness areas of global conservation significance[3][3]. The woodlands play a crucial role in formal and informal economies, supporting the livelihoods of millions of rural and urban people, by providing important resources such as timber, food, medicines, biofertilizers, housing and energy[4][4]. The Miombo and Mopane woodlands also play an important role in ecosystem dynamics, particularly with respect to biodiversity, water, carbon and energy balance.[5][5]

5. The plant diversity of these ecosystems is high[6][6]. Five sub-regions have been delineated through the Miombo woodlands[7][7] (Angolan Miombo woodlands, Central Zambezian Miombo woodlands, Zambezian Baikiaea woodlands, Eastern Miombo woodlands and Southern Miombo woodlands) that cover about 3,000,000 km2 across the Zambezian region of Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe[8][8]. The Mopane woodlands represent the second most significant type of vegetation in the Zambezian phytoregion, covering approximately 600,000 km². This region includes two sub-areas (Zambezian and Mopane woodlands, and Angolan Mopane woodlands), and is distributed over northern Namibia, southern Angola, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Zambia, Malawi, southern Mozambique and northern South Africa[9][9]. The Miombo and Mopane woodlands are dominated by species belonging to the Leguminosae[10][10], which is considered the second most economically important plant family[11][11]. This family includes over 19,500 species spanning about 770 genera and six subfamilies, namely Caesalpinioideae, Cercidoideae, Detarioideae, Dialioideae, Duparquetioideae and Papilionoideae, many of which establish root-nodule symbiosis with N_2 fixing rhizobia bacteria[12][12]. The Miombo woodlands are dominated by trees of the genera *Brachystegia*, *Julbernardia* and *Isoberlinia*, while the Mopane woodlands are dominated by *Colosphosperum mopane* (Benth.) Leonard[13][13]. Most of these trees are under severe ecological pressure, due to logging and charcoal production[14][14], as well as fires related to animal, human and climate factors[15][15], which have contributed to the massive degradation of these woodlands and raised the need for their conservation[16][16]. Furthermore, the importance of trees in providing habitats to invertebrate organisms often receives little attention despite their major role in the provision of pollination, biological control and soil-mediated ecosystem services[17][17], as well as important economic options for smallholder producers (e.g. honey bees).

*2) Sahel/Savannas of West Africa**[18]***[18]

6. The Sahel region is naturally dominated by grassland and savanna, interspersed with significant areas of woodland and shrubland, and punctuated with many small but important humid patches such as wetlands and seasonal streams. Sahelian landscapes can host a variety of annual and perennial grasses together with a range of acacia and other trees, which are replaced by shrubs in more northerly zones[19][19].

7. The Sahel and Sahara support an impressive array of biodiversity, including a particularly large number of endemic species that are not found elsewhere on the planet. The region includes the Sudanian regional centre of endemism with a high concentration of endemic plants, and western Sudan, for example, is a centre of endemism for gerbils.

8. Several other rodents are endemic to the region along with other mammals, ten endemic reptiles, and two endemic bird species[20][20]. Despite its flat topography, the Sahel includes a few mountainous regions that may provide particularly important refugia for endemic and endangered species as well as providing important ecological resources to human populations.

9. The southern fringe of the soudano-sahelian ecotype bordering the Guinean and the Congo Basin forests is characterised by a mosaic of grass and tree savanna with 3-5% gallery forests. Gallery forests are made up of an assemblage of rainforest species (trees, amphibians, mammals, and insects) that have survived the last episode of forest withdrawal. The gallery forest habitat, which is considered as a biodiversity hotspot, is key to an important array of ecological and economic processes. The forest provides water, rare forest products and plants as well as timber to communities, they bear high cultural and traditional value they also provide refugees and nuclei for natural or assisted habitat and forest regeneration.

10. In addition to higher rates of endemism than formerly recognised, the region is characterised by narrow and fragmented ranges, often limited to “micro-hotspots” of biodiversity, such as seasonal rivers and ponds. These are areas that are often under the greatest pressure from humans, and yet due to their high value and relative scarcity they can be vital for life on a vast scale. Pastoralist livelihoods, as well as migratory species, depend on these resources and high costs can be incurred when small resource-rich areas are converted to other uses.

11. The Sahel is notable for supporting long range migrations, not only of ungulates but also of many bird species. Wetlands within the Sahel are particularly important for these migrations, which include intra-African migrations as well as populations that move south from Europe and the Arctic. Niger for example has around 1,000 wetlands estimated to support 1.2 million birds every January and February[21][21]. Resident biodiversity and habitat is essential to enable these migrations and therefore changes in biodiversity can have far-reaching consequences: for example, many migratory birds rely on the hatching of alates – winged forms of insects, particularly termites – during the wet season, to provide a rich energy source that enables them to complete their migration.

12. Agrobiodiversity in the Sahel is vital for the livelihoods and the resilience of rural dryland populations. Many crop varieties and livestock breeds have developed in the region through a combination of farmer-based and natural selection over many hundreds of years. They are highly adapted to the specific conditions in which they exist and they are often central to the risk management strategies and local adaptation of rural populations. Comprehensive overviews of agrobiodiversity in the Sahel are not available, but the overall level of agrobiodiversity in Africa is comparatively high, with for example around 150 varieties of cattle, 60 varieties of sheep and 50 of goats[22][22]. Additionally, crop wild relatives contain the genetic material that confers local adaptation, such as resistance to drought and extreme temperature.

3) Temperate grasslands, savannas and shrublands of Central Asia (Kazakhstan and Mongolia)

13. This biome includes a large number of ecoregions, such as the Eastern European forest steppe, the Pontic steppe, the Kazakh forest steppe, the Kazakh steppe and the Mongolian-Manchurian grasslands: to the north, steppes generally give way to forest ecoregions (boreal forests, conifer forests, mixed forests and taiga) and to the south to deserts and semi-deserts.

14. The Eastern Mongolian Steppes are home to the largest remaining intact temperate grasslands of the Earth. This ecosystem is characterized by treeless flat steppes, gently rolling hills, wetlands, and interlinkages with the Khyangan Mountain Range all the way to the border with the People's Republic of China. The Eastern Steppes are an exceptional ecoregion within the vast Eurasian Steppes, spanning from the European Pannonian Steppe to the Mongolian-Manchurian grasslands, due to its intactness, relatively high altitude and northern latitude. Its main distinctive characteristic compared to other steppe ecosystems is that it is dominated by grasslands across thousands of square kilometres, with some species of bush and shrubs. 25 species of mammals, 174 species of birds, 2 species of amphibians and 5 species of reptiles have been recorded. The herds of an estimated 1.5 to 2 million Mongolian white-tailed gazelles (*Procapra gutturosa*) are an inseparable element of the ecosystem, both inhabiting and shaping it. It is also home to a number of Asian species such as raccoon dog (*Nyctereutes procyonoides*), transbaikal zokor (*Myospalax psilurus*), and Asian particolored bat (*Vespertilio sinensis*). The Eastern Mongolian Steppes also represent the eastern limit of the Central Asian mountain ranges, and the most eastern extremity of the habitats for a number of species including goitered gazelle (*Gazella subgutturosa*), Argali sheep (*Ovis ammon*), Mongolian marmot (*Marmota sibirica*), five-toed pygmy jerboa (*Cardiocranius paradoxus*), Kozlov's pygmy jerboa (*Salpingotus kozlovi*), long-eared hedgehog (*Hemiechinus auritus*) and great bustard (*Otis tarda*)[23][23].

15. The steppes of Kazakhstan, together with those of the Russian Federation, encompass the world's largest dry steppe region. Before the 1950s, when large territories were ploughed for crops, this steppe was a continuous grassland belt stretching across Central Asia from the Ural River in the west to the Altai foothills in the east. In spite of its relatively small number of endemics, this ecoregion is globally important because it supports the largest populations of several rare and imperiled species. Lakes provide sanctuaries for diverse and rare species of waterfowl, great amount of migratory birds from different parts of the world are nesting and feeding in protected wetland areas, such as Kourgaldzhin and Tengiz Lakes. The largest northern population of pink flamingo (*Phoenicopterus roseus*) is found here[24][24].

16. The following animals from this ecoregion included in the IUCN Red Data List: (1) Mammals (global ranks in parentheses): corsac fox (*Vulpes corsac*) (DD), saiga antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*)(VU A1), giant mole-rat (*Spalax giganteus*), (VU A1c), steppe pika (*Ochotona pusilla*) (VU A1cd, C2a), bobac marmot (*Marmota bobac*) (LR/cd), ground squirrel (*Spermophilus major*) (LR/nt), birch ouse (*Sicista subtilis*) (LR/nt), migratory hamster (*Cricetulus migratorius*) (LR/nt); and (2) Birds: white-headed duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*) (VU A2e), imperial eagle (*Aquila heliaca*) (VU C2a), lesser kestrel (*Falco naumanni*) (VU A1ace), pallid harrier (*Circus macrourus*)(LR/nt), great bustard (*Otis tarda*) (VU A2c), little bustard (*Tetrax tetrax*) (LR/nt), black-winged pratincole (*Glareola nordmanni*) (LR/nt) and sociable plover (*Vanellus gregarius*) (VU A1ac, C1+2a)[25][25].

Threats

1) Miombo-Mopane

17. The ecological dynamics of Miombo-Mopane are strongly influenced by a combination of climate, disturbances (e.g., drought, fire, grazing, and herbivory primarily by elephants), and human activities. The growing population in the region over the last 20–25 years has resulted in increased woodland degradation and deforestation. Slash-and-burn agriculture and charcoal production are the major causes of forest loss and degradation[26][26]. Additionally, the region is experiencing several major investments in mining, commercial agriculture, and infrastructures, which have further increased the pressure on the woodlands.[27][27]

18. Changes in global climatic patterns constitute another major threat for these ecosystems. These are mainly characterized by more extreme wet and dry seasons as well as with extreme temperatures, which may change disturbance regimes (e.g., fire, shifting cultivation) and thus the prevailing biodiversity status. For example, there is predicted to be a 5–15% reduction in precipitation for Southern Africa, while it is hypothesized that the combined effect of climate changes and disturbances may cause the loss of ca. 40% of the woodlands by the middle of the century[28][28]. In line with these predictions, field studies combined with remote sensing and Geographic information system (GIS) methodologies suggest a decline in vegetation richness of 10–30% across Sahel and a southward shift of Sahel, Sudan, and Guinea zones due to shifts in temperature and precipitation regimes[29][29].

2) *Sahel/Savannas of West Africa****[30]***[30]

19. Human activity has significantly modified the Acacia bushland of the Sahel over many centuries, through the use of fire as a management and hunting tool, as well as through cultivation and other interventions. In recent decades, the Sahel has witnessed dramatic declines in populations of many of its large mammals. This is largely the result of

human activities, including conversion of habitat to crop cultivation, and over-hunting. Since biodiversity loss is closely associated with human pressure, the impacts are often lower in more sparsely populated areas: nevertheless, some experts project that the Sahel region will be more affected by habitat destruction in the coming century than almost anywhere else on earth, with decreasing species abundance and a number of species extinctions[31][31].

20. The diversity of larger mammals in the Sahel has declined dramatically over the past two centuries. According to the IUCN Redlist of Threatened Species, the scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), formerly widespread through the region, is presumed to be extinct in the wild and there have been no confirmed reports of any wild oryx since 1988. Several gazelles were formerly widespread, including the critically endangered Dama gazelle (*Gazella dama*), and the vulnerable dorcas gazelle (*G. dorcas*) and red-fronted gazelle (*G. rufifrons*). These species play an important role in seed dispersal and their decline can have knock-on effects on regeneration of vegetation, species composition and structure[32][32]. The desert antelope (*Addax nasomaculatus*) is listed as critically endangered by the IUCN Red List and numbers only around 100 individuals.

21. Megafauna has historically played a major role in shaping biodiversity and influencing ecosystem structure and function in dryland regions. Sahelian megafauna has declined throughout the region and is entirely absent from large areas. A number of species, such as the Western black rhino (*Diceros bicornis longipes*), have already disappeared from the subregion, while the African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) has declined dramatically. Elephant numbers have been particularly affected by habitat loss due to conversion of rangelands to crop lands, unregulated deforestation, and the development of roads that have opened up areas of pristine habitat to hunters. African elephants were widely distributed across the Sudano Sahelian range as recently as the 1950s, but their population is increasingly confined to a few protected areas. The protected area complex formed by the Gourma Reserve in Mali and the Partial Sahel reserve in Burkina Faso, for example, hosts the most northern elephant population in Africa with 600 individuals, migrating between the two areas[33][33].

22. As herbivore populations have declined, so too have the populations of many large predators. Lion (*Panthera leo*) and cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), for example, were formerly dispersed throughout the region but are now categorised as vulnerable, having largely disappeared from the region. Lions in West Africa fare less favourably than those in Africa as a whole, and their regional status is classified as Critically Endangered: lion populations in West Africa are now estimated at 406 individuals[34][34]. Populations of large birds (ostrich, cranes, raptors, bustards) have also declined severely across the Sahel and populations of large raptors have collapsed outside of Protected Areas. Six out of seven species of vulture occurring across the Sahel and savanna zones are threatened[35][35].

23. Human population growth combined with increasing wealth and investment are the major factors behind biodiversity declines in the Sahel. Agriculture is one of the leading causes of land degradation, contributing to widespread clearance of land, over-exploitation of soil, and a downward spiral of productivity, poverty and biodiversity loss. Conversion of forest and rangelands to crop farming is driven by increasing demand for food and low rates of productivity growth on existing farmland. Industrial agricultural has often replaced locally-adapted farming practices in which farmers sought to protect soil organic matter and moisture. It has frequently replaced local crop breeds that are highly

resistant to drought with “improved” breeds that offer higher total productivity when sufficient chemical inputs are used, but which are more likely to fail in drought years, leaving farmers exposed to dangerous risks of poverty and destitution. Industrial agriculture has also tended to exploit scarce resources like water at high intensity on very small areas of land (i.e. through irrigation projects) leaving the much larger landscape more waterstressed. A further contributing factor is grazing mismanagement, which may either take the form of over-grazing, or in some cases modifications to herd movement and management strategies which may disrupt the patterns of herbivore action on which many rangeland ecosystems depend[36][36].

24. The heavy reliance on wood fuel in the Sahel ensures that wood extraction is a significant cause of degradation and biodiversity loss. Forests are also cleared for small and large scale farming, including for production of commercial crops. Over-extraction of wood is also driven by external pressures, including global demand for wood. In addition to reliance on wood, many people harvest non-timber forest products and wildlife from the Sahel, for food, medicine, construction and other uses. The reliance on biodiversity for economic purposes is a leading threat to biodiversity in the region[37][37]. Hunting and poaching are contributing to significant species losses and these losses are closely correlated to population growth.

3) Temperate grasslands, savannas and shrublands of Central Asia (Kazakhstan and Mongolia) ***[38]***[38]

25. Livestock overgrazing and rangeland degradation pose a serious challenge to biodiversity conservation on the steppes of Mongolia and emanate from a number of interrelated factors. Following the rapid rise in livestock numbers since the 1990s, land degradation and desertification expanded, especially in the more marginal desert-steppe and desert regions[39][39]. In 2001 government officials reported that >70% of Mongolia was at least marginally degraded and 7% was seriously degraded. By 2007 the Mongolian government had increased their estimates of seriously degraded land to 9.0% of its land base, or some 14.08 million ha[40][40]. Most of the degraded land occurred on pasturelands, with some 12.31 million ha (9.8%) of steppe pasturelands designated as seriously degraded. As livestock numbers increase, they eventually degrade Mongolia’s rangelands (as they already have in many parts of the country, especially the more semiarid rangelands), with negative effects for future grazing by livestock and wildlife[41][41].

26. The large increases in livestock, lack of control of grazing lands, and the poor economy of Mongolia have all contributed to a lack of capacity to manage grazing lands in a sustainable way. In addition, the shift in the composition of Mongolia’s livestock herd from primarily sheep-dominated to primarily goat-dominated could significantly impact the conditions of the nation’s rangelands and wildlife conservation: goats often browse plants that have low value to sheep or cattle, but may be a food source for wild ungulates or may protect the soil following heavy grazing by sheep or cattle. Goats also prefer foraging on rougher land, eat a wider range of plant species, eat more browse, and travel longer distances in search of preferred forage than do other domestic ruminants. These differences suggest that the change from sheep- to goat-dominated rangelands will alter vegetation conditions.

27. Both the significant declines in ungulate populations and the virtual cessation of the traditional patterns of Kazakh pastoralism have drastically altered conditions in the steppe. The nomadic way of life involved the seasonal migration of domestic herds which helped to minimize or avoid the overgrazing of specific locations, while ensuring adequate grazing capacity for both livestock and wild ungulates that maintained the grasslands and their characteristic species compositions. The parallel processes of wildlife overhunting and the abandonment of traditional pastoralism have led to dramatic shifts in grazing levels and patterns, with some areas experiencing significant declines in grazing pressure, while others, near what are now permanent settlements, have experienced excessive grazing. In turn, the steppe has seen massive changes in grassland vegetation, with subsequent impacts on many species of mammals and birds, including globally significant steppe breeding birds such as the vulnerable Great Bustard and the now critically endangered Sociable Lapwing[42][42].

28. The environmental challenges faced in each of the target countries and landscapes are summarized in Table 1: these challenges are presented in detail their respective project documents.

Table 1. Summary of environmental challenges faced by the target countries and landscapes, according to the threats analyses carried out by the child projects

Country/ landscapes	Threats
Angola (Okavango and Cunene river basins)	A total of 717,274 ha of the original [Mopane-Miombo] tree cover of 16,105,840 ha was lost between 2000 to 2017 and converted to cropland and pasture. Cropland increased by 5% from 1995 to 2015 mainly north west of the Okavango landscape (converted from forest land) and in the central and western part of the Cunene basin (converted from grassland) with an area of 741,092,283 ha. Additionally, the reduction of communal rangelands due to the expansion of private enclosures for livestock production and agriculture coupled with land degradation increase conflicts between farmers and livestock keepers
Botswana (Miombo-Mopane landscapes of North-east Botswana)	The Mopane-Miombo woodlands of northern Botswana are the part of the country where most of forest and land degradation occur, mainly due to the expansion of crop land, the unsustainable growth of livestock, the overharvesting of NTFP, the expansion of settlements, and uncontrolled fires. Forest cover in Botswana has declined from 23.6 % in 1990 to 19.7 % in 2010. The main identified drivers of degradation are the increase in population and the widespread economic inequity and poverty of rural communities, which will likely be exacerbated by the negative impact of climate change –increased drought, heat waves and decreased annual rainfall.
Burkina Faso	The major environmental problems facing Burkina Faso are (i) the recurrent floods, droughts, strong winds, increased temperature and high variability in the duration of the rainy and dry seasons. and (ii) the advance of the northern desert into the savannah. This trend toward desertification has been increased by overgrazing of pasture, slash-and-burn agriculture, and overcutting of wood for fuel.
Kazakhstan	According to the Kazakhstan Ministry of Agriculture, 70 percent of the country is considered degraded, including the dried Aral Seabed. Most degraded territories are arid zones with saxaul forests, steppes and agricultural dryland. The forest ecosystem's fragility dictates a cautious policy in the management of this resource. The government is looking to considerably expand the livestock sector on the one hand, and to expand forests and resilient restoration of forest landscapes on the other hand.

Country/ landscapes	Threats
Kenya (southern rangelands)	The demand for forest products in Kenya is projected to increase by 43.2%, poles (58.2%), firewood by (16.1%) and charcoal (17.8%) by 2022. The supply and demand projections clearly indicate that the country will face acute shortages of forest products in the near future. High potential areas struggle from intense cultivated agricultural production, reduced land sizes and population pressure. 84% of Kenyans rely on forest biomass for their domestic energy. There are approximately 350,000 charcoal producers in Kenya. Kenya's 2015 GHG emissions were 85m tCO_2e, the majority coming from land-use, agriculture and forestry. While 60% of the national livestock is concentrated in 31 Districts of the drylands, returns remain low resulting in low off-take and highly unplanned grazing systems. In these drylands, water resources are dwindling. Only 40% of the population have access to potable water. Loss of forest resources, general land degradation and desertification result, brought about by unsustainable land management practices such as over-cultivation, over-grazing, deforestation and poor irrigation practices. Environmental, economic and social losses result further in household poverty, poaching, sub-division and selling off of customary land, forced migration and conflict over dwindling drylands resources.
Malawi (Miombo and Mopane woodlands in Balaka, Ntcheu, and Mangochi districts)	The target area is one of the most densely populated areas of Malawi, and this population relies heavily on forest and agricultural resources for their livelihoods. Poor land management and unsustainable practices – deforestation for firewood or charcoal, and land clearing and fire for agricultural expansion – are causing soil nutrient loss and soil erosion. This results in the sedimentation of rivers, reduced crop yields, food and fish production, and revenue from ecotourism, fishing and hunting. Climate change through increased temperature and erratic rainfalls accentuate these negative impacts, including through the reduction of crop yields of grain and biomass . In addition, ecosystem degradation is leading to increased pollution, higher risk of invasion by alien species and biodiversity loss
Mongolia	Approximately 90% of Mongolia is highly prone to desertification . 57% of Mongolia's grasslands are degraded to some degree , and the annual cost of land degradation is estimated at $2.1billion. The Mongolian Eastern Steppe, covering 27.3 million hectares, is one of the world's largest remaining grassland ecosystems and hosts critical ecosystem of global environment importance. Land degradation severely influences livelihoods in the steppes, limiting availability of vital functioning ecosystem services and driving local poverty, migration and user conflict. A biodiversity gap analysis of the area identified five major threats, with human and livestock footprints as the most pressing drivers. Livestock overstocking, increasing impacts from mining operations, and climate change pose pronounced threats to Eastern Steppe.
Mozambique	Species invasion, predominately linked to poor management has resulted in rapid deforestation and degradation. The main deforestation and degradation factors that will need to be adressed are slash-and-burn agriculture, wood extraction, trade in timber, fires of unnatural causes, population growth, encroachment and land tenure conflicts. Forest-related climate change mitigation and adaptation needs will also be addressed, so as to increase resilience of rural communities and reduce forest fires and pest outbreaks.

Country/ landscapes	Threats
Namibia (northern Mopane-Miombo belt)	The most significant environmental challenge in the targeted Miombo/Mopane woodlands are land use changes caused by the conversion from grassland to cropland and a general loss of trees and ecological value of forests. Direct drivers for land degradation include agricultural expansion, charcoal production and overgrazing, which contribute to the loss of soil carbon and of biomass, resulting in biodiversity loss. Land degradation is accelerated by climate change and indirectly driven by population pressure. In the last ten years, temperatures in Namibia have been rising at three times the global mean increase reported for the 20th century, while rainfall received throughout the country has been low in the last 10 years, characterized by short duration and high intensity rain storms. North and central Namibia will suffer the highest increase in temperature and decrease in precipitation over the period 2036-65[43][43].
Tanzania (Central Zambezian Miombo woodlands)	The Central Zambezian Miombo woodlands are increasingly being degraded by shifting cultivation with inadequate rotational fallow periods, overgrazing, charcoal production and uncontrolled fires. Irregular rainfalls are further increasing the negative effects of these practices. Land productivity is therefore decreasing while the population is rapidly increasing.
Zimbabwe (Save and Runde catchments)	A detailed assessment of the targeted landscape revealed major loss of grassland and tree cover, and significant expansion of cropland. Causes of deforestation and degradation include conversion to agriculture, settlement expansion, unsustainable harvest and extraction of forest products (particularly woodfuel), veldt fires, illegal mining and invasive species. As a result, nearly half of the landscape (1,474,960 ha) is affected by declining productivity

29. The global COVID-19 crisis has the potential indirectly to exacerbate many of these threats, by, for example:

- Leading dryland inhabitants (both women and men) to increase pressures on resources and ecosystems, as a survival strategy in response to reductions in their access to income and food due to “lockdowns” and the broader economic downturn resulting from the crisis;

- Leading to increased pressures on natural resources and ecosystems as part of recovery strategies following the economic impacts of the crisis (resulting both from the downturn and from the impact on Government budgetary resources of investments in healthcare and the mitigation of social impacts);

- Resulting in decreased investment in sustainable land/ecosystem management, due to lockdowns and security measures imposed by COVID-19.

The contribution of the Global Coordination Project (GCP) to addressing the threats

30. By fostering transboundary outreach, scaling (up, out[44][44]), continuous stakeholder engagement, system-wide capacity development, as well as coordination, this Global Coordination Project (GCP), working in association with the child projects in the 11 countries, responds to the transboundary and regional nature of many of the threats and challenges described above. As described in the Program Framework Document (PFD) for the DSL IP, these transboundary and regional issues include regional demographic

flows (seasonal or permanent migration), regional economic connectivity and globalisation, transboundary transhumance, ecoregional biological connectivity, and transboundary flows of environmental impacts and services.

31. By introducing a global, regional and transboundary dimension to investments in tackling these threats, the GCP will help to ensure that the impacts of the program in terms of durable threat reduction are felt and sustained both in the 11 target countries and beyond, in neighbouring countries with similar conditions and challenges.

32. The GCP will thereby increase the overall scale of the impacts of the DSL IP in implementing durable solutioms to these threats, so that "the whole will be greater than the sum of the parts": it will also be of concrete benefit to each of the participating countries, allowing them to increase the effectiveness and the durability of the impacts of their child project investments, for example by opening up additional opportunities for them to access regional and global technical and financial resources and markets of relevance to their needs, in support of effective strategies for dryland management that effectively and durably address the threats; supporting them in participating effectively in regional and global dialogues, with public and private sector actors, on key dryland issues of relevance to them; and, where relevant, allowing them to coordinate effectively with neighbouring countries to address shared and/or transboundary issues.

33. The programmatic approach of the IP, the application in practice of which will be one of the main roles of the GCP, responds to the recognition in GEF-7 Programming Directions that "*Because of the scale of these biomes* [including drylands]*, a comprehensive and large-scale set of investment is needed as* ***fragmented and isolated projects will not be sufficient*** *in these large ecosystems to maintain the integrity of these unique and globally important areas… The novelty of this Impact Program resides in the fact that GEF will be aiming at maintaining the ecological integrity of entire biomes by* ***concentrating efforts, focus, and investments****, as well as* ***ensuring strong regional cross-border coordination***"[45][45].

Barriers

34. Specifically, the GCP will focus on addressing the challenges described in the overall PFD theory of change, of "piecemeal approaches to combating land degradation across dryland regions", which constitutes a barrier to the maximization of the effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and durability[46][46] of the program as a whole. As highlighted in GEF-7 Programming Directions, "*…SFM investments have been isolated to certain small forest lands across all of GEF's eligible countries with* ***no sustained vision nor potential for ecosystem or biome level outcomes****. Fragmented and isolated investments while good for small area of forest, fall short of maintaining the integrity of entire biomes where there is that potential".*

35. Specific aspects of this challenge, which constitute the specific challenges or barriers which the GCP will address, are:

1. <u>The selection, prioritisation and coordination of DSL management initiatives are based on narrowly-focused (national) perspectives:</u>

36. Many dryland landscapes and ecoregions transcend national borders. The effectiveness of country-specific approaches to addressing dryland issues may be limited as they fail to take into account social or biophysical processes that cross borders, such as transhumance systems, the movement of human populations due to drought, resource

degradation or conflict, spread of invasive species, or the migration of wildlife. The definition at national level of priorities for investment in land degradation and biodiversity conservation may also result in sub-optimal impacts from the limited resources available, particularly if the land resources and biodiversity values of a given ecoregion, for example, are not evenly distributed between the countries where the ecoregion occurs.

2. Full advantage is not taken of technical expertise and opportunities for collaboration in capacity development at regional and global levels

37. By working in isolation, national initiatives in support of dryland sustainable management fail to take advantage of the significant resources of dryland expertise available at global and regional levels (including in many cases in neighbouring countries within the same region). This typically result in the same management approaches that to date have failed to make a transformational change being recycled by the same national actors, with the same limited effectiveness.

38. In addition, capacity development in relation to dryland management is typically carried on a piecemeal basis, focusing principally on one-off training activities for individuals within specific countries, rather than organizational and institutional structures and networks. It typically lacks the systemic approach that is required to promote ownership at national and regional levels, to maximize scale and especially durability of impact (through "communities of practice", knowledge exchange networks and long-term backstopping to ensure that learning is applied), and to take advantage of opportunities for coordination and economies of scale.

3. DSL management initiatives lack mechanisms for building in lessons learned regionally and globally

39. Although there are significant numbers of successful experiences with strategies for the sustainable management of drylands, failure to adequately document, systematize, share and learn from these (and from the mistakes of unsuccessful initiatives) means that new initiatives too often "reinvent the wheel", resulting in the wasteful use of the limited resources available, are sub-optimally replicated and do not reach the desired scale. There are deficiencies in knowledge flow in both directions: from national initiatives to regional and global hubs, meaning that national experiences are not shared and capitalized on by others; and from regional and global knowledge resources down to dryland countries.

4. Key stakeholders are not effectively engaged in DSL management initiatives at regional and global levels

40. This situation is compounded by limitations in the effectiveness, continuity and strategic focus of the engagement of key dryland stakeholders, especially those that operate at regional and global levels. This represents a missed opportunity for them to contribute their technical knowledge and regional/global vision to the program, to deliver synergies through coordination, and to sustain and scale up program impacts regionally and globally.

5. Insufficient mechanisms for applying a programmatic perspective to monitoring, learning and adaptive management

41. The possibility of applying the programmatic approach effectively, in order to address the previous two barriers, is in turn hindered by the absence of mechanisms for applying a programmatic lens to monitoring: at present, impact monitoring is typically project-specific, or, when it is applied at more macro (regional or global levels) typically sector- or issue-specific. This prevents interventions from being managed adaptively to recognise and respond to, for example, unintended indirect (collateral) impacts of interventions – for example cross-boundary or inter-sector leakages of impacts.

42. These barriers in turn hinder child projects from addressing the **recurring common management challenges in the IP countries**, including:

- Scarcity of participatory (and integrated) rural advisory services: silo/sectoral, supply-focused and non-inclusive extension models, which are facing increased funding gaps.

- Lack of incentives for SLM/SFM interventions

- Common drivers of deforestation and resource degradation, with transboundary scope, such as unsustainable woodfuel production and use

- Lack of comprehensive LD data generated for informed decision making by policy makers and land users on appropriate SLM and SFM interventions (in alignment with the LDN approach) and harmonized (cross-boundary/ecosystem level) monitoring and assessment of child projects' impact (at ecosystem level).

- Inadequate human and institutional capacities for integrated landscape management and governance

- Sub-optimal ownership and commitment to existing LDN initiatives due to sub-optimal and sporadic stakeholder engagement.

43. By addressing these barriers, the GCP will in turn enable the child projects more effectively to address the country-specific barriers to the sustainable management of drylands, thereby increasing the generation of global environmental benefits (GEBs) and social cobenefits, and helping to bring the landscapes targeted by the child projects closer to the situation sought in which they are sustainably managed and restored where necessary.

2) The baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects.

44. The Global Coordination Project (GCP) will build on an extensive baseline including:

- Knowledge hubs at global and regional levels, such as the **Global Landscapes Forum**, the **UNCCD Global Mechanism** and knowledge hub, the **Global Soil Partnership**, the **World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies** (WOCAT, see below), the **Pastoral Systems Knowledge Hub** and the **Agroecology Knowledge Hub**. The GCP will work with these as channels and communities of practice allowing regional and global knowledge to be fed into the program and its constituent child projects, lessons generated and systematically documented through the program to contribute to regional and global knowledge resources, and south-south exchanges of knowledge. All participating countries in the Program have set targets under the **Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme** of the UNCCD, and have completed or are in the process of developing strategies for implementation. The Program will enhance the capacities of countries to implement these strategies. In addition, the **UNCCD Science-Policy Interface** (SPI) has released the **Scientific Conceptual Framework for Land Degradation Neutrality**: this provides a scientific basis for understanding, implementing and monitoring LDN. It has been designed to create a bridge between the vision and the practical implementation of LDN, including through the LDN Target Setting Programme. The **GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel** (STAP) has also issued guidelines offering practical help in developing GEF projects which contribute to Land Degradation

Neutrality[47][47]. In addition, FAO is leading the Task Force on Good Practices for Ecosystem Restoration, of which the child projects (with support from the GCP) will be able to take advantage in support of their ecosystem restoration investments, and into which knowledge generated through the projects will be fed.

- Existing regional coordination and implementation mechanisms will be leveraged within the context of this project, such as the **Great Green Wall Initiative** in northern and southern Africa, the **Central Asia Countries Integrated Land Management** (CACILM) Initiative in Central Asia, and the **Southern Africa Development Community** (SADC) in southern Africa. The program, with support from the GCP, will take advantage of these mechanisms for channelling the scaling out of project impacts beyond the borders of the 11 selected countries to other countries in the target regions.

- The **Great Green Wall** is one of Africa's flagship initiatives to combat land degradation and desertification as well as addressing food insecurity and poverty. Endorsed by the African Union in 2007 as the 'Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative' (GGWSSI), it brings together more than 20 African countries with international organizations, research institutes, civil society and grassroots organizations. The scope of this effort is now being extended to the Southern African region. The **Action Against Desertification** initiative of the European Union supports these efforts both in the Sahel as well as in Southern Africa.

- The **GEF integrated approach pilot (IAP) on Food Security for Africa** is in many ways the precursor of the Dryland Sustainable Landscapes Program focusing on building resilience through effective management of natural resources that underpin food and nutrition security. The IAP builds on evidence and lessons from around the world that gains in agricultural productivity must be built on healthy soils, diversified production models, landscape level approaches, effective water management, and sustained flows of ecosystem services. The IAP promotes integrated management of natural resources in smallholder agriculture, thereby building and scaling up GEBs across much broader production landscapes.

- The **World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies** (WOCAT) is recognized by the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) as the primary database and repository for sustainable land management (SLM) practices. WOCAT methods and tools support evidence-based decision making for promoting the implementation and upscaling of SLM and contributing to the achievement of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and SDG 15.3, and identifying the status and trends of LD and SLM. There are numerous past and ongoing WOCAT initiatives in the DSL IP countries.

- Investments in sustainable dryland management, restoration and rehabilitation by national Governments and other agencies in neighbouring countries, which the program will target, will be accomplished through outreach and knowledge sharing, as mechanisms for leveraging of impacts beyond the 11 selected countries. These will include for example, investments under the **GEF-6 Food Security Integrated Approach Program (IAP)** in Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Swaziland, Tanzania and Uganda.

- The Drylands Sustainable Landscapes Impact Program (DSL IP) is uniquely positioned to be one of the flagship initiatives in the **United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration**. The GCP through its activities and engagement with relevant stakeholders at country level, regionally, and globally will contribute to overcome barriers and support the achievement of the Decade's vision. The development, under FAO leadership, of the framework on ecosystem restoration monitoring (FERM) in 2020-2021, as a contribution

to the implementation of the UN Decade, will provide an opportunity to monitor progress on ecosystem restoration and to identify the related restoration indicators through the generation of normative information and methodological guidance.

- The forest and landscape restoration which also has as objective sustainable management of drylands landscape was elevated on the global agenda in 2011 with the establishment of the **Bonn Challenge**, calling for the restoration of 150 million hectares of deforested and degraded lands by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030. The Bonn Challenge was voted the most important forest outcome in a global public poll for the Rio+20 Summit. IUCN's Assembly of Members (more than 1,100 state and non-state members) in 2012 adopted a resolution endorsing the Bonn Challenge and calling for action in support of it. This demonstrates public and political recognition of forest and landscape restoration as a well-established and viable framework for large-scale restoration of deforested and degraded lands. IUCN further developed the Bonn Challenge Barometer in order to track progress towards the implementation by countries of the Bonn Challenge commitments, and progress in restoration efforts. IUCN can support progress in the application of the Bonn Challenge Barometer and identify areas where gaps still need to be filled in terms of policy, capacities and monitoring. IUCN has recently developed and launched the Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions (NbS) such as Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR), and could help provide guidance to develop, implement and scale up protection, restoration or sustainable use actions as responses to the challenges identified in the IP countries and the regions. NbS are defined by IUCN as *"actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges (e.g. climate change, food and water security or natural disasters) effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits"*.

3) The proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project and the project's Theory of Change.

Value added of the Global Coordination Project (GCP)

45. The Global Coordination Project (GCP) will play a key supporting role in complement to the country-specific child projects that make up the remainder of the investment in the IP.

46. The added value of the GCP in relation to the IP and its constituent child projects will be as follows:

- **Deepening and amplifying the results "on the ground" from the child projects** through supporting harmonised approaches on knowledge management, inclusive stakeholder engagement and system-wide capacity development;

- Contributing to the **transformation of dominant paradigms on the management of drylands** among policy makers and practitioners, for example by supporting "communities of practice" and comparative policy dialogues ("scaling deep");

- **Ensuring that child project investments are effectively targeted** and, in a coordinated manner, **address transboundary issues** that affect them;

- Enabling child projects to **access additional technical and financial resources** to which they might not normally have individual access;

- Creating conditions to enable dryland sustainable management approaches and impacts to be **scaled out and up at regional and global level.**

47. The specific forms of interaction between the GCP and country-specific initiatives are portrayed in Figure 3. The GCP will:

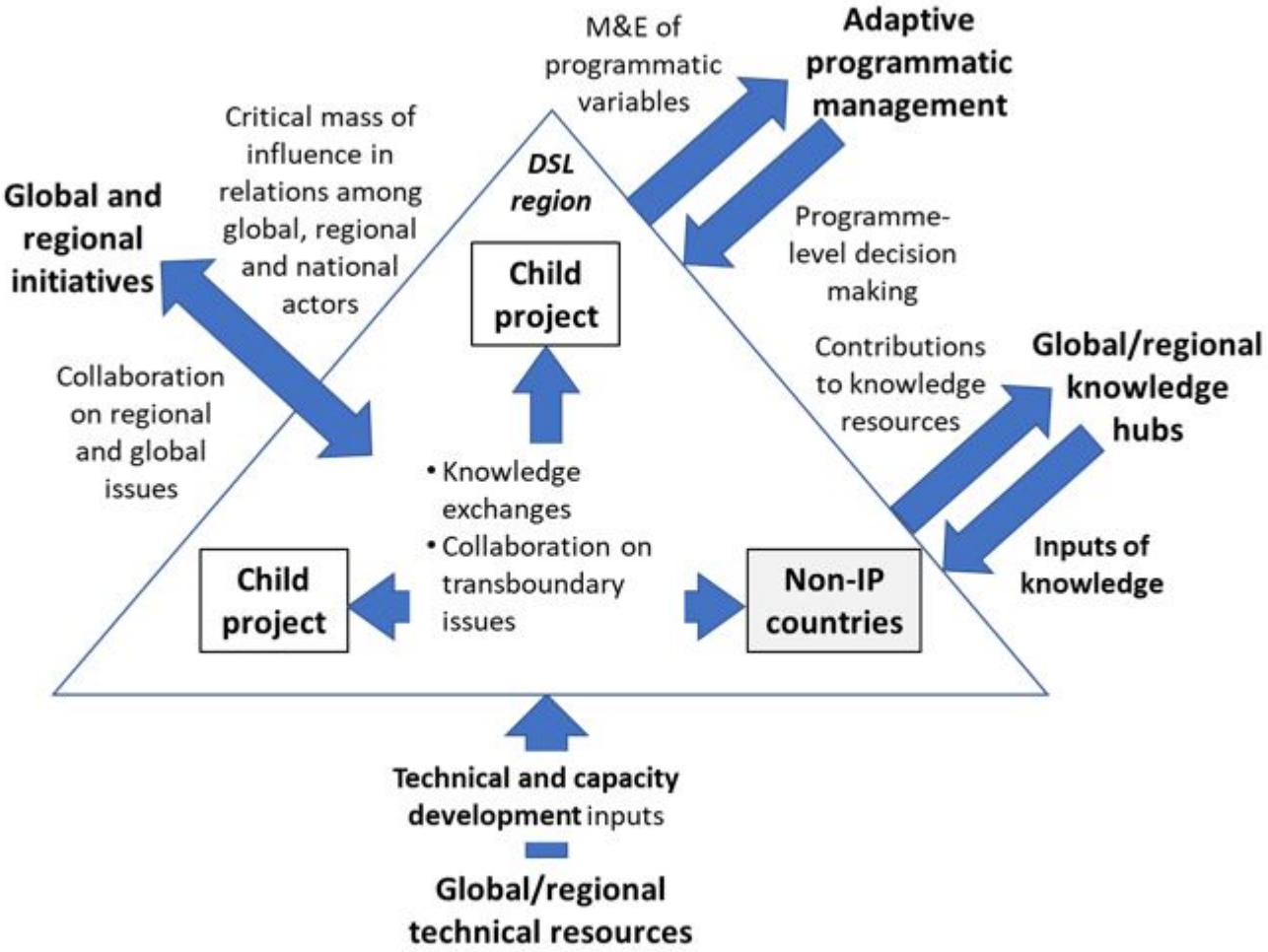
- Help to ensure that the country-specific initiatives in each of the IP regions are able to interact effectively with actors and initiatives operating at global and regional levels (including the global private sector) by achieving a “critical mass” of influence and minimizing transaction costs by delivering economies of scale;

- Help to channel technical resources available at global and regional levels to the child projects;

- Support adaptive management with a programmatic perspective, so that child projects are able to respond effectively and adaptively to trends in conditions at regional and global lebels;

- Support the flow of knowledge from child projects to regional and global actors, and vice versa.

Figure 3. Areas of value added of the GCP

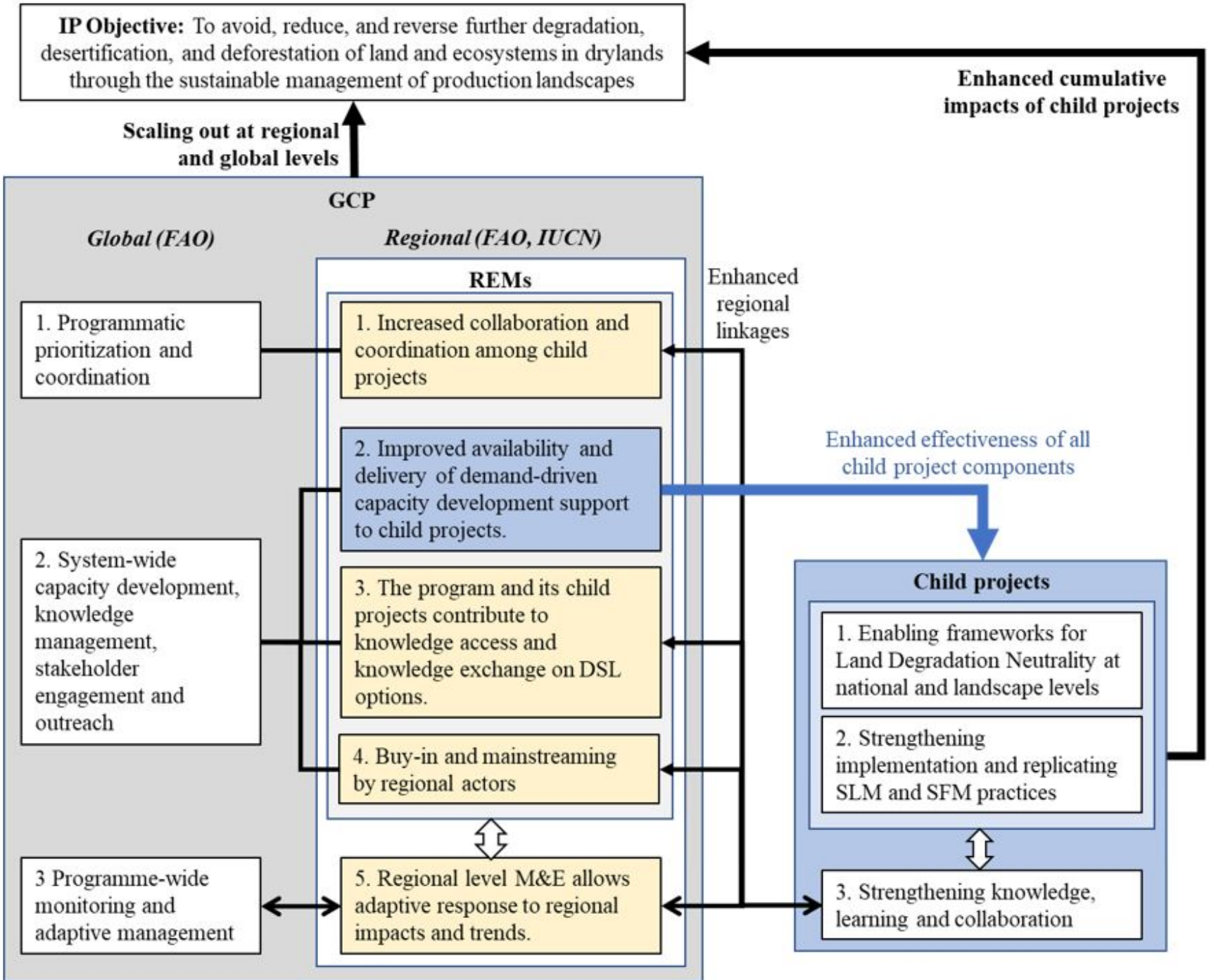


48. The GCP will thereby be of significant benefit to the child projects, contributing to the magnitude and durability of the impacts that they are able to generate, to the benefit of the countries where they are implemented. To achieve this, as well as the overall impacts foreseen at biome level from the IP, it is expected that the target countries will participate actively in the GCP (and the regional-level dialogue, coordination, planning and capacity enhancement that it will support), as required by GEF[48][48]: "*To ensure coherence and consistency in the overall IP, countries must commit to work closely with the global/regional technical assistance and knowledge management component. This requires allocation of funding to facilitate participation in learning and knowledge exchange activities, as well as other Regional/Global Platform activities as needed, which will strengthen alignment of child projects and increase potential for transformational impact"*.

49. While the GCP will have overall programmatic reach across the whole Impact Program, most of the common challenges identified during PPG are in fact regionally-specific. In recognition of this, the GCP will also support regional-level coordination through through Regional Exchange Mechanisms (REMs) in each of its areas of operation (see below for more detail on the functioning of the REMs). The importance of such regional "hubs" is a lesson learned from the Integrated Approach Pilots (IAPs). According to a recent evaluation of the Food Security IAP, "*the main innovation for the three IAP Programs was the development of "hub projects" that functioned as capacity-development, coordination, and knowledge-support platforms or networks toward the other child projects. This was a clear improvement over past programs. The success of the IAPs largely depended on the effective functioning of the hub projects*."

50. The relations between the GCP, REMs and child projects are presented in Figure 4. The REMs in effect constitute regional outposts of the GCP, responding to regionally-specific needs. On the one hand, the GCP and the REMs will jointly complement the child projects by contributing to the scaling out of DSL impacts at regional and global levels; on the other, they (most concretely the REMs) will enhance the effectiveness of the child projects, thereby increasing their cumulative impacts.

Figure 4. Relations between the GCP, REMs and child projects


IP Objective: To avoid, reduce, and reverse further degradation, desertification, and deforestation of land and ecosystems in drylands through the sustainable management of production landscapes
Scaling out at regional and global levels
Enhanced cumulative impacts of child projects
GCP
Global (FAO)
Regional (FAO, IUCN)
REMs
1. Programmatic prioritization and coordination
2. System-wide capacity development, knowledge management, stakeholder engagement and outreach
3 Programme-wide monitoring and adaptive management
1. Increased collaboration and coordination among child projects
2. Improved availability and delivery of demand-driven capacity development support to child projects.
3. The program and its child projects contribute to knowledge access and knowledge exchange on DSL options.
4. Buy-in and mainstreaming by regional actors
5. Regional level M&E allows adaptive response to regional impacts and trends.
Enhanced regional linkages
Enhanced effectiveness of all child project components
Child projects
1. Enabling frameworks for Land Degradation Neutrality at national and landscape levels
2. Strengthening implementation and replicating SLM and SFM practices
3. Strengthening knowledge, learning and collaboration

Theory of Change

51. Figure 5 presents a generic theory of change diagram for IP child projects (specific theory of change diagrams for individual child projects are presented in their respective Project Documents), and presents the theory of change for the GCP. A comparison of the two diagrams reinforces the complementarity between the child projects and the GCP, also shown in Figure 3 and Figure 4.

52. As shown in Figure 5, child projects are primarily aimed at delivering impacts within their target landscapes, in terms of sustainable, adaptive and equitable management; also, as a function of their inclusion in the IP, they will contribute where relevant to addressing transboundary issues. Meanwhile, as shown in Figure 6, the GCP will lead to **maximized effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of IP impacts**, through both **enhanced functioning of the child projects** and **scaling out**: it will also support the child projects in **addressing transboundary issues**, by facilitating transboundary cooperation.

53. The child projects and the GCP will therefore both contribute to addressing the same threats and drivers, although this will be done directly in the case of the child projects and indirectly (through facilitation and capacity enhancement) in the case of the GCP; and the GCP will allow threats with transboundary and regional dimensions to be addressed in ways that are beyond the scope of the child projects alone.

54. This difference in scope and role means that the child projects and the GCP will also aim to remove different barriers: in the case of the child projects, the barriers are specifically related to limitations in the conditions and capacities at national level needed to address threats to drylands effectively and sustainably; while the GCP will specifically focus on **removing barriers that prevent child projects from taking advantage of regional and global opportunities for collaboration and support** in order to further optimize and scale out their impacts.

55. The assumptions set out in the GCP theory of change, on which the realisation of the changes foreseen depend, may be summarized as follows:

- **Participating country stakeholders are receptive to, will own and be committed to the results of regional prioritisation and coordination processes facilitated by the GCP, and the results of monitoring and evaluation at supra-national level regarding regional trends**. The probability of this assumption being realized will be maximized by seeking to involve target country stakeholders actively from the start and on an ongoing basis in the processes of prioritisation and coordination, including an initial programme of cross-IP outreach events to raise awareness and common understanding among stakeholders of the benefits that they can expect from buying in. Moreover, the GCP will apply a system-wide capacity development approach to enable and empower country stakeholders thus maximizing ownership, commitment and mutual accountability for results.

- **Technical and financial resources are available at regional and global levels to support child projects, and activities at regional levels**. FAO is uniquely placed to provide and channel technical resources in a wide range of relevant fields, and is also well placed to facilitate countries' access to financial resources from diverse sources.

- **Target countries are responsive to scaling out, up and deep**: the GCP will maximize the probability of this responsiveness by developing and applying in-depth strategies for stakeholder outreach approaches at global level and in each of the target regions within which scaling out is expected to occur; it will also support individual child projects in developing their outreach strategies.

56. The GCP will provide methodological support to child project teams to enable them to analyse and monitor the implications of these factors in practice for the programme, and how they evolve over its lifetime, with a particular focus on issues with typically deep social and cultural roots such as openness to participation and collaboration. This will provide a valuable learning opportunity that may guide the approaches applied by future initiatives aimed at upscaling.

Figure 5. Generic theory of change diagram for IP child projects

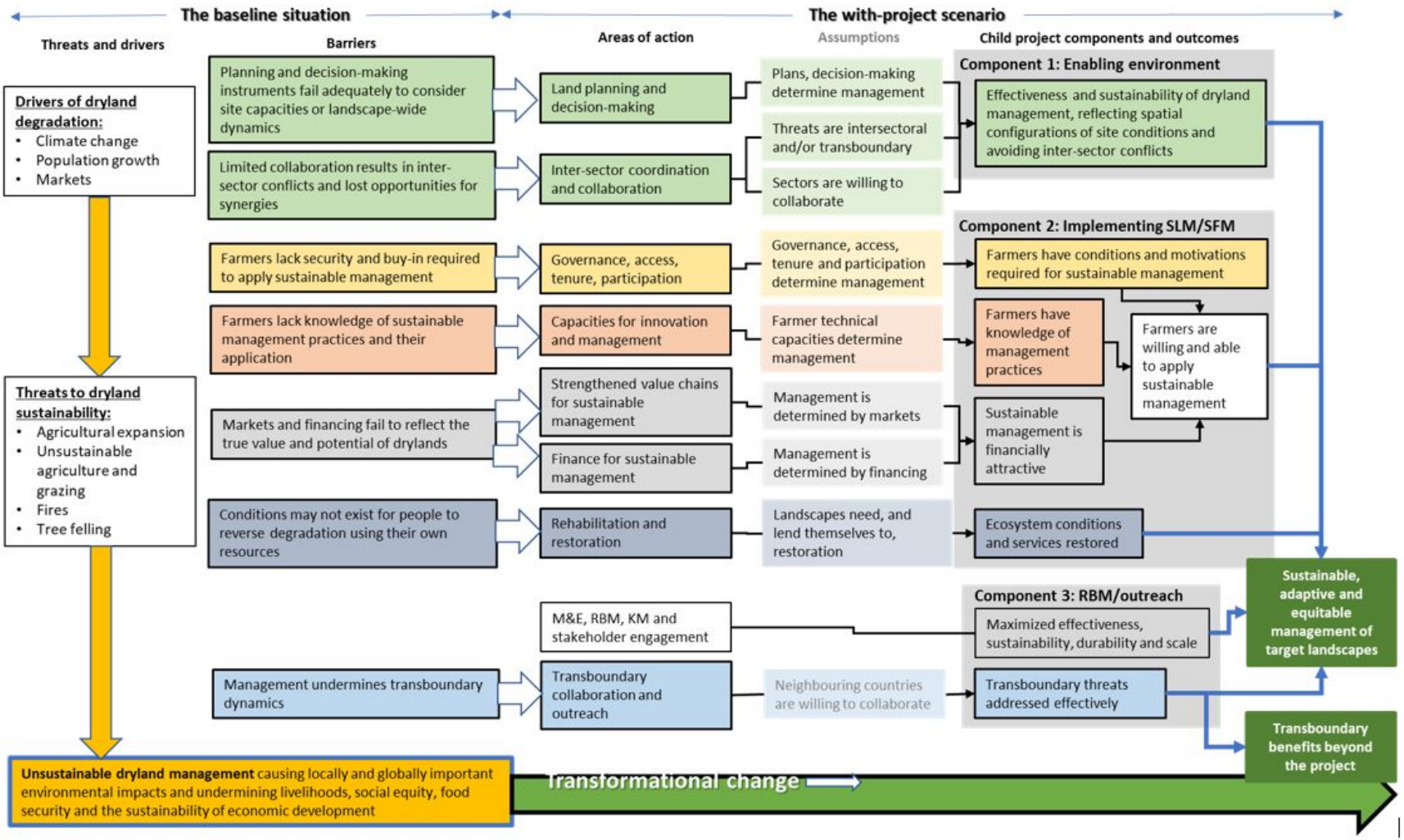
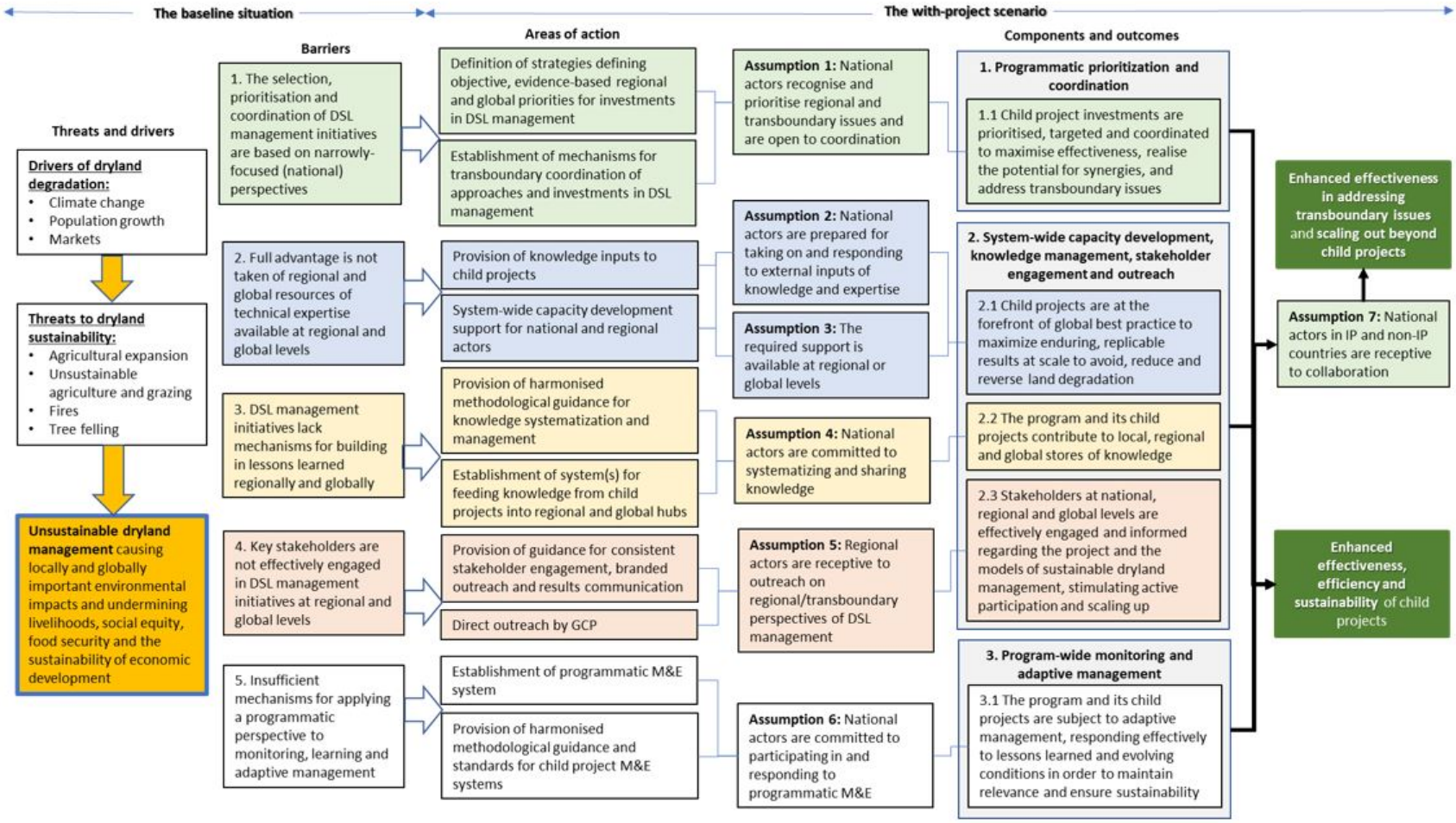


Figure 6. Theory of change diagram for the GCP



Regional Exchange Mechanisms (REMs)

57. With the support of the coordination team of the GCP, and under the overall guidance of the Program Task Force (PTF) for the DSL IP, three REMs will be established in the following areas: Central Asia, the Sahel and East Africa, and the Miombo/Mopane region of Southern Africa. The Miombo/Mopane REM in southern Africa will be led by FAO, and those in Central Asia, and the Sahel and East Africa, will be managed by IUCN.

58. Each REM will cover not only the target countries directly participating in the IP, but also neighbouring countries with which there are commonalities of issues and challenges, and to which there is potential for scaling out the impacts generated by the child projects. The additional countries potentially included in the regional mechanisms, other than those that are directly participating in the IP, are proposed because: i) they share similar dryland conditions to those in the IP countries (and so may be targets for knowledge sharing and scaling out), ii) they are either directly adjacent to IP countries or form part of a contiguous block of countries that includes an IP country, and so may provide the opportunity for collaboration on transboundary issues and iii) they feature favourable enabling conditions for participation.

Table 2. Coverage of Regional Exchange Mechanisms (REMs) to be supported by the GCP

Regional Exchange Mechanisms	Countries potentially included in regional mechanisms (IP child project countries in bold)
Southern/central Africa Miombo/Mopane (FAO)	- **Angola, Namibia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Botswana** - Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kingdom of Eswatini, South Africa, Zambia
Eastern Africa and the Sahel	- **Tanzania, Kenya and Burkina Faso** - Somalia, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Niger, Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal, Togo, Benin
Central Asia	- **Kazakhstan, Mongolia** - Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan

59. A detailed proposal for the functioning of the Miombo/Mopane REM (one of the key REMs in terms of scale, to be led by FAO) is presented in Annex N, and proposals for the REMs in Eastern and Western Africa and Central Asia, to be led by IUCN, are presented in Annexes O, P and Q. A comprehensive strategy and results framework that would include all of the REMs will be developed jointly between IUCN and FAO during the review stage and finalized in the early stages of implementation.

60. As shown in Figure 4, the REMs will form the principal mechanism for **supporting collaboration** among country projects (including non-IP countries) and for **scaling out** – addressing shared priorities and policy initiatives among countries at transboundary, regional, and global levels. They will effectively foster transfer of innovation, technologies, and approaches as well as galvanize regional commitment for action to ultimately leverage the intended DSL IP country level results.

61. The REMs will work to **streamline flows of information and knowledge** to and between countries. They will function as knowledge hubs (directly, and/or through facilitating access to existing hubs), optimizing the management of information, data, ideas and learning (collective, individual or institutional) through improved sharing, multi-stakeholder networking, capacity development, and at times through crowdsourcing.

62. They will also **coordinate the provision of services** to the child projects, in response to their directly expressed demands[49]: the regionally coordinated provision of outside expertise will represent the most effective and efficient approach to supporting the needs of multiple countries simultaneously, resulting in a harmonized approach to capacity building and addressing common management challenges across these country investments.

63. Sustainability of the REMs will be addressed through close engagement and participation of key regional platforms. The specifics of the institutional arrangements for the REMs will be defined at project start, but it is foreseen that they will be linked to platforms such as the Central Asia Regional Environmental Center (CAREC), the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) or the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference (SADCC). The linkages between the REMs and these initiatives and institutions will help them to mainstream integrated regional considerations of environmental sustainability into their approaches and operations – thereby contributing to "scaling deep" of these paradigms at policy level. Where possible they will also be linked to the IAP hubs, allowing them to benefit from existing knowledge and exchange structures.

64. The approach of the REMs to supporting collaboration among projects will be through close alignment with the overall strategy of the GCP and individual IP Projects in the regions. This is based on the fundamental assumption that, to be successful, any such regional knowledge exchange mechanism or 'hub' requires the active participation of the countries involved – and the facilitating role of the regional coordinators of the REMs will be essential in this regard. In addition to playing a key enabling role among IP countries (and including non IP countries wherever possible) it is also expected that, in order to maximize REM-project linkages and buy-in, the regional coordinators will participate as ex-officio members of the Project Steering Committees (PSCs) of the IP countries in their region, as well as reporting to the Program Task Force of the GCP. It is also expected that the participating IP countries (as reflected in their respective project documents, work plans, and GEF guidance) will collaborate actively with the regional coordinators in the development and implementation of the REM strategy. Support for the delivery of the REM strategies and workplans will be drawn primarily from the GCP, complemented by financial and in-kind support from individual IP countries (for instance through travel and local logistical support) in recognition of the benefits that they will obtain from the REMs.

65. The key aspects of the relations and equivalence among the GCP Components, REM Outcomes and Child Project Components are as follows (these are also presented in more detail in the table at the end of Annex N):

- GCP Component 1 and REM Outcome 1 both focus on the promotion of collaboration, coordination and optimal sequencing of IP investments, at global and regional levels respectively, in order to enhance effectiveness, efficiency and relevance at programmatic (regional and global) levels.

- GCP Component 2 equates to REM Outcomes 2, 3 and 4, focusing on system-wide capacity development, knowledge management, stakeholder engagement and outreach.

- Specifically, GCP Outcome 2.1 and the corresponding REM Outcome 2 focus on ensuring that child projects are at the forefront of global best practice, thereby contributing to the effectiveness, durability and scale of their intended results, by optimizing the availability and delivery of the capacity development support that they need: this support is intended to address needs across all of the child project components.

- GCP Component 3, REM Outcome 5 and child project Component 3 focus in particular on supporting and linking M&E at global, regional and project levels, respectively, in order to ensure that cumulative and synergistic impacts are captured across the IP, and also that actions at regional and child project levels are able to respond adaptively to evolving results and conditions at global and regional levels.

66. In accordance with this logic, key features of the Miombo Mopane REM in southern Africa, where the majority of child projects are located, are presented in Annex N.

Project Components, Outcomes and Outputs

67. **Component 1 of the GCP will focus on programmatic prioritization and coordination**, and will deliver programmatic value added in terms of increased effectiveness and cumulative impact of the IP, by ensuring region-wide coordination and informed prioritisation of investments. Its support to inter-country coordination will generate synergies between projects, resulting in increases in cumulative impacts, and limit the risk of duplication, conflicts or transboundary impact leakages. This coordination will take advantage where possible of existing initiatives such as CACILM and the Great Green Wall; inter-governmental organizations such as SADC; transboundary river basin organizations such as the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM), the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) and the Buzi, Pungwe and Save (BUPUSA) Tri-basin Project; transfrontier conservation areas; and the UNCCD Secretariat. Support to improved regional prioritisation of investments will be achieved by providing participating countries with science-based regional overviews of conditions, allowing effective region-wide priority setting and targeting.

Outcome 1.1: Child project investments are prioritised, targeted and coordinated to maximise effectiveness, realise the potential for synergies, and address transboundary issues

Output 1.1.1: Strategy documents defining objective, evidence-based regional and global priorities for investments in sustainable dryland management

68. This output will contribute to IP outcome 1.1: *Key sector actors collaborating, coordinating and harmonising policies, plans, actions and investments in relation to sustainable and inclusive dryland management through intersectoral (national or regional) platforms and mechanisms in 11 countries.*

69. The GCP will facilitate:

- The objective, evidence-based definition of priorities for transboundary management units for improved land management, production and restoration, connectivity (corridors) and conservation (protected areas or other area-based conservation strategies)

- The evidence-based regional prioritization of dryland rehabilitation and restoration investments in order to optimize benefits and address trans-boundary factors.

70. The starting point for these processes of prioritization will always be reviews of existing information from prior or ongoing studies, research, regional projects etc., in order to minimize as much as possible the need to generate new data. Where necessary, however, the project will facilitate collaboration with national and regional research institutions and academia to generate highly targeted data of direct relevance to the prioritization processes.

71. In practice, FAO through the GCP will provide oversight, orientation and methodological support to the prioritisation process. Subject to validation of the methodology by participating agencies and countries, it is foreseen that the prioritisation process itself will involve regional and sub-regional multi-stakeholder planning exercises in which all relevant agencies and countries, with each agency contributing tools and data.

72. As detailed in the LDN conceptual framework and GEF STAP guidelines for LDN, these prioritization/planning exercises will require a set of preparatory assessments:

- Land potential and land stratification
- Current land degradation status
- Resilience of current and proposed land uses
- Socioeconomic context, including assessment of gender equality, land tenure, and barriers to participation of women and youth
- Cost-benefit analysis of proposed interventions

73. The value added by the GCP, relative to the individual child projects, will consist of its ability to commission and channel technical studies and geospatial tools to carry out supra-national analyses of biophysical, socioeconomic, political and institutional as well as productive dynamics that transcend national borders. This will allow GEF and other resources to be invested in dryland management, conservation and restoration across entire regions in such a way as to maximize impact and cost-effectiveness, and to identify priority issues and locations where transboundary coordination is needed.

74. Examples include:

- The definition of regional priorities for biodiversity conservation, for example in terms of hotspots with high concentrations of endemic or endangered species, or vital habitat/refugia areas for wildlife, in order to ensure that scarce conservation funds are preferentially invested in these locations;

- The identification, and prioritisation for investment, of transboundary biological and productive processes that transcend boundaries, such as biological corridors and transhumance routes;

- The identification and characterisation of transboundary/regional flows of ecosystem services, and the prioritisation of incentives and investments in their maintenance, such as regionally-important aquifer recharge areas, transboundary river sources (upper catchments), or areas where land degradation is having particularly significant negative impacts on regional hydrological flows or social/productive dynamics.

75. Support by the GCP to the definition of regional priorities for investment in restoration will also contribute to IP outcome 2.4: *Direct investment in dryland rehabilitation and restoration.*

Output 1.1.2: Mechanisms for transboundary coordination of approaches and investments in sustainable dryland management

76. Activities under this output will go beyond the definition of regional priorities under Output 1.1.2, to supporting child projects in putting transboundary coordination and collaboration into practice. The project will take advantage wherever possible of existing initiatives and platforms (see Box 2 below) to facilitate this coordination.

· ***Transboundary management***

77. This output will contribute to IP outcome 1.4: *All relevant actors throughout the target regions are collaborating across borders on the definition, establishment and management of transboundary management units for improved land management, production and restoration, connectivity (corridors) and conservation (protected areas).* Examples of results of this collaboration include the following:

- Rangelands are managed to permit the continuity of sustainable forms of transboundary systems of landscape use, production and livelihood support, such as well-managed transhumance;

- The management of contiguous protected areas in neighbouring countries will be harmonized (see example in Box 1) in order to permit cross-border movement of wildlife, minimize cross-border threats and leakages (such as poaching) and facilitate cross-border sustainable livelihood support activities such as transhumance;

- The management of production landscapes will be harmonized in order to promote cross-border biological connectivity;

- Ecosystem management will take into account cross-boundary flows of ecosystem services such as basin-wide hydrological flows;

- Concerted and coordinated action will be taken to address biome-wide problems such as sand and dust storms (SDS), linking where possible into ongoing South-South cooperation initiatives such as that supported by the UNCCD in Kazakhstan and Mongolia.

Box 1. Transboundary collaboration in the Mozambique child project

The Mozambique child project proposal highlights the incremental value of GEF investments in supporting transboundary collaboration with neighboring countries, specifically South Africa, Zimbabwe and eSwatini through the Lubombo and Chimanimani Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs).

This would include joint aerial surveys; species monitoring with a view to better understand population dynamics and distribution of key species in the TFCAs; joint law enforcement programs that aim to reduce illegal activities within the target landscapes; participation in TFCA coordination meetings and sharing; and streamlining of research and management practices in regard to dryland and other endemic biodiversity.

The TCFAs in Mozambique are a clear opportunity for the GCP to provide additional support to child projects, including for example the facilitation of binational meetings for priority-setting and decision-making, supported by the provision of data from a regional/transboundary perspective.

78. Lessons learned from the Global Wildlife Programme will be reviewed and, as appropriate, incorporated into the transboundary coordination proposed through this project[50][50].

79. Child projects will support these processes of transboundary harmonization by:

- Establishing information resources to provide planners and decision-makers with access to reliable and comparable information, at supra-national level, on biophysical and social, political and economic conditions, and on the transboundary processes on which the sustainability of actions within their countries may depend (such as regional-level biological connectivity, markets and infrastructure, or transhumance).

- Facilitating transboundary negotiation and planning of harmonized resource management, wherever possible using existing organisations, platforms and initiatives such as SADC, CACILM and the Great Green Wall Initiative.

80. The GCP will play a key role in facilitating this transboundary coordination, specifically through:

- Funding the realisation of technical studies to characterise in detail biological, socioeconomic, political, institutional and productive dynamics, that transcend national boundaries and may need to be addressed through a transboundary approach (IUCN will support studies reviewing land degradation and restoration orpportunities through e.g. NbS and ROAM; the role of conservation areas in protecting landscapes; and innovative financial services and value chains);

- Identifying possible inconsistencies in management approaches between the countries involved, and funding studies of their implications;

- Facilitating dialogue among national actors to agree on the need for and nature of transboundary coordination;

- Facilitating transboundary harmonization of land use planning and management processes, in order to take into account regional and transboundary factors;

- Facilitating transboundary harmonization of management practices where necessary (e.g. shared rangelands with risks of transboundary impact leakages, management of green charcoal production, management and control of invasive species)

- Where relevant, facilitating the transboundary harmonization of tenure and access conditions for transboundary migrant pastoralists (transhumant peoples).

· ***Policy analysis and development***

81. Under this output, the GCP will also facilitate regional processes of policy analysis and development, in order to identify needs for the harmonization among countries of policies on issues such as permissible management actions in dryland ecosystems or tax/duty regimes on dryland products. This GCP output will therefore also contribute to IP outcome 1.1: *Key sector actors collaborating, coordinating and harmonising policies, plans, actions and investments in relation to sustainable and inclusive dryland management through intersectoral (national or regional) and multi-stakeholder platforms and mechanisms in 11 countries.*

82. This harmonization will reduce the risk of impact "leakages" whereby for example the imposition of more stringent management requirements, controls or fiscal conditions on one side of a border simply lead to a displacement of unsustainable pressures to neighbouring countries, without a net gain; or of policy inconsistencies among countries disrupting regional dynamics, for example with regard to policies as well as policy implementation status on tenure related to transboundary transhumance dynamics. It will also provide opportunities for sharing experiences of policy initiatives (for example on issues such as tenure) with potential for replication among countries. Project support will be aligned with the technical guide on "integrating VGGT (Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests) into the implementation of the UNCCD and achieve land degradation neutrality", which will be launched by UNCCD and FAO at the end of 2021, as requested by the COP.

· ***Value chains***

83. As recognised in all of the DSL IP child projects, and in line with GEF Programming Guidance, the sustainable active management of dryland ecosystems is a core requirement for ensuring their long-term survival: the creation of opportunities for income generation and employment based on such management is increasingly important also to ensure social sustainability, especially in the context of COVID-19 and its direct and indirect implications on dryland livelihoods. Value chains are key determinants of the nature and sustainability of this management: specifically inclusive "green value chains" that support, require and/or reward environmental sustainability. The GCP will facilitate regional collaboration (involving Governments, private sector actors, producer organizations, regional policy and dialogue platforms and others), on the identification and development of inclusive green value chains, including the harmonization of quality and sustainability standards and inter-country coordination to ensure reliable supply of dryland products. This coordination will be important in developing the market credibility and image of dryland products from a specific region (e.g. Miombo/Mopane honey), and a critical mass of market influence, which will make it easier to negotiate favourable market conditions. Harmonisation of sustainability standards will also help to reduce the risk of leakages of impacts between countries. The GCP will thereby contribute to IP outcome 2.2: *Resource managers and users, government and private sector actors are collaborating in strengthening green value chains in support of sustainable and equitable dryland management.*

· ***Financing opportunities***

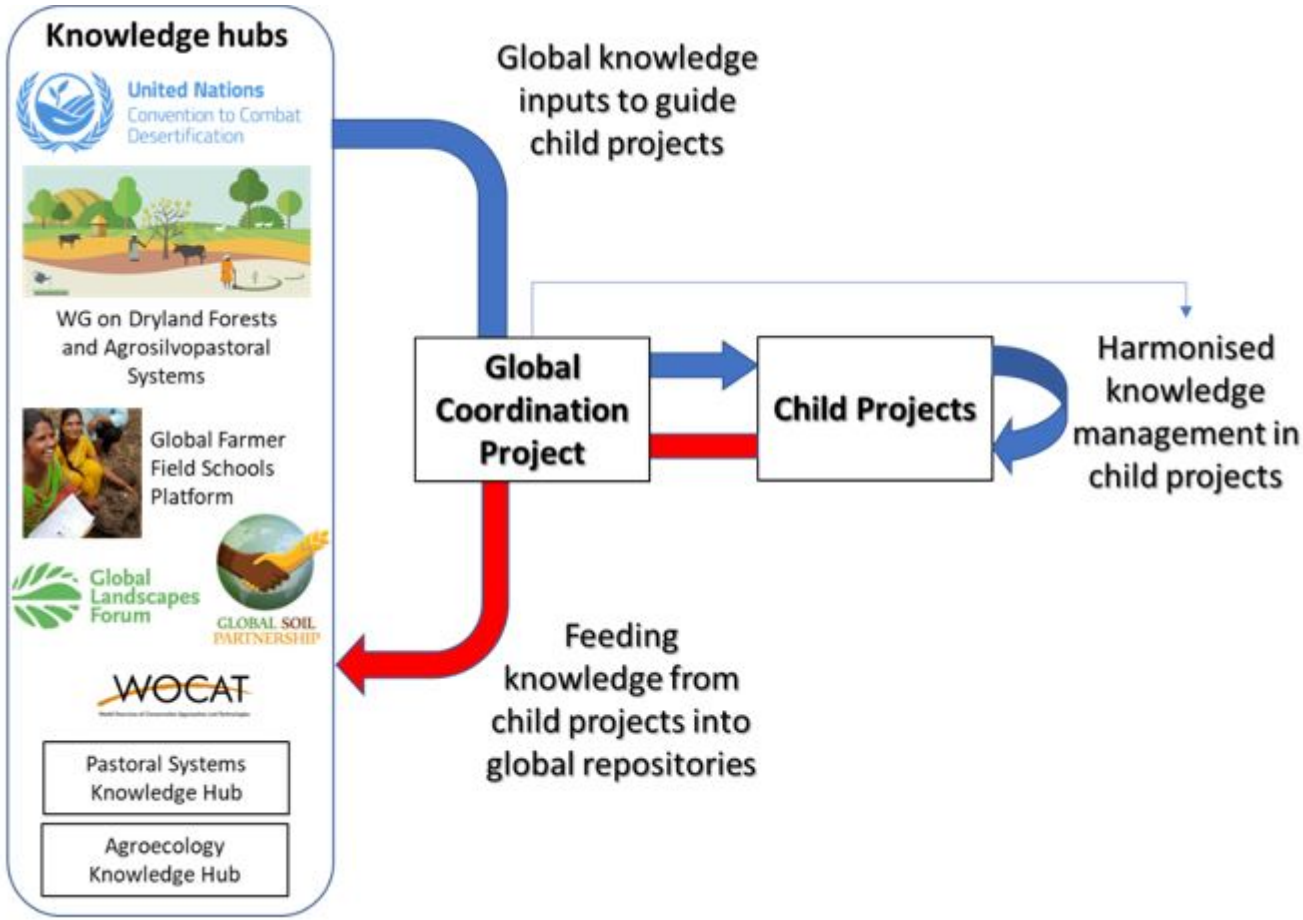
84. Transboundary collaboration, facilitated by the GCP, will also help countries to identify supra-national sources of financing and investment support for dryland management, conservation and restoration, including blended finance. It will further increase opportunities for accessing such sources of financial support by allowing countries to present proposals in larger and harmonized multi-country packages, thereby reducing transaction costs. This GCP output will contribute to IP outcome 2.3: *Financial institutions*

and other investors (public and private) offer finance to support sustainable production, management and restoration of drylands, tailored to the needs and conditions of resource managers and users.

85. **Component 2** will focus on **knowledge management, outreach, stakeholder engagement and system-wide capacity development,** enhancing the effectiveness, durability[51][51] and scale[52][52] of the results of child projects, as well as the contribution of the child projects to regional and global knowledge, buy-in and corresponding scaling out.

86. Knowledge management and outreach will be critical to ensure that actions are informed by and respond to lessons learned that are captured regionally and globally, cutting edge science and best practice, and linking them to global knowledge hubs such as the Global Landscapes Forum, the Global Soil Partnership, the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies, the UN Decade Platform, the UNCCD Knowledge Hub, the Dryland Restoration Initiatives Platform, the Pastoral Systems Knowledge Hub and the Agroecology Knowledge Hub, as well as regional hubs such as the Miombo Forum and SADC. It will also contribute to sustained uptake and scaling out of impacts, by ensuring that based on a harmonised methodology and with technical backstopping, lessons learned through the child projects are systematically captured, fed into national, regional and global knowledge hubs, disseminated and shared within and beyond the target countries (see Figure 7 and Box 2).

Figure 7. Knowledge flow among global/regional platforms, the global program coordination project and the child projects



Box 2. Global initiatives and platforms with which knowledge management by the Program will be linked

Policy Platforms:

- **UNCCD Knowledge Hub, Global Mechanism, Conference of Parties (COP) and Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC)**[53][53]: the Agencies participating in this Program have worked closely with the UNCCD Global Mechanism to support countries in the LDN process. This support will continue under this Program, ensuring that DSL will work closely and in a complementary manner with the UNCCD: this will complement IUCN/UNCCD actions to strengthen the enabling environment for LDN attainment, and for the development of transformative projects and programmes. While the Global Mechanism supports individual countries, regional/multi-country initiatives such as the GGW and 3S initiatives, capacity building and LDN knowledge products, within the UNCCD policy framework, FAO and participating Agencies will provide the necessary technical tools and capacity enhancement for comprehensive land assessment and restoration where needed within the scope of country investments.

- **The Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems** is an inter-governmental body of the Committee on Forestry, which will review and report to the Committee on Forestry on the status, trends, issues and developments in dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, and make recommendations to the Committee on these matters. It will contribute to developing a comprehensive understanding of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems and the people who depend on them. In addition, it will promote scaling-up of the adoption of good practices for the protection, sustainable management and restoration of drylands forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, enhancing also environmental and socio-economic resilience and sustainable livelihoods. In its meeting July 2019, the Working Group agreed to provide technical advice on the implementation of the Impact Program to help enhance its overall coherence, ensure South-South cooperation, strengthen dialogue with relevant regional actors and facilitate the development of knowledge products, outreach and engagement at national and regional levels, and share knowledge of the results and lessons learned from the implementation of the Impact Program. Moreover, the Working Group member in each IP country will be working closely with the country LDN working group to support the using and testing the Dryland Initiatives platform (DRIP, see below) as a decision tool to strengthen the national and regional information systems to achieve land degradation neutrality in drylands;

- **Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)** plays a key role in policy harmonization and coordination in the southern African region. Seven of the eleven countries involved in this Program are SADC members, and the organization engages actively with the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), the East African Community, and the African Union – which include two additional countries in this Program. Key areas of work include Operationalization of the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy (RAP), Sub-regional Action Programme to Combat Desertification (SRAP), Natural Resources, Disaster Risk Management, and Social and Human Development – all of which are important for the implementation of this Program. SADC has also established a Water, Energy, Food Nexus Conceptual Framework and Governance structure: the project will take advantage of the SADC WEF Nexus Dialogues as a platform to bring together the Water, Energy, Agriculture and Economic Planning sectors. It will also take advantage of SADC platforms such as Environment Technical Committee meetings and Environment Ministers meetings as opportunities for pursuing inter-country policy dialogue. IUCN and UNCCD are currently finalizing a Drought Management Plan for SADC, and the GCP offers an important opportunity for capacity enhancement for drought mitigation within the framework of this plan.

- **The Great Green Wall Initiative** in Africa: FAO is actively working with the Pan-African Agency for the Great Green Wall (GGW) programme: this partnership is helping the regional framework of implementing AAD's large scale model and reinforcing government engagement and support to the GGW programme, the UNCCD national plans and South-South Cooperation. The newly established Great Green Wall Initiative/SADC partnership will ensure that relevant national and regional strategies focusing on the management of drylands will be implemented in a harmonized manner; support the overall coordination of projects and programmes focused on the management of Miombo and Mopane woodlands; and provide a platform for multi-sectoral exchange, knowledge management including sharing of evidence based best practices. IUCN is providing support to enhance private sector investment in achieving the goals of the GGW, and efforts to connect actors and sectors through the GEF-funded GGW 'Closing the Gaps' project (GEF Project ID 5811, implemented by UNEP and executed by IUCN).

Knowledge Platforms:

- **Global Landscape Forum:** the GLF is the world's largest knowledge-led platform on sustainable land use, dedicated to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Paris Climate Agreement, connecting 3,900 organizations. It works in Africa through the AFR100 initiative[54][54] and Latin America through Initiative 20×20, as well as developing innovative finance mechanisms to invest in sustainable farming and supply chains with the LDN Fund and the Tropical Landscapes Finance Facility, among others. The ECCA30 is a country-led initiative to restore 30 million hectares of degraded and deforested landscapes by 2030 in Central Asia and Eastern Europe in support of the Bonn Challenge. ECCA30 will secure additional or enhance existing commitments and accelerate the implementation of the Bonn Challenge, and the Land Degradation Neutrality.

- **The Central Asia Countries Integrated Land Management Initiative (CACILM)** project (supported by GEF and implemented by FAO): partnership between the Drylands Program and CACILM will provide a framework for the coordination of national child projects in a Central Asian Steppes cluster, further building upon previous joint activities and

87. The project will move beyond the piecemeal approach that at present is typically applied to knowledge management and capacity enhancement, to a process-based approach where training activities are complemented by long-term backstopping, in order to ensure that learning is applied, for example through long-term "communities of practice" and knowledge exchange networks. An example of an opportunity to establish such communities of practice is through linkages with the GEF-6 Food Security Integrated Approach Program (IAP) in Africa.

88. Communities of practice (CoP) are based on the following three elements (Wenger-Rayner 2015):

v Domain: the definition of the area of shared inquiry and the key issues or specific conditions

v Community: the relationships among members and the sense of belonging, e.g. physical exchange, learning routes, trainings and capacity building, online exchange on good practices, thematic working groups

v Practice: the body of knowledge, methods, stories, cases, tools, documents

89. At the global level, two specific CoP will be set up, with support from WOCAT, as described in Box 3: while the "**domain"** or topics of these **Global CoP** are already defined, the types of interaction ("community") and the specific knowledge/tools/cases ("practice") included will be identified during implementation, in collaboration with the DSL partners.

Box 3. Global and Regional Communities of Practice to be supported through the Program

Global CoP 1: Land Degradation Neutrality
This CoP will offer a platform for exchange of experience on the application and implementation of LDN tools, methods and approaches (including LDN platforms, LDN indicators, LDN monitoring, as mentioned under Outcome 3.1) as well as linking national and regional LDN activities in the child projects and REM to global, state-of-the art developments (e.g. GEF/CI Tools4LDN, DRIP). The CoP will discuss harmonization and standardization of approaches in child projects to generate comparable data and enable a DSL-wide analysis of evidence. Depending on the demand, this CoP will also offer specific capacity development events e.g. on tools for LDN assessments, mainstreaming and decision support for LDN (based on FAO-WOCAT DS-SLM framework), backstopping and support in use of LDN-related tools and methods.

Furthermore, this CoP will help to identify which LDN knowledge products will be generated under B) as a product of the DSL programme.

Global CoP 2: Good SLM Practices
This CoP will offer a platform for exchange and capacity development in good SLM practices and related topics such as gender-sensitive SLM, economics of SLM, SLM/drought mitigation, Sand and Dust Storms, SLM mainstreaming in decision-making processes (e.g. financing mechanisms, policies and programmes, education, land use planning) as also prioritized by UNCCD. This CoP will include capacity development on SLM documentation and evaluation using the WOCAT Global SLM Database, recommended by the UNCCD, particularly also in view of the upcoming 2021-2022 UNCCD reporting. It will facilitate collaboration with UNCCD focal points and STCs for a) a national review and quality assurance process of selected good SLM practices and b) the promotion and mainstreaming of the good SLM practices in decision-making processes at different levels. Depending on language, regional needs and requests, capacity development events might be held at regional level.

Furthermore, this CoP will identify which Good Practices knowledge products will be generated under B) as a product of the DSL programme.

Regional and national CoPs and related activities
Activities at the regional and national level will be co-designed with the REMs and the child projects. WOCAT will support REMs in the setting up of regional CoP on priority topics identified in collaboration with the regional stakeholders and partners. Specific CoPs may be facilitated for strengthening the involvement of youth and women.WOCAT will accompany and support exchange/training events and workshops based on the needs and requests of the REMs.

At child project level, **WOCAT will support the data collection and analysis on SLM good practices** using the WOCAT SLM Technologies and Approaches Questionnaires and related Global SLM practices Database, recommended by the UNCCD. It will support stakeholders to initiate a national process of sharing and approving the good practices for integration in the UNCCD reporting exercise 2021-2022. At the same time, WOCAT will guarantee that the documented and shared practices are widely promoted at regional and global level through existing WOCAT and partners' communication channels as well as DSL communication.

90. The project, with support from WOCAT in particular, will put specific emphasis on the following elements, which are key to achieve durable impact of KM activities:

· Harmonization and standardization of tools and methods across countries and child projects so that data is comparable and easily exchangeable;

· Open access as well as easy access and use of data and knowledge products to successfully share knowledge at different levels and amongst different audiences;

· Use and enhancement of existing platforms to share information and data to guarantee that the information survives a program/project and is available for future uses;

· Co-development and co-production of knowledge, including different disciplines (transdisciplinary), stakeholder groups as well as research/students will guarantee equality in knowledge generation as well as trust in and ownership of the data.

Outcome 2.1: Child projects are at the forefront of global best practice

Output 2.1.1: Knowledge inputs provided to child projects

91. The GCP will act as a clearing house for knowledge inputs into child projects from global sources, in response to their expressed demands: as appropriate, it will also proactively assist countries in identifying their knowledge needs by facilitating processes of strategic analysis structured around their theories of change. It will also serve to broker direct relations between child projects and knowledge hubs for the provision of knowledge support to the projects. The knowledge inputs will include both methodologies and tools, and data. This support will take advantage of the unique capacities, experiences and positioning of both FAO and IUCN in relation to the generation and sharing of knowledge on dryland management and restoration.

92. The issues on which knowledge inputs will require to be channelled or brokered to child projects by the GCP will be confirmed in an ongoing, demand-led way throughout the life of the IP; an initial scoping was carried out during PPG in a participatory workshop at FAO headquarters in January 2020.

93. The GCP may for example channel or broker inputs of methodologies, tools and best practices to the child projects, to enable them to address issues such as the following:

- Inter-sector and multi-stakeholder coordination and collaboration
- Land use planning and decision support, e.g. Targeted Scenario Analysis (TSA), Natural Capital Accounting (NCA), Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA), Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM), Self-evaluation and Holistic Assessment of climate Resilience of farmers and Pastoralists (SHARP); Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions, the Framework to assess the extent and effectiveness of community- based forestry, Participatory assessment of land degradation and sustainable land management in grassland and pastoral systems (PRAGA), The Road to Restoration (FLRM)
- LDN implementation and monitoring: a key methodological document is the Good Practice Guidance for SDG Indicator 15.3.1[62][62], which is currently being revised and updated; key tools include Trends.Earth[63][63] (with the ongoing Tools4LDN project[64][64]) and the System for Earth Observation, Data Access, Processing, Analysis for Land Monitoring (SEPAL)[65][65]
- The application for assessment and monitoring tools such as the Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE)[66][66]

- Effective engagement of women and other particularly vulnerable groups in project implementation and dryland management
- Analysis and improvement of governance, tenure and access conditions
- Identifying, developing and managing value chain linkages
- Participatory rangeland assessment
- Identifying, channelling and managing financial support for dryland management.
- Restoration standards
- Guidelines for best business practices (no regret, no-net loss or net environmental-gain investments)
- System-wide capacity needs analysis and capacity development approaches
- Knowledge management
- Guidelines and best practices for "Other Area Based Conservation Measures" including Protected Area categories 5 and 6 and Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas

94. The GCP will also serve to channel or broker science-based data inputs, including:

- Information to guide policy formulation processes
- Information on regional/trans-boundary factors to be taken into account in national land use planning processes
- Information to guide the objective, evidence-based definition of priorities for transboundary management units
- Information on green value chain opportunities, and market conditions
- Information on best practices and lessons learned on transformational LDN initiatives and approaches.

95. The project will in addition support science – practice/policy interfaces, in collaboration with research institutes and academia at national and regional levels. This would, for example, provide the opportunity for research by these institutions to be carried out within the framework of, and facilitated by, the IP, the GCP and the child projects, in such a way as to deliver up-to-date and relevant scientific inputs which could be directly translated into practice and policy, while at the same time providing the opportunity to contribute to developing a resource of (especially young) researchers, both men and women, with practical awareness of DSL issues. The GCP will play an important role in helping to identify research needs, arranging and facilitating the involvement of relevant research institutions, and brokering research funding.

96. Within the framework of its South-South Cooperation Strategy, during the programme and child project formulation process FAO has supported GCP partners from the 11 participating countries in producing a a draft knowledge management strategy, and documenting the baseline situation, by using a participatory video approach. A work plan has also been produced in consultation with each country, to facilitate country-level knowledge management components. At project start, this knowledge management strategy will be further developed and will define further, in consultation with national counterparts, the most effective channels and methodologies for providing these knowledge inputs to child projects.

Output 2.1.2 System-wide capacity development support for national and regional actors including harmonised methodological guidance to child projects

97. One of the most important contributions of the GCP and its regional nodes to the child projects will be through the provision of technical inputs to child projects including system-wide capacity development for national and regional actors (i.e. people, organizations, institutions, networks including multi-stakeholder processes, platforms and partnerships). Examples may include enhancing the capacities of regional and global policy actors to respond to dryland concerns, enhancing the capacities of regional and global entities to support dryland countries in the long-term as well as establishing new or strengthening existing multi-stakeholder platforms addressing regional and global DSL IP issues.

98. The global project will apply a system-wide capacity enhancement approach to maximize country ownership, sustainability and scale of intended results. Based on a dedicated, capacity enhancement strategy jointly developed with partners and stakeholders in year one of project implementation, the project will enhance the capacities of participants (men and women), organizations, institutions and networks at national and regional levels as well as providing technical backstopping to child projects to ensure a harmonised and streamlined capacity enhancement approach, leveraging the individual child project capacity enhancement strategies.

99. Through the GCP and regional nodes, and supported by technical backstopping from the GCP team and implementing partners, leading technical specialists will be made available to child projects, spreading their attention across multiple child projects to address issues of shared concern in a cost-efficient way, that will at the same time maximize opportunities knowledge exchange and harmonization of approaches among countries. It is envisaged that the GCP will finance the costs of planning, coordinating and overseeing these technical specialist resources, while the time of the specialists and their travel costs for visits to individual countries will be financed through country-specific project funds in reflection of the potential of these inputs to generate significant benefits for the child projects in terms of relevance, magnitude and durability of impacts.

100. The GCP and regional nodes will also arrange for regional capacity development activities on issues of shared concern among dryland countries, to be attended by key national stakeholders involved in/targeted by each of the child projects, and also by selected stakeholders from neighbouring countries not directly participating in the IP. These events may for example consist of needs-based training or organizational as well as institutional enhancement support on specific issues (for example the methodological approaches referred to under Output 2.1.1 above), exchanges of experiences and lessons learned, and joint planning of actions, all of which will serve to enhance participants' knowledge and capacities.

101. At project start, a detailed, system-wide capacity development strategy will be developed jointly with partners and stakeholders, which will propose methodologies that will help ensure that the capacity development supported through the GCP will translate into durable capacities in the institutions to which the participants belong. It is envisaged that the costs of organizing the regional capacity development events, including the fees and travel costs of resource persons, will be covered by the GCP, while the costs of

participation of representatives from individual IP countries will be covered from child project resources. Unless alternative funding can be secured, the participation of stakeholders from non-IP countries will be covered by the GCP, given the potential of their participation to contribute to the programmatic ambition of region-wide scaling out of dryland sustainable management beyond IP countries. The GCP will play a key role in ensuring the availability to child project countries of resource persons who are able to provide ongoing (on-the-job) backstopping and knowledge exchange, as well as to facilitate co-design and co-development processes amongst partners and stakeholders.

102. Moreover, the GCP will provide technical backstopping and quality enhancement to child projects, to ensure a harmonised and streamlined capacity enhancement approach. This will leverage the individual child projects' capacity enhancement strategies, while capturing lessons learned and good practices for future replication as well as scaling out, up and deep.

Outcome 2.2: The program and its child projects contribute to local, regional and global stores of knowledge

103. As shown in Figure 7, knowledge will flow between the project and local, regional and global knowledge centres in two directions: in addition to receiving knowledge inputs in order to optimise their effectiveness, child projects will generate and contribute knowledge on experiences and lessons learned. This is essential for achieving the programmatic ambition of stimulating the scaling out of impacts beyond the countries directly participating in the IP.

104. At the **national and regional level**, WOCAT will support child projects/REMs in the compilation of good SLM practices guidelines/publications[67][67]. These products will be country-led with WOCAT accompanying the process and providing inputs where needed and requested. WOCAT will support the wide dissemination of these products e.g. through the UNCCD knowledge hub and related communication channels.

105. At the **global level**, WOCAT will produce a Drylands Good SLM and SFM Practices compilation/guidelines as a global knowledge product of the DSL. The publication will include an analysis of all SLM practices (Technologies and Approaches) data from all child projects and address the main topics/priorities, concerns, challenges and solutions including policy recommendations. This global product will be promoted during events defined through the GCP (e.g. UNCCD CRIC or COP).

106. In addition, linked to the work in the CoP, WOCAT will co-develop a series of knowledge products for the drylands together with the child projects, REMs and GCP working on jointly identified topics/priority issues and utilizing the evidence and data generated across all child projects. Such products could include:

- Lessons learned on mainstreaming LDN/SLM/SFM in policy-related agreements
- Guidelines/lessons learned on functioning and durable LDN platforms
- Success stories of transboundary/regional or global business initiatives
- SLM policy briefs at country, regional and global level

· Best practices colleacted from different partcipatory videos produced in each countries based on their dissemination platforms, including Digital Green, Access Agriculture, Facebook and DGroups.

· Dryland-focused SLM training material, e.g. on rangeland management, FRLM, sand and dust storms

· Short videos facilitating SLM awareness raising and dissemination of policy-relevant key findings

107. WOCAT will facilitate the wide sharing and uptake of these knowledge products through regional and global communication, sharing on portals and platforms as well as active promotion during regional and global events (e.g. through workshops, side events, trainings). In collaboration with GCP/FAO, WOCAT will identify opportunities to share and promote the knowledge products in the framework of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

108. The GCP will play a crucial role in enabling child projects to contribute to local, regional and global knowledge resources through the delivery of the following outputs:

Output 2.2.1: Harmonized methodological guidance for knowledge compilation and management by child projects

109. Individual child projects will invest in systematically capturing and managing knowledge and lessons learned generated through their operations. This will contribute to their internal adaptive management processes, and will also allow them to contribute to the IP scaling objective, as described above, by feeding the results into knowledge hubs for wider sharing. The GCP will complement these national investments by providing guidance on methodologies and formats for harmonised knowledge compilation and management, in order to ensure that it is made available to the knowledge hubs in a way that allows target audiences to gauge their relevance to their own conditions – including for example adequate explanations of the contexts within which the results reported were generated, and comparable metrics of success (including measures of gender equity and sustainability).

Output 2.2.2.: System for feeding knowledge and results generated by child projects into knowledge hubs

110. The GCP will develop and implement a system for collecting, documenting and managing knowledge generated by child projects, and for ensuring that it is fed into knowledge hubs in such a way as to maximize its utility. This system will be developed in consultation with the child projects on one hand (complementing and leveraging individual child projects' knowledge management strategies), and the knowledge hubs on the other. Methodologies for knowledge input may include, for example, digital or hard documents, or knowledge exchange events attended by representatives of multiple countries. The costs of the organization and hosting of such events will be borne by the GCP (or cost-shared with other sources when the events are organized by third parties), while the costs of participation and of producing documents will be covered by child project budgets in recognition of the fact that knowledge exchange will also benefit them (the IP incentive received by all child projects is in part intended for such knowledge exchange).

111. The Dryland Restoration Initiative Platform (DRIP, see Box 2) will help to improve the reporting of the results of monitoring carried out by the different dryland projects, giving the possibility to associate this with LDN monitoring, focusing on the 3 LDN indicators of land cover, land primary productivity and soil organic carbon. Thus, DRIP will subsequently facilitate program development, operational project planning and prioritization of actions and activities aimed at contributing to LDN objectives at country level. The

tool will be aligned with ongoing UNCCD activities on LDN tools development such as Tools4LDN and the GEO LDN initiative. Moreover, it will build on the synergies with WOCAT platform to enhance the exchange of the best practices and strengthen the knowledge management platform.

Outcome 2.3: Stakeholders at national, regional and global levels are effectively engaged and informed regarding the project and the models of sustainable dryland management, stimulating active participation and scaling up

112. Ongoing, inclusive and meaningful stakeholder engagement will form an integral part of the global project and will be informed by a comprehensive stakeholder engagement plan (see Annex H3). In addition to the feeding of experiences and lessons into knowledge hubs, as described above under Outcome 2.2, the GCP will support proactive outreach of knowledge and messages to stakeholders at national, regional and global levels based on a targeted communication, advocacy and outreach strategy. This will be closely linked to stakeholder engagement strategies in order to maximise the engagement of relevant stakeholders during the implementation of the program and its child projects, thereby contributing to buy-in and long term sustainability.

Output 2.3.1: Guidance for consistent stakeholder engagement, and branded outreach and results communication by child projects

113. Stakeholder engagement and outreach at national level will be the responsibility of individual child projects, taking advantage of their IP incentive. The GCP will, however support child projects in this task, through the provision of advice on the development and implementation of stakeholder engagement and outreach strategies (expected from each project at start-up) and guidelines on consistent and effective "branding" of their outreach products. The application of consistent IP-related branding in outreach products across different child projects will have a synergistic effect on overall IP visibility, in turn facilitating the coordination of multi-project relations with outside actors.

Output 2.3.2: Direct outreach by the GCP

114. The GCP will itself play an important role in outreach, focusing on dissemination on overall programmatic issues and approaches, and compendia or syntheses of the results generated by multiple child projects. This will be carried out in accordance with a communication strategy, which will be developed following FAO and GEF guidance and in collaboration with partners. Where possible outreach/communication syntheses and other materials will be co-developed between the GCP, and the child project teams and stakeholders, in order to gain ownership and foster dissemination of results beyond the life of the programme.

115. **Component 3 (Programme-wide monitoring and adaptive management)** will focus on establishing and implementing harmonized and linked systems for monitoring at project, regional and program (global) levels, resulting in reliable, relevant and timely information on trends in conditions and impacts being fed back in support of adaptive management at all of these levels. This will be of particular significance from the programmatic perspective, allowing the detection of, and formulation of appropriate responses to, cumulative (supranational) impacts resulting from synergies, effects on transboundary leakages, and scaling out impacts.

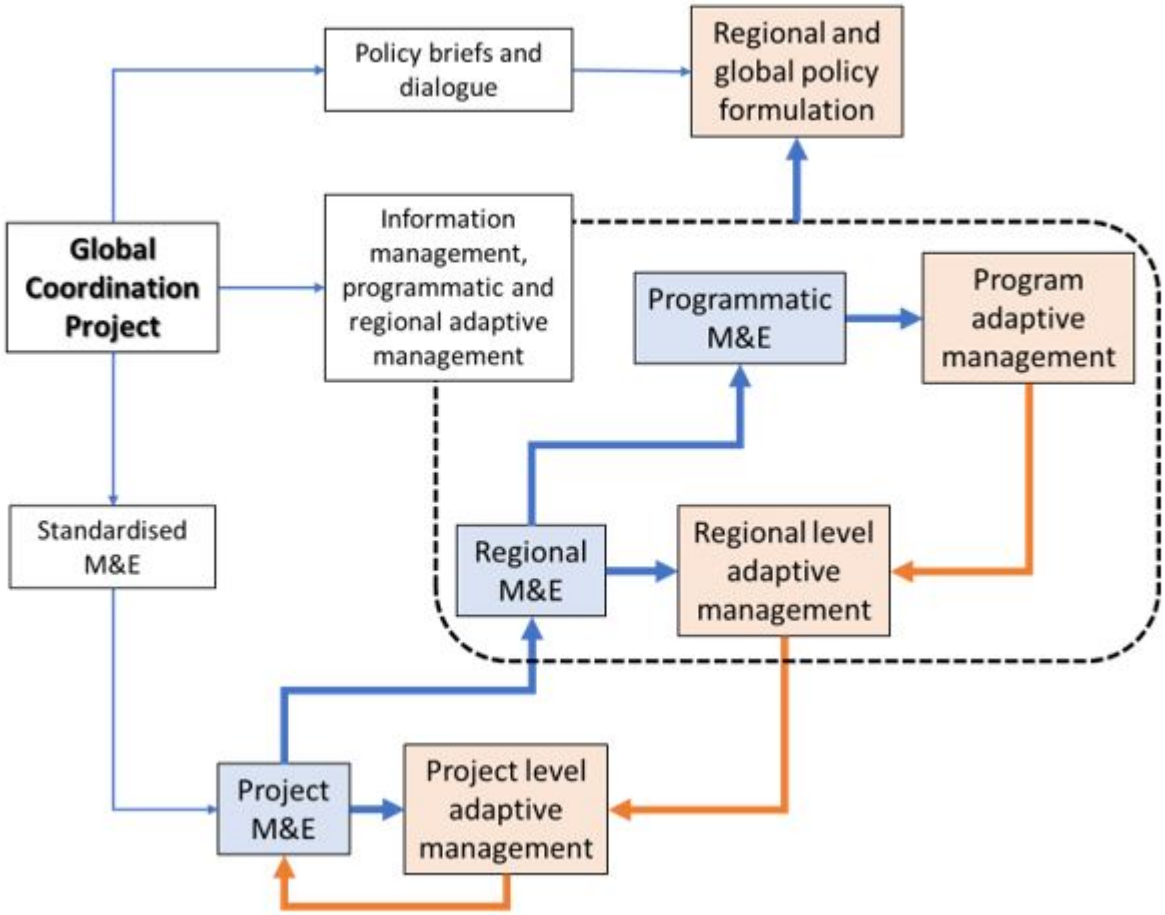
116. Each of the child projects within the Drylands Program will establish and operate its own Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system, as a key element of adaptive project management. The Global Coordination Project will complement and support these project-specific systems, by:

- Advising on the development and application of “SMART” indicators that are based on GEF-7 architecture and programming frameworks for each of the target focal areas[68][68], and can be related directly to relevant GEF-7 Core and Sub Indicators, Sustainable Development Goals, as well as being gender-sensitive;

- Defining and monitoring supra-national/regional indicators related to potential cumulative, synergistic and/or cross-boundary impacts (for example cross-boundary leakages of demographic or productive pressures);

- Establishing and maintaining programmatic and sub-programmatic M&E systems at global and regional levels, into which the project-specific M&E systems of each of the individual child projects will be fed.

Figure 8. Step-wise integration between monitoring and adaptive management at project and program levels



Outcome 3.1: The program and its child projects are subject to adaptive management, responding effectively to lessons learned and evolving conditions in order to maintain relevance and ensure sustainability

Output 3.1.1: Programmatic M&E system incorporating child project M&E results and program-level indicators, guiding adaptive program management and reporting program-wide contributions to GEF-7 core indicators and SDGs

117. The key role of the Global Coordination Project will be to complement child projects by supporting programmatic level M&E. This will have three purposes: i) to contribute to the monitoring by GEF of its overall impacts at portfolio level; ii) to monitor the additional benefits generated from the programmatic approach, compared to the business-as-usual situation of stand-alone projects, and thereby to guide overall adaptive management of the IP; iii) to monitor the effectiveness of transboundary/regional collaboration initiatives supported under the IP, and thereby to support their adaptive management. The task of the GCP will therefore consist both of compiling and managing the results of child-project specific M&E systems, and applying "supra-national" indicators that are beyond the scope of individual child projects[69][69]. This responds to calls from the UNCCD Science-Policy Interface for consideration of the effectiveness of land degradation data and monitoring systems

118. Based on the kinds of issues covered by the PFD and its constituent child projects, the programmatic M&E system (which will be designed in detail at project start) will therefore include indicators of the following variables:

- The effectiveness of regional collaboration, coordination and harmonization
- Levels and effectiveness of private sector engagement
- The effectiveness of transboundary harmonization of land use planning processes, and of the regional effects of national land use planning processes
- The effectiveness of transboundary management units or regimes
- The level of development of regional and global green value chains
- The existence and effectiveness of enabling environments for inclusive market systems
- The regional effects of dryland rehabilitation and restoration initiatives
- Levels of access to remote sensing data and assessments for measurement of country-specific indicators
- Levels of access to regional and global knowledge by child projects

119. In addition, the GCP will report on programme-wide contributions of child projects to standardized project-level indicators, specifically GEF-7 core indicators (and, where possible, LDN indicators).

Output 3.1.2: Harmonised methodological guidance and standards for child project M&E systems

120. The GCP will provide centralised technical advisory support to child projects on the formulation and application of their project-specific M&E plans. This will apply both to standardised programme-wide indicators (GEF-7 core indicators and LDN indicators) and to project-specific indicators. In the case of the programme-wide indicators, the GCP will serve to ensure that they are defined and measured consistently in order to allow them to be added up at programme level – this is especially important given that a number of the GEF-7 core indicators are open to different interpretations, such as "areas under improved management" or "numbers of beneficiaries". In the case of project-specific indicators, GCP support will be available to child projects to help ensure that they are truly "SMART" (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound), as well as gender-sensitive.

4) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program strategies;

121. The GCP is a cornerstone of the DSL IP theory of change and its implementation will be critical in realising the potential of the programmatic approach of the IP to deliver much greater value with regard to overall impact across the 11 Program Countries, and in terms of effectiveness, sustainability, and out-scaling at regional and global levels, thereby maximizing the cumulative impacts of the program. Annex C summarizes how the GCP theory of change is embedded in that of the program as a whole.

122. Each country-specific child project will include a component on knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation, to support the adaptive management of each child project, and to ensure lessons learned are systematised and capitalised, and that project-specific communication and outreach contributes to national level outscaling.

123. The GCP will apply the same logic to the program as a whole: knowledge, experiences and best practices will be managed and shared at regional and global levels; child project investments will be prioritised based on sound region-wide information in order to maximize impact and cost-effectiveness; investments will be coordinated to maximise synergies; messages and lessons will be communicated regionally and globally to maximize outscaling potential; and coherent interactions with regional- and global-level stakeholders, of common relevance to different projects, will be facilitated.

5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF and co-financing;

124. The incremental reasoning of the program and the value-added of the programmatic approach are portrayed in Table 3:

- Each child project will deliver incremental country-specific GEF benefits on top of the "baseline" (i.e., without GEF) scenario, as required in any GEF project;
- The additional funding available to each country as a result of the IP "incentive" will allow these incremental benefits to be maximized, relative to conventional STAR-only projects. This will mean for example that social, demographic, economic and GEB considerations are integrated into sector development and land use plans; lasting, effective and inclusive multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms operate, reflecting interdependences among sectors and among social, demographic, economic and productive factors; comprehensive spatial planning incorporates the full range of variables, the interactions between them, and spatial/temporal dynamics of landscapes; mechanisms and conditions exist to address the full complexity of governance, tenure and access issues; and technical options reflect the complexity of interactions between social, productive and environmental factors, and landscape dynamics;
- The country-specific incentive funding will also enable participating countries to engage effectively at trans-boundary and regional levels, scaling out their impacts to neighbouring countries.

125. The GCP will complement these national benefits resulting from the incentive, allowing further programmatic value-added to be delivered beyond that resulting from the country-specific investments. These benefits will include (see Annex D):

- Increased effectiveness of impact generation due to improved access to global knowledge on lessons learned and scientific research results;
- Improved cost-effectiveness of investment due to improved prioritisation, based on sound information on spatial configurations of dryland values and conditions at regional and global levels;
- Increased effectiveness in addressing processes and tackling impacts operating at regional scale, including the transboundary leakage of impacts.

Table 3. Expected benefits resulting from IP approaches facilitated by the GCP

Baseline (without GEF)	GEF scenario (GEF, no IP)	IP value added/increment	IP benefits
IP Component 1: Strengthening the enabling environment for the sustainable management of drylands			
Policies and plans promote unsustainable sector development	GEBs mainstreamed into sector development and land use plans	Social, demographic, economic and GEB considerations integrated into sector development and land use plans at national and regional levels	• Effectiveness and sustainability are improved by addressing issues in more integrated and inclusive way • Transboundary leakages of drivers are addressed • Improved social sustainability • Improved targeting and cost-effectiveness of investments, at regional and global levels • Improved gender equality
Investments planned and executed in "silos"	Inter-sector and multi-stakeholder coordination but limited in scope	Lasting and effective multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms, taking into multiple sector relations	
Failure to reflect spatial variations in conditions	Land use plans developed, but only consider a narrow range of variables	Comprehensive spatial planning incorporates full range of variables and interactions	
Inadequate governance, tenure and access conditions for DSL	Governance, tenure and access mechanisms strengthened	Mechanisms and conditions recognize full governance, tenure and access complexity	
Top-down (planning, decision-making, producer support	Strengthened stakeholder participation, capacitation and empowerment	Stakeholders have critical mass of regional influence	
Inadequate capacities for sustainable use, connectivity, conservation	PAs and management units strengthened, but constrained within national boundaries	Transboundary cooperation and harmonization of landscape management and conservation	
IP Component 2. System-wide capacity development, knowledge management, stakeholder engagement, and outreach			
Narrowly focused technical support	Environmental sustainability considerations mainstreamed TA	Knowledge exchanges within and among countries	• Improved inclusive access to productive options • Increased viability of inclusive green value chains • Increased financing opportunities for green production and job creation, for all, including men and women • Improved targeting and environmental benefits of financing • Scaling up, out and deep
	Production systems delivering GEBs are actively promoted in TA	TA reflects social, productive and environmental factors, and landscape dynamics	
Value chains incentivise unsustainable management	Environmental considerations mainstreamed into value chains, green value chains promoted	Increased critical mass of producers increases value chain negotiating influence	
		Addressing inter-country impact leakages from value chains	
Financing mechanisms generate perverse incentives for unsustainable forms of management	Financing mechanisms include environmental safeguards	National projects are linked to regional and global finance initiatives	
	Green financing is available at national level to support sustainable production		
IP Component 3: Programmatic coordination and monitoring			
Experience and knowledge managed locally.	Knowledge on options for sustainable management managed at national level	Knowledge is managed and shared between countries and globally	• Improved effectiveness of project interventions

	Knowledge does not adequately include non-integrated approaches	Includes integrated approaches and transboundary issues	• Scaling up beyond target countries • Contribution to global knowledge, tools and policies

6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF);

126. Through its 11 country-specific child projects, the DSL Impact Program will deliver the following Global Environmental Benefits (see Table F, Annex F and Annex M):

- 1,087,829 hectares of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (*GEF sub-indicator: 4.3*).
- 6,375,175 tCO2eq of GHG (direct and indirect) sequestered and emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (*GEF sub-indicator 6.1; SDG 15.3.1 sub-indicator 3 on soil organic carbon stock*)
- 45,239 hectares of land rehabilitated or restored in 11 countries (includes target for direct investment under Outcome 2.4 above). Total of the following:
- 5,851 ha of degraded agricultural land restored *(GEF sub-indicator 3.1: also SDG 2.4.1 sub-indicator 4, prevalence of soil degradation, and SDG 15.3.1 indicator on land degradation);*
- 5,873 ha of forest and forest land restored *(GEF sub-indicator 3.2: also corresponds to SDG 15.2.1 indicator on sustainable forest management, and SDG 15.3.1 indicator on land degradation);*
- 33,496 ha of natural grass and shrublands restored *(GEF sub-indicator 3.3: also corresponds to SDG 15.3.1 indicator on land degradation)*
- 19 ha of wetlands restored *(GEF sub-indicator 3.4: also corresponds to SDG 15.3.1 on land degradation)*
- 1,281,628 hectares of land under improved protection or management to benefit biodiversity, in 11 countries. *Total of the following:*
- 79,918 ha of terrestrial PAs under improved management in 5 IP countries and in neighbouring countries *(GEF sub-indicator 1.2).*
- 112,882 ha of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity, in 11 countries *(GEF sub-indicator 4.1: also corresponds to SDG 2.4.1 sub-indicator 8: Use of biodiversity-supportive practices);*
- 1,087,829 ha of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems *(GEF sub-indicator 4.3)*
    - 1,000 hectares loss of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) has been avoided *(GEF sub-indicator 4.4)*

127. These impacts are relevant to the land degradation, biodiversity and climate change focal areas; in accordance with GEF-7 guidelines, however, the benefits will be delivered in an integrated multi-focal manner within an overall framework of sustainable dryland management.

128. Benefits for these three focal areas will be maximized by helping countries to meet their Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets, thereby contributing to the achievement of UNCCD 2018-2030 Strategic Framework Strategic Objective 1: *Improve the condition of affected ecosystems, combat desertification/land degradation, promote sustainable land management and contribute to land degradation neutrality*. With technical and methodological support from the GCP, the child projects will help countries to achieve their LDN targets, as proposed in their Project Documents, by focusing in particular on key ecosystems and high conservation value forests (HCVFs), and by supporting the recovery of carbon stocks in vegetation and soils – in all cases, project/program interventions will be guided by landscape- and region-wide spatial data in order to optimize targeting on areas with maximum potential for impact generation.

129. The Global Coordination Project (GCP) will further contribute to the delivery of global environmental benefits in three ways:

1) It will improve the effectiveness of each of the child projects in delivering their projected country-specific global environmental benefits, by increasing their access to regional and global knowledge resources (including south-south exchanges of lessons learned) and technical assistance.

2) By facilitating and orienting transboundary and regional cooperation, and informing the targeting of investments in dryland conservation and management through the objective definition of regional priorities, it will allow the child projects between them to contribute to global environmental benefits of regional significance, and improve the cost-effectiveness of impact delivery.

3) It will contribute to scaling-out of impacts beyond the specific target areas of the child projects, to other areas within the participating countries and also to neighbouring countries.

130. In recognition of these three effects, it is estimated that the GCP will result in a 10% net increase in the total global environmental benefits delivered by the IP, in each of the three IP focal areas (biodiversity, climate change mitigation and land degradation).

7) Innovativeness, potential for scaling, sustainability and system-wide capacity development.

Innovativeness:

131. The GCP will be innovative as a key element of the GEF-7 programmatic approach: it contrasts with the conventional model of country-specific stand-alone projects, with on-the-ground investments, focusing instead on facilitating improved impact delivery across the IP portfolio of child projects; most innovatively, it will take a supra-national view in order to ensure that key environmental issues with transboundary or regional dimensions, which might otherwise escape the scope of country-specific child projects, are addressed.

132. The GCP will also be innovative in supporting connections between groupings of child projects and private sector actors functioning at regional or global level, increasing the ability of national actors to identify opportunities for partnerships with the private sector (for example through value chains or financial services), and also increasing their "bargaining power", enabling them collectively to negotiate favourable terms of trade in regional and global value chains.

133. The support by the project to science – practice/policy interfaces in collaboration with research institutes and academia at national and regional levels will be innovative, especially when this focuses in particular on promoting the involvement, and developing the capacities and awareness, of young male and female researchers (see paragraph 94).

Scaling[70][70]***:***

134. As one of the central justifications for the GCP, it will invest in supporting the ***scaling out*** of the impacts achieved by IP child projects to wider audiences and geographical areas than their immediate areas of influence. This will be achieved at national level, to other geographical areas in the IP countries than those directly targeted; and also at regional level.

Table 4. Priority target countries for scaling-out

IP country clusters	Priority scaling-out countries (non-exhaustive list)
Southern/central Africa (Angola, Namibia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Botswana)	Democratic Republic of Congo, Kingdom of Eswatini, South Africa, Zambia
Eastern Africa (Tanzania and Kenya)	Somalia, Burundi, Rwanda and Ethiopia
Western Africa – Sahel/Great Green Wall (Burkina Faso)	Niger, Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal, Togo and Benin
Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Mongolia)	Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan

135. ***Scaling-out*** will be promoted through a range of strategies:

- The implementation of plans and procedures in each IP country for the compilation, management and dissemination of data and knowledge, including lessons learned and the results of monitoring results. These will be presented in such a way as to allow the targets of scaling to review then easily, judge their relevance to their own conditions, and adapt them as appropriate.
- Linking the IP wherever possible to existing regional platforms (e.g. the Southern African Development Community SADC, the Great Green Wall in the Sahara, Sahel and southern Africa, and the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program CAREC), in order to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and approaches among policy-makers and practitioners from different (IP and non-IP) countries
- Funding regional events for capacity development and knowledge exchange among IP and non-IP countries including the COFO Working Group on Dryland Forest and Agrosilvopastoral Systems.

136. ***Scaling up:*** in order to ensure that present and future investments in DSL are supported by consolidated and favourable enabling environments, the GCP will facilitate regional processes of policy analysis and development, in order to identify needs for the harmonization among countries of policies on issues such as permissible management actions in dryland ecosystems or tax/duty regimes on dryland products (see paragraph 80): it will take advantage where possible of existing policy platforms (see Box 2) to support dialogue on these issues, supported by the effective communication of knowledge and lessons learned regarding the implications of alternative policy and regulatory outcomes (see Output 2.3.2). Scaling up and mainstreaming will be supported by tools such as the Decision Support Framework under the DS-SLM project.

Sustainability and system-wide capacity development:

137. Together with knowledge management and inclusive stakeholder engagement, system-wide capacity development[71][71] is a critical element to ensure greater impact, durability and scale of intended results as it maximizes country ownership, commitment and mutually accountability for jointly developed results. Based on a dedicated, system-wide capacity enhancement strategy jointly developed with partners and stakeholders in year one of project implementation, the global project will enhance the capacities of people (men and women, indigenous people, youth), organizations, institutions and networks at national and regional levels, as well as providing technical backstopping to child projects to ensure a harmonised and streamlined capacity enhancement approach leveraging the individual child project capacity enhancement strategies.

138. To maximize country ownership, all envisioned capacity enhancement activities will be based on participatory and inclusive capacity needs analyses, to define contextualized capacity support activities and define results based on good practice[72][72]. Moreover, organizational strengthening activities and training activities will apply effective organizational development[73][73] and learning practices[74][74]. For example, effective organizational, network or multi-stakeholder analysis also involves taking into consideration the risks and power assymetries within network and multi-stakeholder processes[75][75]. Moreover, effective learning practices include pre-event learning needs assessments, post-event follow-up support to facilitate the transfer of knowledge into practice, as well as institutionalization of curricula through partnering with and enhancing the capacities of local universities and research centres.

139. To address sustainability considerations, the GCP capacity enhancement strategy will include the dedicated elaboration of a “sustainability strategy”. Elements of this strategy will include directly working with, building on and strengthening existing regional, national and sub-national institutions and processes for natural resource management, in order to institutionalize the effort beyond the duration of the project and programme. These may include, for example, strengthening of SADC and the Great Green Wall Initiative. In addition, the potential will be explored for the GCP to strengthen national and regional capacities for addressing regional/transboundary issues and for developing regional knowledge resources.

140. The GCP will further contribute to sustainability and long-term capacity development by promoting linkages between the IP and the scientific/academic community. This will in addition contribute to the “scaling deep” effect, by helping to mainstream the DSL models and innovations promoted by the project into the scientific community and into the next generation of researchers and practitioners, as well as contributing to the flow of science-based inputs into the IP, contributing to the relevance and effectiveness of the child project interventions. The nature of this engagement, in support of which WOCAT will play a key role, is set out in Box 4.

Box 4. Engagement with science

An active collaboration with the scientific and academic community (universities, research institutions) at national and regional level will mutually benefit the DSL programme as well as the scientific communities. In most countries, research and teaching on SLM/SFM/LDN is not linked to interventions on the ground. Therefore, the former remains rather abstract and conceptual and the latter does not involve the young generation of future experts, depriving them of making direct contributions to interventions with their research and getting involved in reallife situations at the beginning of their career.

WOCAT will support the GCP in linking science to child projects' interventions and vice versa with the following proposed activities:

- In collaboration with the REMs and child projects, identification of main science partners at national and regional level and existing networks. Building on existing structures, setting up a science network accompanying the DSL (potentially in collaboration with the REMs).

- Setting up science-practice interfaces to foster the involvement of young students and researchers in on-the-ground interventions (e.g. in order to implement research on the impacts of SLM implementation on the environment and socio-economics at local (on-site), regional/landscape (off-site) and transboundary (off-site) level) and specify the needs for accompanying research with the child projects.

- Establishing collaboration with interested universities, high schools implementing SLM/SFM/LDN-related curricula to integrate project findings into existing courses and capacitate lecturers in the use of practical information. Depending on demand, develop new curricula/courses with SLM/LDN focus for and with universities and high schools.

- Setting up a science-policy interface to foster the consideration and use of scientific data by decision-makers.

In addition, WOCAT/CDE/University of Bern (in collaboration with a University from the Global South) will be responsible for a PhD study (see Annex Q) accompanying the DSL programme which will focus on *Scaling deep for scaling up and out - understanding behavioural change for the adoption of sustainable land management towards sustainable landscapes.* The overall objective of the research is to better understand what leads to behavior change, the scaling deep of good land management practices towards sustainable landscapes. The proposed PhD will look into community norms and social dynamics that favor or impede the adoption of SLM. A specific focus of the research will be behavior change among women and youth.

Research will be carried out in selected DSL countries in Africa and Asia with different agro-ecological, socio-cultural and political/ policy environments. Besides from countries'/ target areas' diversity, the selection of countries will depend on: a) FAO Global Coordination Project's guidance; b) child project's interests in participating in the research and offering the necessary support and guidance to the researcher; c) available research funds.

Accompanying the DSL Program with long-term research offers a unique opportunity to gain novel insights on the topic of scaling deep. Scientific evidence on why and when behavior change happens towards sustainable landscapes in the context of the different country interventions will help to inform the DSL Program and its child projects and enhance GEF interventions while contributing to new evidence in transformative science.

8) Summary of changes in alignment with the project design with the original PIF

141. There are no significant changes.

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[49]In the case of Malawi, for example, the OFP has specifically requested support from outside experts in LDN, conservation agriculture and agroforestry, seed banks, forest restoration and management, and green value chains (for agricultural products and NTFPs).

[50] The GWP communicates lessons learned in a regular newsletter, regular e-training and capacity building sessions and a series of high level on-line discussions and panels.
https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/global-wildlife-program/publications

[51] Achieving enduring outcomes from GEF investments http://stapgef.org/sites/default/files/publications/DURABILITY_web%20posting_2.pdf
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[69] Subject to the results of the processes of analysis and dialogue to be supported at regional level, the "supra-national" issues potentially to be addressed by such indicators may include, for example, regional (not country-specific) value chain opportunities; cumulative impacts on the overall regional-level conservation status of biodiversity values (species or ecosystems); and/or impacts on ecosystem service flows operating at regional level (for example across international drainage basins).

[70] ***Scaling out*** = Impacting greater numbers. Based on the recognition that many good ideas or initiatives never spread or achieve widespread impact; ***Scaling up*** = Impacting law and policy. Based on the recognition that the roots of social problems transcend particular places, and innovative approaches must be codified in law, policy and institutions. ***Scaling deep*** = Impacting cultural roots. Based on the recognition that culture plays a powerful role in shifting problem domains, and change must be deeply rooted in people, relationships, communities and cultures..See https://mcconnellfoundation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/ScalingOut_Nov27A_AV_BrandedBleed.pdf
[71] See „System-wide capacity development for country-driven transformations", page 38 in „Feeding People Protecting the Planet – FAO-GEF Partners in Action http://www.fao.org/3/CA0130EN/ca0130en.pdf
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1b. Project Map and Coordinates

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

1b. Project Map and Geo-Coordinates.

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

1. The 11 countries in which the program will operate (with one project per country) are shown below (geographical coordinates of project sites are given in the respective child project documents).

1c. Child Project?

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

As this is the submission for the Global Coordination Project of the DSL Impact Program, this section is not applicable.

2. Stakeholders

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

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities No

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above,please explain why:

Stakeholders.

1. Continuous stakeholder engagement across global, regional, national and sub-national levels, together with system-wide capacity development and knowledge management, is key to maximize country ownership and contribute to more enduring results at scale. The GCP will focus on stakeholder engagement at global and regional level to complement the national level stakeholder engagement specified in the respective child projects stakeholder engagement plans. During the project design phase, FAO organized a global consultation workshop on 29-30 January 2020[1] including all 11 participating program countries, GEF Secretariat, UNCCD, World Bank, IUCN , WOCAT, UNEP and WWF to raise awareness, reach common understanding and jointly define the GCP programmatic components. The priorities were further refined in a post-workshop survey (Annex P). Moreover, in year one of implementation, a refined stakeholder engagement plan for the GCP will be developed based on an inclusive stakeholder analysis methodology and building on the initial stakeholder mapping conducted (See Annex H3) as well as project design stakeholder engagement such as the aforementioned global consultation.

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;
Member of Advisory Body; contractor;
Co-financier;
Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body;
Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain)

Table 1. Key stakeholders of relevance to the GCP (additional country-specific stakeholders of relevance to the child projects are identified in each child project Poject Document)

Actor	Role
FAO	- Implementing and Executing Agency of the GCP, under Direct Implementation arrangement.
IUCN	- Co-executing agency: knowledge generation and sharing at the global and regional levels, Regional and global policy (promote dryland restoration, commitments to address dryland restoration, promote private sector engagement, dialogue on regional restoration initiative)
WOCAT	- Co-executing agency through letter of agreement (LoA)
Implementing agencies of child projects (FAO, World Bank, IUCN, WWF)	- Quality assurance of child projects, overseeing incorporation by child projects of programmatic approach and advising them on opportunities for capacity development, TA and transboundary cooperation through the GCP - Members of GCP Project Task Force, advising on programmatic directions - Oversight by FAO LTOs and other agency equivalents of child project actions in relation to the GCP (e.g. knowledge management, capacity development, outreach) and reporting on GCP indicators
Regional economic/development commissions and programs, (e.g. SADC, ECOWAS, CAREC).	- Platforms for policy dialogue - Potential locations of regional programme resource centres for channelling technical assistance to, and facilitating coordination among, child projects (during the programme lifetime) - Potential for assuming post-programme roles as regional resource centres in support of sustainable dryland management, with institutional capacity strengthening provided through the GCP during the programme lifetime. - Participation in regional strategy formulation, prioritisation, discussions and negotiations on dryland issues of transboundary and regional scope, facilitated through the GCP.

Actor	Role
Regional farmers' organisations (e.g. ROPPA: Réseau des Organisations Paysannes et des Producteurs Agricoles de l'Afrique de l'Ouest/Network of Farmers' Organiations and Producers in West Africa)	- Coordinated representation of farmers' interests, and participation, in the IP. - Representation of farmers in dialogue and negotiations with private sector actors and in policy and planning dialogue. -
Regional Knowledge hubs: UNCCD Knowledge Hub and Global Mechanism, COFO Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agro-silvopastoral Systems, Global Landscape Forum, CACILM, Farmer Field Schools Platform, Global Soil Partnership, WOCAT, Agroecology Knowledge Hub, EverGreening Alliance	- Sources of knowledge and information potentially to be channelled to the child projects through the GCP - Recipients, repositories and channels for dissemination of knowledge and experiences generated through the child projects -
Regional development research organisations: ICRISAT, ICRAF	- Sources of knowledge and information potentially to be channelled to the child projects through the GCP - Participation in targeted and applied research to be carried out within the framework of the IP, under the coordination and/or facilitation of the GCP.
Host governments of IP countries	- Executing Agencies of child projects - Beneficiaries of capacity development for sustainable dryland management through the child projects: additional capacity development support provided or channelled through the GCP
Child project implementation teams	- Implementation of child projects - Definition of needs for support (capacity development, technical assistance, facilitation of transboundary collaboration) from the GCP - Incorporation of programmatic indicators into child project M&E systems - Reporting of progress on programmatic issues, and M&E results, to GCP

Actor	Role
UNCCD Global Mechanism	- Oversight and advice on GCP and child project reporting on LDN indicators - Facilitate outreach and knowledge sharing about the outcomes of the Impact Program with the broader UNCCD constituency, including through knowledge sharing at UNCCD events such as UNCCD CRICs and COPs (e.g. at upcoming UNCCD CRIC19 in November 2020 and/or reporting on lessons learned about LDN implementation at the upcoming UNCCD COP15 in 2021) - Technical support and facilitation of LDN capacity building events - Coordination and sharing of experiences with LDN Transformative Programmes and Projects portfolio - Establish contact with the LDN Fund manager entity (e.g. Mirova)
Private sector	- Participation in GCP-facilitated exploration of opportunities for regional collaboration on value chain development in support of sustainable dryland management - Support to ecosystem and landscape restoration - Provision of finance and blended finance for dryland sustainable management - Provision of technology and ICT support to dryland sustainable management, including weather and climate services
Financing entities (e.g. LDN Fund)	- Potential sources of financial investment support (including innovative financing, PES and carbon payments) to sustainable dryland management and restoration, and sustainable production: the GCP will facilitate linkages between child projects and these entities in order to support the identification of financing needs and opportunities, and the channelling of resources.

2. The GCP results framework (has been structured to include indicators that ensure stakeholder participation in all components of the project (see Annex A1) with particular focus in Outcome 2.3 and Output 2.3.1. Moreover, different budget lines have been allocated to ensure the identified stakeholder are meaningfully involved in the GCP activities (See Annex A2).

3. Finally, the PMU will include a dedicated expert to follow all the stakeholder engagement activities including monitoring and reporting responsibilities on stakeholder engagement through the annual project implementation reports (PIRs). In the annual PIRs, the PMU will report on the following indicators:

- Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, vulnerable groups and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase.

- Number of engagements (such as meetings, workshops, official communications) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase.

- Number of grievances received and responded to/resolved.

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[1] http://www.fao.org/gef/highlights/detail/en/c/1260948/

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

Annex H3: Stakeholder Engagement Matrix and Grievance Redress Mechanism

· Stakeholder Consultation in project formulation[1] -

In addition to the extensive stakeholder consultations at country level, described in the project documents of the child projects, a highly participatory multi-stakeholder workshop was held in FAO HQ, Rome, in January 2020, with all 11 IP-DSL participating countries and key global partners for the formulation of the GCP, that included an online technical survey (See results in Annex P). Moreover, the workshop was followed by regular ongoing consultations with country-, regional- and global-level stakeholders. The participants in the GCP formulation workshop are listed below.

Name	Country/ Location	Government/ Organization	Email	Title
Adrian Barrance	UK	FAO expert consultant		
Fabiana Issler	Brazil	FAO expert consultant		
Angela Joehl-Cadena	Thailand/ Switzerland	FAO expert consultant		
Gaetan Quesne	France	FAO expert consultant		
Pedro Regato Pajares	Spain	FAO expert consultant		
Lucille Palazy	France	FAO expert consultant		
Liesl Wiese	South Africa	FAO expert consultant		-
Yerlan Syzdykov	Kazakhstan	FAO expert consultant		-
Mr David Brugiere	France	BRL Ingénierie		Directeur de projets Biodiversité & Ressources Naturelles
Dr. Charles Lange	Kenya	Kenya Govt.		NEMA

Name	Country/ Location	Government/ Organization	Email	Title
Mr Julio Ingles	Angola	Angola Govt.		GEF Operational Focal Point, Ministry of Environment
Mr. Johannes Seema	Botswana	Botswana Govt.		Senior Forest and Range Resources Officer
Zainabu Shabani Bungwa	Tanzania	Tanzania Govt.		Principle Forest Officer
Mr Tanyaradzwa MUNDOGA	Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Govt.		Deputy Director - Natural Resources, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Environment
Mr. Fillemon Kayofa	Namibia	Namibia Govt.		Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF)
Ms. Tangu Tumeo	Malawi	Malawi Govt.		GEF-PPG Focal Point
Ms. Ariuntuya	Mongolia	Mongolia Govt.		GEF Operational Focal Point, Ministry of Environment
Mr Sonmanégre NANA	Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso Govt.		Head, SP/CNDD
Mr. M. Elemesov	Kazakhstan	Kazakhstan Govt.		Acting Deputy Chair of Forestry and Wildlife Committee, GEF PPG focal point
Madyo Couto	Mozambique	Mozambique Govt. Partner		MozBio Coordinator, Fundo Nacional de Desenvolvimento Sustentavel (FNDS)
Sean Nazarelli,	Mozambique	Mozambique Govt. Partner		Executive Director, BioFund
Dr. Dennis Garrity	Kenya	UNCCD		Drylands Ambassador, UN Convention to Combat Desertification
Jonathan Gheyssens	Switzerland	UNEP		UNEP Finance Initiative
Mr. Alborovkov	Kazakhstan	World Bank expert consultant		Kazakhstan Project design expert
Dr. Dennis Garrity	Kenya	UNCCD		Drylands Ambassador, UN Convention to Combat Desertification
Jonathan Gheyssens	Switzerland	UNEP		UNEP Finance Initiative
Nicole Harari	Switzerland	WOCAT		
Txaran Basterrechea	Angola	FAO		
Lesedi Modo	Botswana	FAO		
Emmah Muthanje	Malawi	FAO		
Prisca Munthali	Malawi	FAO		
Gift Kamupingene	Namibia	FAO		

Name	Country/ Location	Government/ Organization	Email	Title
Ferdinard Mwapopi	Namibia	FAO		
Jonathan Sawaya	Tanzania	FAO		
Celestina Lwatula	Zambia	FAO		
David Mfote	Zimbabwe	FAO		
Lilian Goredema	Zimbabwe	FAO		
Edward Kilawe	Zimbabwe	FAO		
Adamou Bouhari	Kenya	UNEP		
Victoria Luque Panadero	Kenya	UNEP		
Roy Hagen		UNEP Expert Consultant		
Durukan Dudu	Afghanistan	FAO GEF 7 Project		
Sheila Aggarwal-Khan	Kenya	IUCN		
Franka Braun	Mozambique	World Bank		
Gayatri Kanungo	USA	World Bank		
Paola Agostini	USA	World Bank		
Amanda Teresia Jerneck	Mozambique	World Bank		
Herve LeFeuvre	USA	WWF		
Heike Lingertat	USA	WWF		
Astrid Breuer	USA	WWF		
Ulrich Apel	USA	GEF Secretariat		
Pascal Martinez	USA	GEF Secretariat		
Mathew Reddy	USA	GEF Secretariat		
Asha Imani Bobb Semple	USA	GEF Secretariat		
Julie Bourns	USA	The Nature Conservancy		
Kimberly Holbrook	USA	The Nature Conservancy		
Guadalupe Duron	USA	STAP		
Graciela Metternicht	Australia	STAP		
Juan Carlos Mendoza	Germany	UNCCD		

Name	Country/ Location	Government/ Organization	Email	Title
Dr. Ezekiel E. Mwakalukwa				Chairperson - COFO Working Group on Drylands
Mr Luis Constantino	Angola	Angola Govt.		Chief of Department of Desertification and UNCCD Focal Point, Ministry of Environment
Mr Danilo Silva	Angola	FAO		Environment Expert.
Mr Nebnoma Norbert OUEDRAOGO	Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso Govt.		Ingénieur des Eaux et Forêts
Mr. Marthin Kasaona	Namibia	Namibia Govt.		Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET)
Ms. Yoko Wantanabe	USA	UNDP		Director - GEF Small Grants Program
Ms. Franka Braun	Mozambique	World Bank		World Bank - Mozambique Country Office
Amanda Jerneck	Mozambique	World Bank		World Bank - Mozambique Country Office
Jonathan Davies	Kenya	IUCN		

[1] See FAO Operational Guidelines for Stakeholder Engagement

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

Stakeholder Consultation in project Implementation

As noted above, extensive consultation among key stakeholder organizations involved in the development of this Program has already taken place. As elaborated in ProDoc section paragraph 143, a detailed stakeholder engagement strategy - building on the stakeholder consultations that have already taken place during the planning phase in the participating countries - will be refined during year one of implementation, including specification of the elements in the table below.

Stakeholder Name	Stakeholder Type	Stakeholder profile	Consultation Methodology	Expected timing	Comments
FAO	*Note: This will be refined during year 1 of implementation building on initial stakeholder engagement and aligning with individual child project*				

Implementing agencies of child projects (FAO, World Bank, IUCN, WWF)	*stakeholder engagement plans.*
Regional bodies, knowledge hubs and NGOs (e.g. SADC, CAREC, Great Green Wall, ICRISAT, ICRAF, WWF, WCS, UNCCD Knowledge Hub and Global Mechanism, Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems, Global Landscape Forum, CACILM, Farmer Field Schools Platform, Global Soil Partnership, WOCAT, EverGreening Alliance	
Host governments of IP countries	
Child project implementation teams	
UNCCD Global Mechanism	
Private sector	
Financing entities (e.g. LDN Fund)	

Grievance Redress Mechanism[1]

· Grievance Mechanism

Focal Point Information	Director, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Environment
Contact Details	OCB-Director@FAO.ORG
Explain how the grievance mechanism will be/ has been communicated to stakeholders	Through the project website. More information may also be found here: http://www.fao.org/aud/42564-03173af392b352dc16b6cec72fa7ab27f.pdf

FAO is committed to ensuring that its programs are implemented in accordance with the Organization's environmental and social obligations. In order to better achieve these goals, and to ensure that beneficiaries of FAO programs have access to an effective and timely mechanism to address their concerns about non-compliance with these obligations, the Organization, in order to supplement measures for receiving, reviewing and acting as appropriate on these concerns at the program management level, has entrusted the Office of the Inspector-General with the mandate to independently review the complaints that cannot be resolved at that level.

FAO will facilitate the resolution of concerns of beneficiaries of FAO programs regarding alleged or potential violations of FAO's social and environmental commitments. For this purpose, concerns may be communicated in accordance with the eligibility criteria of the Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization's Environmental and Social Standards[2], which applies to all FAO programs and projects.

Concerns must be addressed at the closest appropriate level, i.e. at the project management/technical level, and if necessary at the Regional Office level. If a concern or grievance cannot be resolved through consultations and measures at the project management level, a complaint requesting a Compliance Review may be filed with the Office of the Inspector-General (OIG) in accordance with the Guidelines. Program and project managers will have the responsibility to address concerns brought to the attention of the focal point.

The principles to be followed during the complaint resolution process include: impartiality, respect for human rights, including those pertaining to indigenous peoples, compliance of national norms, coherence with the norms, equality, transparency, honesty, and mutual respect.

Project-level grievance mechanism

The project will establish a grievance mechanism at field level to file complaints during project inception phase. Contact information and information on the process to file a complaint will be disclosed in all meetings, workshops and other related events throughout the life of the project. In addition, it is expected that all awareness raising material to be distributed will include the necessary information regarding the contacts and the process for filing grievances.

The project will also be responsible for documenting and reporting as part of the safeguards performance monitoring on any grievances received and how they were addressed.

The mechanism includes the following stages:

· In the instance in which the claimant has the means to directly file the claim, he/she has the right to do so, presenting it directly to the Project Coordination Unit (PCU). The process of filing a complaint will duly consider anonymity as well as any existing traditional or indigenous dispute resolution mechanisms and it will not interfere with the community's self-governance system.

· The complainant files a complaint through one of the channels of the grievance mechanism. This will be sent to the Project Coordinator (PC) to assess whether the complaint is eligible. The confidentiality of the complaint must be preserved during the process.

· The PGC will be responsible for recording the grievance and how it has been addressed if a resolution was agreed.

· If the situation is too complex, or the complainer does not accept the resolution, the complaint must be sent to a higher level, until a solution or acceptance is reached.

· For every complaint received, a written proof will be sent within ten (10) working days; afterwards, a resolution proposal will be made within thirty (30) working days.

· In compliance with the resolution, the person in charge of dealing with the complaint, may interact with the complainant, or may call for interviews and meetings, to better understand the reasons.

· All complaint received, its response and resolutions, must be duly registered.

Internal process

1. Project Coordination Unit (PCU). The complaint could come in writing or orally to the PCU directly. At this level, received complaints will be registered, investigated and solved by the PCU.

2. If the complaint has not been solved and could not be solved in level 1, then the Global Project Coordinator elevates it to the Director, Climate and Environment Division, FAO.

3. Project Task Force (PTF). The assistance of the PTF is requested if a resolution was not agreed in levels 1 and 2.

Resolution

Upon acceptance a solution by the complainer, a document with the agreement should be signed with the agreement.

Project Coordination Unit (PCU)	Must respond within 5 working days.	

FAO Director Climate and Environment Division in	Anyone in the office of the Director, Office of Climate, Biodiversity and Environment may receive a complaint and must ensure proof of receipt. If the case is accepted, the FAO Representative must respond within 5 working days in consultation with FAO's Representation and Project Team. FAO Representative: Director, Office of Climate, Biodiversity and Environment e-mail: OCB-Director@fao.org Tel: (+39) 06 5705 1657	
Project Task Force (PTF)	If the case cannot be dealt by the FAO Representative, he/she must send the information to all PTF members and call for a meeting to find a solution. The response must be sent within 5 working days after the meeting of the PTF.	
Office of the Inspector General (OIG)	To report possible fraud and bad behavior by fax, confidential: (+39) 06 570 55550 By e-mail: Investigations-hotline@fao.org By confidential hotline: (+ 39) 06 570 52333	

[2] Compliance Reviews following complaints related to the Organization's environmental and social standards: http://www.fao.org/aud/42564-03173af392b352dc16b6cec72fa7ab27f.pdf

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only; No

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;

Co-financier;

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

Executor or co-executor; Yes

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

1. Women are strategic agents of change and play a central role in the use and care of land resources in drylands, in particular in land-dependent communities. They rely on land resources to provide the household needs for food, water and energy, which makes them more dependent on natural resources than men; yet most women neither own nor have control over these resources. Less than 20% of land holders worldwide are women and only 13% of the land users who make the major decisions on agricultural land are women. Women are a significant labour force and are guardians of valuable traditional and indigenous knowledge on land use. Limited landownership and tenure security can constrain cropping and livestock practices that can help in adapting to declining land quality, and access to credit and other services that ease investments in improved technology, natural resource management in the face of climate change. The situation is particularly dire in certain rapidly changing contexts, where environmental stresses linked to climate change, or social changes such as male migration, are adding to the burden of women in attaining food security for their households. Available data on the agricultural labour force in Africa already show that women in many countries contribute to well over 50% of total labour. Recent data illustrate that in a number of regions including Central Asia, the female labour force is noticeably increasing, a trend defined as the "feminization" of agriculture .

2. Women and children in particular are most vulnerable to the impacts of land degradation and drought. Drought shocks have gender-differentiated impact; in the case of high climate variability, women involved in agriculture are much less able to cope with such shocks.The knowledge resources and technical assistance to be channelled by the GCP in support of the child projects will include issues specifically related to gender, including production and management options with particular potential to benefit women, and strategies for optimizing women's participation in decision-making and their access to resources and benefits in relation to dryland management. GCP support in relation to gender will strive to address the identified relevant gender issues in child project gender analyses and action plans in a synergistic manner.

3. The focus will be on scaling up support to rural communities and the individual farmers/herders, men, women and youth, to make choices in their land use and management systems which help resolve conflicts, improve their socio-economic well-being (food security, reduced poverty and labour) and also, through the engine of agriculture, to break

out from the vicious cycle of land degradation through opportunities generated from land restoration and sustainable use. This requires a major shift in resource planning and management dimensions, through consideration of commodity-based opportunities for raising farm-household income, the driving force today for land use decisions, alongside and as an integral part of longer term options for generating household and community livelihood benefits and environmental benefits.. Communities need to be empowered in village land use planning to assess their communal resources and their needs (quality soils, grazing, fuelwood, water, housing materials, medicines, etc), to identify and weigh up the options and make joint decisions for improved resources management that will both meet their immediate needs and generate long term benefits. This needs to be undertaken with the understanding that commitment of individuals to communal activities like ecological restoration can be sustained if there are appropriate local- and national-level institutions, support systems, and policies in place. In this effort, both men and women should be fully involved in the planning, mobilizing, organizing, leadership, resolving conflicts, and sharing resources and taking part in activities involving the whole community. Social connectedness is an important resource that should be taken into account by development agents, extension workers, and advisory services in the dissemination of knowledge and information,

4. The GCP will play a strategic role in facilitating links between child projects and regional or global bodies addressing gender issues, working with these to facilitate knowledge exchange and strategy development in relation to gender issues of national, regional and global significance, such as the differential impacts on women of regional-scale landscape degradation and associated social and demographic processes including economic migration.

5. The GCP will thereby contribute to the delivery of gender-specific benefits across the 11 child projects in the Impact Program. As set out in its Programme Framework Document (PFD), the IP (through its child projects) will address identified gender gaps and will explicitly aim to support the empowerment of women. The GCP will facilitate child projects' access to, and application of, guidance resources in relation to gender, such as the *Practical Guide for Improving Gender Equality in Territorial Issues* (IGETI) (2018) and *Governing land for women and men* (FAO, 2013), a technical guide to support the achievement of responsible gender-equitable governance of land tenure

6. With support from the GCP, child project management will be informed by existing comprehensive Country Gender Assessments (CGAs) and further gender analysis, providing up-to-date information on the situation of rural women and the gender gap in the broader agriculture sectors. These existing reports are specifically intended to assist with the formulation of evidence-based interventions and policies and are uploaded at http://www.fao.org/gender/resources/country-assessments/en/. Further assessments will include:

· Relevant gender analysis and participatory assessments of direct & indirect costs & benefits for both women's & men's participation in interventions

· Incorporation of sex-disaggregated data collection & gender-sensitive indicators to help measure socio-environmental impacts in meaningful and consistent way

· Consideration of both formal and informal land tenure, forest use & access to resources when defining beneficiaries & direct & indirect benefits

· Engagement of women, women's groups, & gender/women's ministries in discussions on incentives & fund mechanisms and Incorporate gender considerations in operational modalities of incentive & financial mechanisms.

7. Based on extensive lessons learned at policy and field level, FAO has articulated a conceptual framework and implementation guidelines aimed at supporting practitioners and decision-makers in planning and implementing gender-responsive value chain interventions from which women and men can benefit equally. This guidance will be deployed

consistently across the IP to unlock the potential of drylands value chains, including underutilized crops and promote sustainable NMTPF wild harvesting, cultivation and trading of indigenous natural plant products that have the potential to contribute significantly to the alleviation of rural poverty while increasing households' resilience and conserving natural resources.

8. The GCP will support child projects in operationalizing the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT). These guidelines seek to promote the land rights of women farmers, among others, who face serious gender discrimination in all regions.

9. In addition, FAO is the custodian agency for SDG 5.a.1, the indicator that measures the "Percentage of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control". According to the methodology, progress against the indicator is determined by the extent to which countries have incorporated into their legal framework six proxies. The proxies selected cover equality in inheritance, joint registration, control of the property in marriage, women's representation in land institutions, governmental funding to support women's land ownership and the protection of women's land rights in legally recognized customary systems. Through the GCP, FAO will continue to engage with relevant national institutions to provide the necessary technical assistance for achieving and measuring progress on this indicator.

10. As per specific GEF gender guidance[1], results related to gender equality will be traced according to 3 areas:

1) closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources;

2) improving women's participation and decision-making; and

3) social and economic benefits or services for women.

11. In line with the objectives of FAO's[2] and GEF's[3] dedicated corporate policies on Gender Equality and responding to the programming directions of the GEF-7 LD Focal Area strategy, gender will be mainstreamed by including 1) practical gender needs – improving the conditions of women through access to resources, services and opportunities, and 2) strategic gender interests – empowering women to take decisions and be better represented in various decision making bodies.

12. *Operational principles*: (i) the Global Coordination Project will support implementation of the gender-related requirements and guidelines of international MEAs[4] and gender frameworks relating to LDN (ii) wherever possible, carry out gender analyses before main related project activities to facilitate uptake of proposed practices (iii) build on women's roles as agents of change in LDN (iv) be led by the Project managers but supported operationally by a gender focal point (GFP) appointed through the Project, as well (a) gender expert(s) contracted for specific technical inputs (v) gender competency will be included in the Terms of Reference for all staff and consultants/contractors (v) all relevant data will be disaggregated by sex.

13. *Approach*: gender equality integration will be delivered through standard child project components, specifically through:

- Component 1 (i) engaging women as well as men in developing national and sub-national policy, legislation and programming for LDN including SLM/SFM interventions (ii) gender-responsive national and policy, including temporary special measures as needed;

- Component 2 (i) engaging women and men in gender-responsive strategic (municipal) and operational (plot level) management plans and (ii) gender-responsive business models and incentives for LDN including SLM/SFM interventions as well as alternative livelihoods;

- Component 3 (i) increasing women's participation in capacity development at the national and sub-national levels and (ii) contributing to improved knowledge on gender dimensions of SLM/LDN;

- Component 4 (i) a gender-sensitive Monitoring and Evaluation plan and (ii) targeting women as well as men on SLM/SFM issues to achieve LDN

14. Each child project is expected to report on the GEF7 core gender indicator, namely: 'Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment'. In addition, child project documents include detailed elements specifying how the project will mainstream gender in implementation, including management, budgeting programming, and monitoring and evaluation. They will aim to assign specific responsibility for gender to one core staff member.. *Project implications: assign specific responsibility for gender to one project staff member, and ensure contracting gender experts to carry out selected activities with adequate resources. The global component is to capitalize on best practice, trace and scale up impact.*

15. The gender-focused activities of the GCP will include:

- Providing guidance and advice to support through review of child projects' gender action plans and indicators
- Organizing trainings/learning workshops with gender CoP, e.g., by commodity group/ value chains, or regional trainings
- Providing assistance on innovative financial instruments supporting gender actions and indicators, Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI), or other value chain development and rural finance instruments targeted at women
- Supporting and expanding a global gender-landscapes network (including commodity value chains) of practitioners, researchers and investors (private and public sector)
- Making the IP's gender actions and outcomes highly visible in key regional and global events and via innovative communication efforts (social media, news stories, videos, etc.)

16. The GCP will also support documentation of gender issues in child projects through the FAO Gender and Land Rights Database http://www.fao.org/gender-landrights-database/it/. This is an online platform that provides important qualitative and quantitative information on factors that determine men and women's rights to land. It includes 84 regularly updated country profiles with information on national policy and legal frameworks relevant to gender and land rights, as well as related statistics from national agricultural censuses and household surveys. It also contains assessments of the national legal frameworks for 25 countries, prepared with the FAO Legal Assessment Tool (LAT), which uses 30 legal indicators to provide prompt, targeted and effective policy advice to Members wishing to achieve gender-equitable land tenure. The GLRD will serve as a practical tool for government officials in child project countries, as well as policy-makers, programme designers and researchers.

17. The GCP will channel to the child projects results from the forthcoming project between WOCAT and the UNCCD Secretariat on gender-sensitive SLM Technologies and Approaches. Through this project, WOCAT will develop a methodology for assessment, as well as evaluating a number of technologies already existing in the WOCAT Database in view of their gender-sensitiveness, so that such technologies can be prioritized by interventions with similar contexts and conditions.

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[1] https://www.thegef.org/publications/gef-guidance-gender-equality

[2] http://www.fao.org/3/a-i3205e.pdf

[3] https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.53.04_Gender_Policy.pdf

[4] https://www.unccd.int/publications/manual-gender-responsive-land-degradation-neutrality-transformative-projects-and

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

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

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

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

Yes
4. Private sector engagement

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

1. A key area of investment of the GCP will be in facilitating engagement with the private sector in support of overall program objectives, including support to existing partnerships and the development of new ones. The GCP will facilitate knowledge management, communication and collaboration between IP country stakeholders (producers,

producer organizations, national private sector actors, national Governments and civil society actors, as appropriate) and private sector actors or groupings operating at regional and/or global levels, in order to support insertion of national producers into inclusive regional and global value chains for sustainable products. This will help national producers to identify supra-national value chain opportunities offered by the private sector, of which they may otherwise have been unaware; and private sector actors to apply a regional perspective to the identification of sources of supply based on sustainable management, which will help to spread risk and buffer against seasonal shortages in individual countries.

2. The GCP will also interact with private sectors as potential sources of financial investment support for dryland restoration and sustainable management in target countries. The GCP's role in facilitating the involvement of regional and global private sector actors, including through engagement meetings hosted by the Global Project, will improve access by actors in IP countries (including producer organizations) access to funding opportunities, and will reduce transaction costs for the private sector, taking advantage of the opportunities for economies of scale offered by developing funding portfolios on a regional, rather country-by-country, basis.

3. Private sector actors will also be engaged, as appropriate, as sources of technical inputs for the programme and its child projects, particularly in relation to digital tools and approaches for information management, traceability and monitoring.

4. The GCP will take advantage of opportunities presented by existing private sector platforms such as Business for Nature (B4N)[1], for supporting the engagement of multiple private sector actors and facilitating scaling-out across sectors and geographically.

5. Private sector engagement through the GCP and the IP child projects will be closely coordinated with that undertaken by the GEF Secretariat, the World Bank, FAO and other stakeholders, in order to ensure consistency and efficiency of relations.

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[1] https://www.businessfornature.org/

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

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

1. A risk analysis with identification of mitigation actions is found in the table below.

Description of risk	Impact	Probability of occurence	Mitigation actions	Responsible party
Limited commitment of IP or non-IP countries to transboundary collaboration (for example due to political considerations or conflict)	High	Low	Use of existing inter-country networks in which IP countries are already active	FAO (GCP PMU)
Limited organizational capacity or credibility of regional bodies	High	Low	Interactions with multiple regional bodies in order to spread risk; strengthening of the capacities of regional bodies	FAO (GCP PMU)
Limited receptiveness of IP and non-IP country institutions to knowledge inputs	High	Low	Outreach to IP and non-IP governments regarding the potential benefits from taking on and responding to knowledge inputs	FAO (GCP PMU)
Limited acceptance of evidence-based definition of priorities for transboundary management, rehabilitation and restoration investments	Medium	Medium	Targeted and tailored outreach regarding the long-term benefits of regional prioritization, in terms of effectiveness and the efficiency of use of regionally-available resources.	FAO (GCP PMU)
Reluctance of child project teams or IP country Governments to assign project resources to the GCP and GCP-related activities	High	Low	Outreach to child project teams and IP country Governments regarding the direct benefits to them of assigning resources to the GCP and related activities	FAO (GCP PMU)
Climate change	Low	High	Climate change with strengthen the rationale for the GCP, rather than undermine it. The GCP will support IP and non-IP countries in addressing climate change issues at national and transboundary levels.	FAO (GCP PMU)
Impacts on communication and participation due to national, regional or global health emergencies	Medium	High	Advisory and IT support to participating countries to permit remote communication among team members and with project stakeholders	FAO (GCP PMU)
Social and environmental threats posed by national, regional or global health emergencies	Low	High	As with climate change, these threats will strengthen the rationale for the GCP, rather than undermine it: the GCP will support IP and non-IP countries in developing and implementing response, recovery and resilience strategies within the context of sustainable dryland management, including regional/global cooperation on these issues.	

Description of risk	Impact	Probability of occurence	Mitigation actions	Responsible party
COVID19 pandemic related impacts on the internal and international travel, operation of government/ partners/ project; health impacts on general population as well as economic impacts, regionally, nationally and locally	High	High	1. If there are changes in cofinance, then partners to work closely to seek alternative options for co-financing and ensure continuity of resource allocation to ongoing initiatives in project target areas. 2. It is anticipated that the scope of the child projects will help to support the participating Governments' responses to COVID-19 through their focus on food security and livelihoods diversification of vulnerable communities. However, project activities will be further discussed with the Governments to ensure that emerging priorities and responses, as a result of the pandemic, are well reflected in the projects' target areas during implementation. 3. It is likely that periodic closures of transport and offices as well as restrictions on organizing meetings/ training with large number of people will impact implementation of the GCP and the child projects. The GCP will support the child projects in identifying methodological alternatives that allow effective participation under these circumstances, and where necessary will arrange for technical inputs from the GCP to be provided to the child projects virtually (on line). Where technical specialists are able to visit child project countries, recommended safe practice will be followed to minimize risk both to the specialists and the national stakeholders. 4. The GCP will as required support the provision of advice to the child project countries from regional and global sources on strategies for meeting immediate food needs 5. Ensure close collaboration with private sector entities and logistic companies to understand emerging barriers related to the pandemic and establish feasible options, with an emphasis on regional/transboundary collaboration 6. Support producer organizations in establishing regional links with export markets and encourage use of online markets where possible FAO is planning to undertake more detailed analysis on the impacts of COVID-19. These findings will help the GCP to target its support more effectively across the region, and to identify key COVID-related issues where support from the GCP may be required	Project executing agency, FAO and partners

6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

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

Institutional Arrangement and Coordination.

6.a Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation.

1. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) will be the **GEF Implementing Agency** for the Project, providing project cycle management services as established in the GEF Policy. FAO, as GEF Implementing Agency, holds overall accountability and responsibility to the GEF for delivery of the results. FAO will provide oversight of project implementation and technical support to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with agreed standards and requirements.

2. FAO responsibilities, as GEF Implementing Agency, will include:

- Administrate funds from GEF in accordance with the rules and procedures of FAO;
- Oversee project implementation in accordance with the project document, work plans, budgets, agreements with co-financiers, Operational Partners Agreement(s)and other rules and procedures of FAO;
- Provide technical guidance to ensure that appropriate technical quality is applied to all activities concerned; and
- Report to the GEF Secretariat and Evaluation Office, through the annual Project Implementation Review, on project progress and provide financial reports to the GEF Trustee;
- Provide administrative support for the Program Task Force.

3. The activities and cost items for which FAO will be responsible as OP will be executed through the Direct Execution (DEX) modality.

4. Together with FAO, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) along with the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT) will will play important roles in executing the Global Coordination Project. These parters will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project outputs and results entrusted to them in full compliance with GEF and FAO requirements, including timely reporting, effective use of GEF resources for intended purposes, and due diligence with regard to social and environmental quality standards

5. Taking advantage of its technical capacity and established presence in the target areas, IUCN (as OP) will execute activities of the project in the Sahel, East Africa and Central Asia. IUCN will be responsible for coordinating the REMs in Sahel/East Africa and in Central Asia. In addition, across the whole geographical area of the IP, it will contribute to:

1) Strengthening and disseminating knowledge on the extent and impacts of land degradation and the opportunities for dryland restoration, through the publishing of a review of restoration opportunities in the target regions or selected countries, and the development of policy recommendations on dryland restoration regional and national representatives, under Outcomes 1.1 and 2.1 (IUCN will benefit from the FAO Action Against Desertification Flagship programme, in the conetext of Great Green Wall).

2) Supporting transboundary coordination of private sector engagement in value chain development, under Outcome 1.1.

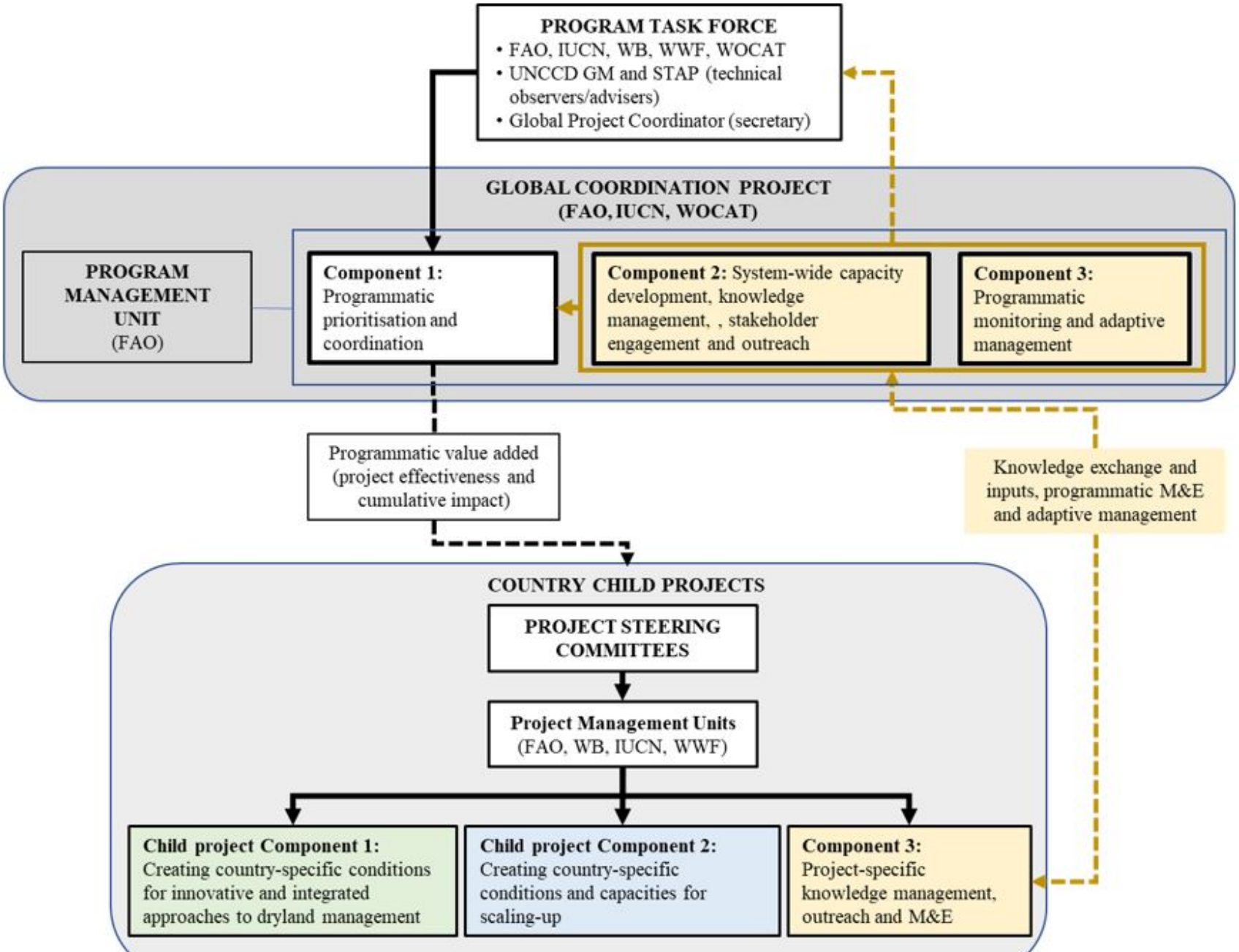
3) Development of transformative programs for dryland restoration at regional and national level in line with LDN targets, Bonn Challenge pledges, existing regional commitments and other agreed targets, through the development of a dryland restoration action plan aligned with established regional and national commitments, and documentation of the Transformative Programme proposal and its presentation to development partners and investors.

4) Building and supporting the implementation of Government commitments to dryland restoration that will lead to improved management practices and restoration.

6. FAO, IUCN, and WOCAT will coordinate all efforts to implement the project's components, ensuring leveraging and alignment with each others relevant ongoing initiatives and also that all deadlines are achieved in a timely manner.

7. FAO and the project partners will collaborate with the implementing agencies of other programs and projects to identify opportunities and facilitate synergies with other relevant GEF projects, as well as projects supported by other donors, and with private sector initiatives. This collaboration will include: (i) informal communications between GEF agencies and other partners in implementing programs and projects; and (ii) exchange of information and outreach materials betw.

8. The project organizational structure is as follows:


PROGRAM TASK FORCE
• FAO, IUCN, WB, WWF, WOCAT
• UNCCD GM and STAP (technical observers/advisers)
• Global Project Coordinator (secretary)
GLOBAL COORDINATION PROJECT (FAO, IUCN, WOCAT)
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT UNIT (FAO)
Component 1: Programmatic prioritisation and coordination
Component 2: System-wide capacity development, knowledge management, , stakeholder engagement and outreach
Component 3: Programmatic monitoring and adaptive management
Programmatic value added (project effectiveness and cumulative impact)
Knowledge exchange and inputs, programmatic M&E and adaptive management
COUNTRY CHILD PROJECTS
PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEES
Project Management Units (FAO, WB, IUCN, WWF)
Child project Component 1: Creating country-specific conditions for innovative and integrated approaches to dryland management
Child project Component 2: Creating country-specific conditions and capacities for scaling-up
Component 3: Project-specific knowledge management, outreach and M&E

9. A Program Task Force (PTF) will be established and chaired by the designated Budget Holder in FAO for the Global Coordination Project. It will be comprised of one representative each from the FAO-COFO Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems, IUCN, The World Bank, WWF, and WOCAT. The UNCCD Global Mechanism and GEF-STAP will be invited to participate as ex-officio members. The members of the PTF will each assure the role of Focal Point for the project in their respective agencies. As Focal Points in their agency, the concerned PTF members will (i) technically oversee activities in their sector, (ii) ensure a fluid two-way exchange of information and knowledge between their agency and the project, (iii) facilitate coordination and links between the project activities and the work plan of their agency, and (iv) facilitate the provision of co-financing to the project wherever possible.

10. The Global Project Coordinator (see below) will be the Secretary to the PTF. The Program Task Force will meet at least once per year in person (virtually if necessary) and will meet with greater frequency as required, to ensure: i) Oversight and assurance of technical quality of outputs across the Program; ii) Close linkages between the project and other ongoing projects and programmes relevant to the project; iii) Timely availability and effectiveness of co-financing support; iv) Sustainability of key project outcomes, including up-scaling and replication; v) Effective coordination of government partner engagement under this project and across the country investments; vi) Approval of the Financial Reports, the Annual Work Plan and Budget; vii) Making consensus-based management decisions when guidance is required by the Global Project Coordinator.

11. A Program Management Unit (PMU) will established within FAO to support the PTF. The main functions of the PMU, following the guidelines of the Program Task Force, are to ensure overall efficient management, coordination, implementation and monitoring of the project through the effective implementation of the annual work plans and budgets (AWP/Bs). The PMU will be composed of a Global Project Coordinator who will work full-time for the project lifetime. In addition, the PMU will include a training and capacity building expert, a knowledge management and M&E expert, a private sector engagement and value chain expert, a communications expert, and an operations expert. The PMU will be closely supported by the Lead Technical Officers (LTOs) for the Global Coordination Project, with contributions from regional stakeholder engagement specialists. The team of Lead Technical Officers will be drawn from the Natural Resources and Sustainable Production Stream within FAO, specifically from Foresty (NFO), Plant Production and Protection (NSP) and Land and Water (NSL).

12. The Global Project Coordinator will be in charge of daily implementation, management, administration and technical supervision of the project, within the framework delineated by the PTF. S/he will be responsible, among others, for: i) coordination with relevant initiatives; ii) ensuring a high level of collaboration among participating institutions and organizations at international level; iii) coordination between individual country projects; iv) tracking the Program's progress and ensuring timely delivery of outputs within the GCP; v) monitoring, providing technical support and assessing the quality of products generated in the implementation of the GCP, including products and activities carried out by project consultants; vi) monitoring financial resources and accounting to ensure accuracy and reliability of financial reports; ix) implementing and managing the project's monitoring and communications plans; x) organizing annual project workshops and meetings to monitor progress and preparing the Annual Budget and Work Plan; xi) submitting the six-monthly Project Progress Reports (PPRs) with the AWP/B to the PTF and FAO; xii) preparing the first draft of the Project Implementation Review (PIR); xii) supporting the organization of the mid-term and final evaluations in close coordination with the FAO Budget Holder and the FAO Independent Office of Evaluation (OED); xiii) inform the PTF and FAO Budget Holder of any delays and difficulties as they arise during the implementation to ensure timely corrective measure and support. FAO will support the Global Project Coordinator, as needed, including through annual supervision missions.

13. Overall quality and fudicary assurance will be provided by the Director, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity, ad Environment, FAO (Budget Holder), with technical support provided by the Department of Operations, FAO.

6.b Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

14. The GCP will play an important role in supporting coordination among GEF projects and programmes at different levels:

- Among the IP child projects, especially within each target region (South/Central Africa, East Africa, West Africa and Central Asia).
- Between the IP child projects and other GEF-funded projects within the participating countries
- Between the IP child projects and GEF-funded projects in neighbouring, non-IP countries themselves
- With projects in the Food System, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) IP, especially within each target region (Kazakhstan, Kenya and Tanzania each have DSL projects and FOLUR projects approved, while DSL scaling-out countries that also have FOLUR projects approved include Uganda, Ethiopia and Uzbekistan).

15. This coordination support will be of fundamental importance in permitting flows of knowledge and best practices among child projects and between child and non-IP projects. Coordination with non-IP projects will also contribute to the IP objective of scaling-out impacts beyond the boundaries of the child projects themselves, to national and regional levels.

16. Examples of non-IP projects in IP participating countries, with which coordination has been agreed with host Governments during PPG, include:

- The GEF-6 UNDP project “Namibia Integrated Landscape Approach for enhancing Livelihoods and Environmental Governance to eradicate poverty (NILALEG)”[1]
- The GEF-6 UNEP project “Supporting the implementation of integrated ecosystem management approach for landscape restoration and biodiversity conservation in Tanzania”[2]

17. Examples of GEF-funded projects in neighbouring, non-IP countries, with which collaboration has already been discussed with host Governments of both the IP and the non-IP countries, include the FAO LDCF project “Climate Change Adaptation in Forest and Agricultural Mosaic Landscapes” (currently under formulation) and the GEF-7 UNEP project “Ecosystem conservation and community livelihood enhancement in North Western Zambia”.

18. Additional projects with which child projects will coordinate are identified in their respective Child Project Documents.

19. At regional level, the principal mechanism for supporting coordination among projects (IP and non-IP) will be the Regional Exchange Mechanisms (REMs). The approaches of the GCP and the REMs to supporting coordination among projects are described under Output 1.1.2 above; and approaches for knowledge exchange among projects under Output 2.2.2.

20. At global level, coordination between the DSL and FOLUR Impact Programs will be facilitated by the fact that the coordination team members within the Program Management Unit for the DSL GCP, based in FAO headquarters, will also form part of the coordination team for FAO's contribution to the FOLUR Global Platform, led by the World Bank.

21. In addition the GCP will coordinate with the following GEF-funded regional and global initiatives in which FAO is playing a role or leading:

- The **IFAD Food Security Integrated Approach Pilot Program (IAP)**[3]: the geographical coverage of the IAP, including the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, East African Highlands and Southern Africa, coincides with the coverage of the Drylands IP in Africa. The IAP is supported by a "Cross-cutting capacity building, knowledge services and coordination project" (GEF project 9140): lessons with the programmatic approach of the IAP are built into the design of the Dryland IP and the GCP, and throughout the program/project implementation period the IP GCP will continue to be facilitate the sharing of lessons..

- The **Restoration Initiative (TRI)**[4], a programmatic initiative covering Cameroon, CAR, China, DRC, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sao Tome & Principe and Tanzania, led by IUCN in collaboration with FAO and UNEP. Although one two of the RI countries (Kenya and Tanzania) coincide with Drylands IP countries, there is much potential for restoration activities in the IP child projects to capitalize on lessons learned through TRI.

- **GEF Regional Project 9094 "Integrated natural resources management in drought-prone and salt-affected agricultural production landscapes in Central Asia and Turkey ('CACILM2')**[5], led by FAO and covering Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Turkey. There is the potential to share lessons on dryland management in Central Asia between the countries participating in CACILM2 and the projects in Central Asia (Kazakhstan and Mongolia) participating in the Drylands IP.

22. The GCP will in addition take advantage of a range of other mechanisms and initiatives in each of the target regions, including the following:

- The **Great Green Wall Initiative** is Africa's flagship initiative to combat the effects of desertification. Led by the African Union, the initiative was established with the aim of transformimg the lives of millions of people by creating a mosaic of green and productive landscapes across North Africa. In addition to the African Union, GGW partner organisations include the GEF, FAO, the European Union, UNCCD, the French Government, IUCN, Kew Royal Botanic Gardens, the Sahara and Sahel Observatory and the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS).The GGWI was originally limited to North Africa (the Sahara and the Sahel), but it has now been extended to include 15 SADC member states in Southern Africa. It therefore now includes all of the Miombo countries that are participating in the DSL IP, in addition to Burkina Faso which was the only IP country originally included. The corresponding GGWI strategy (in which the GEF-7 DSL IP with relevance to the Miombo ecosystem is mentioned) was adopted at ministerial level at the end of 2019. The DSL IP (through the Southern Africa REM) will leverage on lesson learnt through the Action Against Desertification flagship program, and on SADC as a political and advocacy platform; interventions will also be closely aligned with and complement the existing efforts by the Sub Regional Strategy to Combat desertification (SRAP).

- The **Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS)**[6] is an international, intergovernmental organization with an African vocation based in Tunisia. OSS initiates & facilitates partnerships around common challenges related to shared water resources management, implementation of international agreements on desertification, biodiversity and climate change in the Sahara and Sahel region. The IP will coordinate with the OSS on technical studies and knowledge management on conditions and common challenges across Sahel countries.

- The **Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)**[7] has the objective of investing in research on food security and the combat of the effects of drought and desertification, through the formulation, analysis, coordination and harmonization of strategies and policies; the strengthening of scientific and technical cooperation; collection, management and dissemination of information; strengthening of different actors, including the private sector; capitalization and dissemination of experiences and lessons learned; and support to the implementation of strategies, policies and programmes.

- The **West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL)**[8] is a large-scale research-focused and capacity building Climate Service Centre designed to help tackle the climate change challenge by enhancing the resilience of human and environmental systems to climate change and increased variability. This is made possible through the strengthening of the research infrastructure and capacity in West Africa related to climate change and by pooling the expertise of West African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sénégal and Togo).

- The **Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management (SASCCAL)**[9] Is a joint initiative of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, and Germany in response to the challenges of global change. Its objectives are to to conduct research in adaptation to climate change and sustainable land management; to provide products, services and information for decision-making; and to contribute to the creation of a knowledge-based society through academic and non-academic capacity development programmes.

- The **Miombo Network** is a regional partnership on collaborative land monitoring and management, dedicated to providing scientific information and policy guidance for a better future of the Miombo forests across their range countries. It conducts research and policy analysis aiming at improving the benefits and human livelihoods from miombo forest ecosystem. Members include Eduardo Mondlane University, the Global Observation of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics (GOFC-GOLD), IUCN, the Program on Forests (PROFOR), the Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training (START) and the World Bank.

- The **Central Asian Regional Information Network (CARIN)** covers 5 countries of Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) and 3 countries of the South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia). Of these, only Kazakhstan is a participating country in the Drylands IP, but CARIN provides a potential mechanism for knowledge exchange with other Central Asian CARIN countries.

- The **World Bank Central Asia Knowledge Network program**, launched as part of the Central Asia Water & Energy Program (CAWEP), seeks to stimulate cooperation and knowledge exchange among local and regional institutions and practitioners in the area of water resource management, energy, and climate change. Regional networks and communities of practice have been established, and institutions equipped with cutting-edge knowledge and skills to build the capacity of government officials and other professionals. Related initiatives with further potential for collaboration include the Academic Network in Central Asia (which brings together representatives from 26 regional universities), and the Regional Cross-Sectoral Working Group in Kazakhstan.

- The **Central Asia Regional Environmetal Cooperation Program (CAREC)** is a program established in 1997 by the Asian Development Bank to encourage economic cooperation among countries in the Central Asian region. In the area of agriculture and water, CAREC will use its honest broker role to promote dialogue on water management issues. Irrigation and efficient agriculture development, improved management of river flows to reduce flood risk, and addressing water contamination are some "early harvest" areas for potential support. Moreover, assistance could also be provided in basin water management, particularly in transboundary areas.

- The UNCCD/CAREC initiative on **Regional approaches to combat drought, sand and dust storms in Central Asia[10]**. This will focus on supporting the Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in developing and implementing risk reduction strategies for sand ans dust storms (SDS) and drought at national and regional levels, while mobilizing experts, partnerships and resources. This will facilitate a multi-stakeholder coordination processes including government agencies, academia, practitioners and local communities.

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[1]https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/project_documents/PIMS_5640___Namibia_MFA___NILALEG___PIF_rev_October_version_FINAL_for_resubmission_to_GEFSEC_with_tick_boxes_26Oct2017.pdf

[2]https://www.thegef.org/project/supporting-implementation-integrated-ecosystem-management-approach-landscape-restoration-and

[3]https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/project_documents/03-9-17_Porject_Document_PAD_Clean1_0.pdf

[4] https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/project_documents/04-27-18_PFD_Request_Document_revised_GEB_targets_0.pdf

[5] https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/project_documents/2-24-17_-_CEO_Endo_Request.pdf

[6] http://www.oss-online.org/en

[7] https://www.cilss.int/index.php/mandat-du-cilss/

[8] https://wascal.org/about-wascal/

[9] http://www.sasscal.org/

[10] https://www.unccd.int/conventionregions/regional-approaches-combat-drought-sand-and-dust-storms-central-asia

7. Consistency with National Priorities

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

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

Consistency with National Priorities.

1. The consistency of the child projects supported by the GCP with the national strategies, plans or reports, and assessments under relevant conventions, is summarized in Annex N.

8. Knowledge Management

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

192. In line with GEF Knowledge Management Guidelines , a key function of the GCP will be comprehensive knowledge management (KM) strategy and approach across the IP. The rationale is based on the need for shared and collaborative learning, improved strategies and tools for adaptive management, and ongoing innovation in SLM/SFM practices in dryland landscapes. Each country project will have its own systems for monitoring and knowledge management, however these will be designed and developed in conjunction with the GCP. This “co-design” process will ensure the programmatic vision required for the realization of the value-added potential from a comprehensive knowledge management approach across the IP – and scaling out to other countries. With regard to the knowledge strategy, the child projects and the GCP will work together and be implemented in a collaborative fashion based on individual child project knowledge management strategies, taking advantage of the additional resources available to both the child projects and the GCP as a result of the IP incentive, to ensure the best possible generation and leveraging of knowledge resources at all levels across the Program.

193. The KM strategy will be implemented as a collaborative initiative bridging countries as well as outcomes in key sectors, and will build upon and integrate existing knowledge platforms related to the sustainable management and restoration of dryland landscapes. This effort will support the application of successful approaches to integrated landscape management (ILM) across countries within the Program, along with the development of new knowledge products for practitioners and strategic communication material for policy and decision makers. A key aspect of the DSL IP knowledge strategy is systematically documenting good practices and lessons learned, leveraging existing platforms and communities of practice.

194. With support from the GCP, country project investments will be linked to regional and global knowledge hubs such as the Global Landscapes Forum, the Global Soil Partnership, and the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT) among others. Lessons learned through these projects will be transferred and codified, and contribute to national, regional and global knowledge hubs so that they contribute to the global resource of knowledge on best practices, and disseminated to

stakeholders both within and beyond the target areas and countries. Under this component, the GCP will also coordinate training and technical assistance to national project implementation teams and stakeholders at national and regional levels.

195. The KM Strategy will prioritize showcasing and upscaling successful strategies, best practices for enhancing the engagement of women and particularly vulnerable groups and resources within child projects, ensuring further uptake by national project implementation teams and stakeholders at national and regional levels on successful approaches. Examples of the successful integration of gender equality and women's empowerment by demonstrating the necessity and benefits of incorporating a gender-sensitive approach will be consolidated. This will involve the collection of experiences, opportunities and challenges and bringing the interface of gender and landscape restoration as a national and global community of practice closer, rooted in the experience and expertise of partners in civil society, multilateral organizations, research community and the private sector – all working in different ways to enhance gender-responsiveness within restoration efforts, value chain development, and investments in sustainable production practices.

196. The GCP will be leveraging the efforts of the FAO South-South and Triangular Cooperation Division in promoting a systematic learning approach to document and disseminate knowledge resources through the initiative called "Making every voice count for adaptive management". The initiative proposed the KM strategy based on the knowledge management cycle. It uses a variety of communication tools, focusing on a participatory video approach as an interactive platform that supports networking and knowledge generation, and in later stages documenting and disseminating knowledge assets and lessons learned – especially those identified by the local communities and stakeholders at landscape level. The baseline documentation was produced in the form of participatory videos and the GCP will be selecting the practical knowledge and challenges to be discussed at the regional and global level. It will also contribute, at a later stage, to disseminate these practices through different networks, including the COFO Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems. The goal is to create a bridge between other teams and initiatives and work beyond the 11 countries involved in this program.

197. Key activities will include:

- Development of a contextualized good practices and lessons learned methodology aiming to harmonize the knowledge management efforts across all child projects as well as linking country efforts to the regional and global level through the GCP.
- Deployment of innovative spatial data assessment tools to support partners in monitoring and co-production of knowledge with local stakeholders;
- A stocktaking of existing knowledge products (including tools and approaches) supporting integrated management of dryland landscapes and seascapes, including related best practices;
- Development and testing of a web-based platform on integrated approaches to dryland landscape management and restoration, best practices, guidelines, tools, and methodologies to support program implementation and host new innovations and experience emerging from the Program (this will be subject to consultative assessments of how such a platform might complement other, existing platforms, as against the alternative of enriching and enhancing such platforms, and strategies for ensuring the post-project sustainability of platforms) including the UN DECADE for Ecosystem Restoration Platform on good practices;
- Preparation of strategic communication policy briefs for senior managers and decision makers on Program implementation;
- Highlighting of the work of the Dryland Sustainable Landscapes Program within key communities of practice, such as the Global Landscapes Forum;
- Facilitation of interactive learning events, including the sharing of results and lessons learned, for example at UNCCD CRICs and COPs.

198. The expected outcomes from this effort will be strengthened capacity amongst institutions and other stakeholders in monitoring and assessment of the resilience of dryland landscapes, improving the evidence base for the deployment of best practices, and facilitating Program-wide learning, reporting and adaptive management.

199. The KM Strategy will prioritize showcasing and upscaling successful strategies and best practices for enhancing the engagement of women and particularly vulnerable groups and resources within child projects, ensuring further uptake by national project implementation teams and stakeholders at national and regional levels on successful approaches. This will involve the collection of experiences, opportunities and challenges and bringing the interface of gender and landscape restoration as a national and global community of practice closer, rooted in the experience and expertise of partners in civil society, multilateral organizations, the research community and also the private sector – all working in different ways to enhance the gender-responsiveness of investments under the Program.

200. The KM Strategy will similarly provide for showcasing experiences of private sector engagement of relevance to dryland management, at different levels ranging from private sector involvement at farm level in input supply and enhancement of the capacities of farmers and farmer organizations for sustainable production, through the co-development of inclusive green value chains, to participation by the private sector, alongside others, in landscape- and sector-wide policy and planning platforms.

201. There are numerous knowledge-related gender gaps that the global project can contribute to closing. There are also serious data gaps in the gender-environment nexus in most countries. Some of the types of gender-transformative activities for the global and child projects to consider supporting include, for example:

- Documenting success stories/applications/benefits including the documentation of change during the project period: costs of existing opportunities from (alternative) sustainable livelihoods and income-generation opportunities such as conservation, rehabilitation and restoration actions for women
- Gender-sensitive value chain assessments that analyze each node of the commodity value chain and the relationships between the actors in and between the nodes, in line with existing FAO guidance.
- Development and dissemination of gender- and age-appropriate training and communication materials, including those that increase awareness of the roles of women and men in the sustainable management and use of natural resources (participatory approaches)
- Integrate exisitng labour and time- saving technologies an co-design, develop and test furter tools
- Gender-focused learning (‘good practice’) workshops embedded in the IP’sregional and global events
- Assessment of innovations in packaging/presentation of knowledge products to reach less empowered groups

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

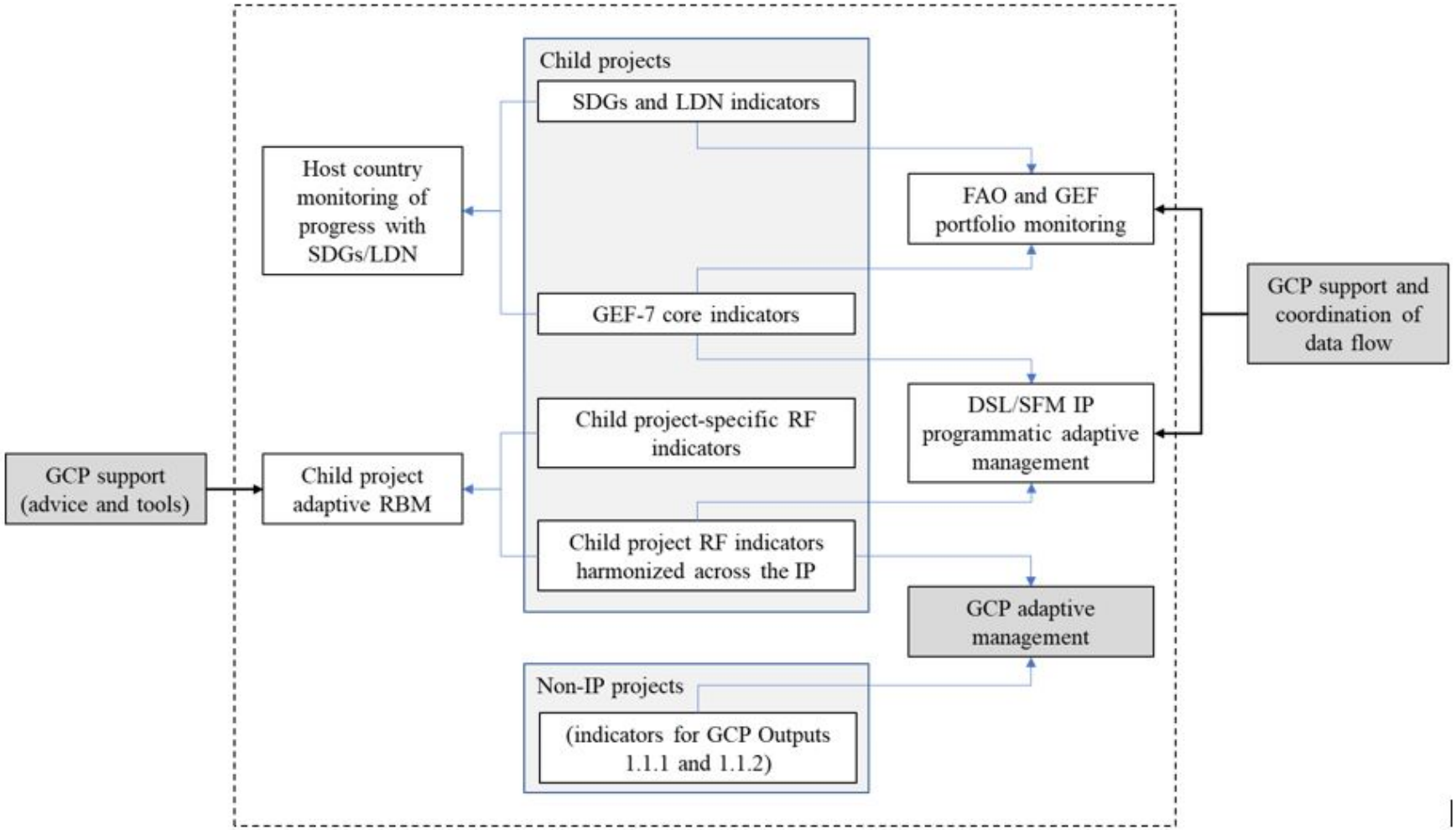
1. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) in the Impact Program will occur at a number of levels. The indicators to be measured at each level will be as follows:

Table 1. Levels of indicators and adaptive management in the Impact Program

Level at which measured	Type of indicator	Where stated	Utility
Child projects	Child project-specific outcome- and output-level indicators	Child project results frameworks (RFs)	- Monitoring and adaptive management of child projects
	Child project outcome- and output-level indicators harmonized across the IP		- Monitoring and adaptive management of child projects - **Monitoring and adaptive management of the GCP**

Level at which measured	Type of indicator	Where stated	Utility
	GEF-7 Core Indicators	Child project GEF-7 Core Indicator tables (linked to and harmonized with RF indicators)	- Host country monitoring of contributions to national commitments to SDGs and LDN - **Monitoring by GCP of the overall effectiveness of the DSL IP** - Monitoring by FAO and GEF of overall portfolio effectiveness
	- Sustainable Development Goals - LDN Indicators	Directly related to child project RF indicators and/or GEF-7 Core Indicators	
Non-IP countries	Indicators for GCP Outputs 1.1.1 and 1.1.2	GCP results framework	- **Monitoring and adaptive management of the GCP** - **Monitoring by GCP of the overall effectiveness of the DSL IP**

Figure 9. Levels of monitoring and adaptive management



1. The GCP indicators to be measured through the M&E system are set out in the Results Framework (Annex A1). In addition, the GCP will support the effective, relevant, consistent and (where necessary) harmonized application of M&E systems by each of the IP child projects.

2. Coordination of the monitoring of GCP indicators, and the management of the results, will be under the lead responsibility of a dedicated full-time M&E specialist in the central GCP Coordination Office. Additional responsibilities will be supported by support from the dedicated global project coordination team on knowledge management (KM), capacity development (CD) and stakeholder engagement (SE).

Table 1. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Project Outcome/Output	Indicator	Sources of verification	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Budget source
Outcome 1.1: Child project investments are prioritised, targeted and coordinated to maximise effectiveness, realise the potential for synergies, and address transboundary issues	Number of child projects that have considered, and where appropriate reflected, transboundary issues and potential for synergies in their investments	Review of PIRs and annual work plans and budgets, GCP and LTO oversight visits	Annual	GCP M&E specialist	GCP M&E specialist salary and information management support costs
		Child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	Child project M&E officers	Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs
Output 1.1.1 Strategy documents defining objective, evidence-based regional and global priorities for investments in sustainable dryland management	Number of IP and non-IP countries covered by prioritization/strategy documents	Review of prioritization/ strategy documents, GCP and LTO oversight visits	Annual	GCP M&E specialist	GCP M&E specialist salary and information management support costs
		Child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	Child project M&E officers	Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs
Output 1.1.2 Mechanisms for transboundary coordination of approaches and investments in sustainable dryland management	Number of IP and non-IP countries included in mechanisms for transboundary coordination	Review of prioritization/ strategy documents, GCP and LTO oversight visits	Annual	GCP M&E specialist	GCP KM specialist salary and information management support costs
		Child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	Child project M&E officers	Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs
	Number/identity of regional and global policy/dialogue platforms with which the GCP and child projects is engaged	Enquiries to representatives of platforms	Annual	GCP M&E specialist	GCP KM specialist salary and information management support costs
Outcome 2.1 Child projects are at the forefront of global best practice to maximize enduring, replicable results at scale to avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation	Number of child projects applying knowledge inputs on best practices, supported by the GCP, in their operations	GCP and LTO oversight visits, child project reporting instruments to GCP, participatory videos produced by target groups in target landscapes	Six-monthly	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist, child project M&E officers	GCP CD/KM/SE specialist salary and information management support costs Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs – software cost

Project Outcome/Output	Indicator	Sources of verification	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Budget source
Output 2.1.1 Knowledge inputs provided to child projects	Number of child projects receiving knowledge inputs responding to their expressed needs, by frequency of input	GCP and LTO oversight visits, child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist, child project M&E officers	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist salary and information management support costs Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs
Output 2.1.2 Capacity development program for national and regional actors	% of requests from IP countries for capacity development support by the GCP that have been satisfied	Training records of GCP, participatory videos, child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist, child project M&E officers	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist salary and information management support costs Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs
Outcome 2.2 The program and its child projects contribute to local, regional and global stores of knowledge	Number/identity of local, regional and global knowledge hubs incorporating and sharing knowledge inputs received from child projects	Questionnaires directed at knowledge hubs	Annual	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist salary and information management support costs
Output 2.2.1 Harmonised methodological guidance for knowledge collation and management by child projects	Number of child projects collating and managing knowledge in accordance with guidance	GCP and LTO oversight visits, child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist, child project M&E officers	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist salary and information management support costs Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs
Output 2.2.2 System for feeding knowledge and results generated by the project into regional and global knowledge hubs	Number of child projects feeding knowledge and results into knowledge hubs, by frequency of input	GCP and LTO oversight visits, child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist, child project M&E officers	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist salary and information management support costs Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs
Outcome 2.3 Stakeholders at national, regional and global levels are effectively engaged and informed regarding the project and the models of sustainable dryland management, stimulating active participation and scaling up	Numbers/identities of entities at national, regional and global levels receiving communications of experiences and models from child projects	Questionnaires directed at national, regional and global entities, child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist salary and information management support costs

Project Outcome/Output	Indicator	Sources of verification	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Budget source
Output 2.3.1 Guidance for stakeholder engagement, consistent and branded outreach and results communication by child projects	Number of child projects carrying out consistent and branded outreach and results communication in accordance with guidance	Child project reporting instruments to GCP, review of outreach and communication products	Six-monthly	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist, child project M&E officers	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist salary and information management support costs Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs
Output 2.3.2: Direct outreach by the GCP	% of issues and target countries (IP and non IP) identified in the GCP outreach strategy on which the GCP has carried out direct outreach in accordance with the outreach strategy	Review of GCP outreach and communication products	Six-monthly	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist	GCP KM/CD/SE specialist salary and information management support costs
Outcome 3.1: The program and its child projects are subject to adaptive management, responding effectively to lessons learned and evolving conditions in order to maintain relevance and ensure sustainability	Number of child projects whose strategic directions and annual work plans and budgets consider, and where necessary respond to, the results of M&E across the IP (or their respective IP region) as a whole	Review of PIRs and annual work plans and budgets, GCP and LTO oversight visits	Annual	GCP KM specialist	GCP KM specialist salary and information management support costs
		Child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	Child project M&E officers	Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs
Output 3.1.1: Programmatic M&E system incorporating child project M&E results and program-level indicators, guiding adaptive program management and reporting program-wide contributions to GEF-7 core indicators and SDGs	Number of child projects from which the GCP is consistently incorporating M&E results	Review of GCP programmatic M&E system	Six-monthly	GCP M&E specialist	GCP M&E specialist salary and information management support costs
Output 3.1.2: Harmonised methodological guidance and standards for child project M&E systems	Number of child projects applying harmonized methodological guidance and standards in M&E systems	Review of PIRs, GCP and LTO oversight visits	Annual	GCP M&E specialist	GCP M&E specialist salary and information management support costs
		Child project reporting instruments to GCP	Six-monthly	Child project M&E officers	Child project M&E officer salaries and information support costs

10. Benefits

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

1. As is the case with global environmental benefits and gender, the GCP will serve to amplify the delivery of socioeconomic benefits by the child projects that constitute the programme through:

- The coordination of efforts among projects and partipating countries in order to realize the potential for synergies, and avoid duplication, conflicts or impact leakages.

- Facilitate participating countries' access to knowledge and technical assistance, and the exchange of knowledge among countries (IP and non-IP) on options for reconciling the delivery of global environmental benefits with socioeconomic benefits (including win-win options where the socioeconomic benefits actively support the achievement of GEBs, and vice versa).

- Facilitating access to policy support through COFO WG on Dryland and UNCCD.

11. Livelihoods, Employment, and responding to the global health challenges.

1. The GCP will facilitate efforts by child projects, through technical assistance and knowledge resources, to improve their effectiveness in contributing to improved livelihoods, employment, and responding to health challenges such as COVID-19, HIV/AIDS and malaria. Issues of particular relevance in relation to the DSL IP include the following:

- Most poor people in drylands depend on agriculture, which is typically characterized by precarious and poorly-remunerated jobs.

- Degradation, desertification, and deforestation of land and ecosystems in drylands lead to increasing difficulties to produce and secure a dignified income from agricultural work.

- Youth in particular (especially young women) face additional disadvantages in accessing productive and gainful jobs, due to their limited access to productive resources, including land and credit, as well as markets and organizations. The impacts of climate and environmental change may affect access to decent jobs for youth, especially in the agriculture sectors where the great majority of jobs are water-dependent.

- Lack of jobs and deteriorating environmental conditions often result in youth migration. This is particularly true in drylands, where migration is closely linked to environmental stresses and is often used as a way to adapt to environmental and climate changes.

- Early removal from school to put children into child labour responds to a functional and economic dependency of farmers facing desertification and the loss of their resources. This situation can trap children and youth in a vicious cycle of hunger and poverty.

- At the time of submission, the response to the COVID-19 emergency in IP countries was in the process of being developed and implemented. The GCP will facilitate efforts of country projects to work with national government counterparts to ensure wherever possible that IP investments are supporting the resilience of food systems, value chains, and the employment associated with this.

2. Interventions under the IP, which will be supported by the GCP, recognise that revitalising rural economies and actively promoting productive employment and decent work in rural areas is crucial to improve food security and reduce inequalities and poverty while also promoting safe, regular and orderly migration for the development of rural areas. Decent jobs are opportunities for work that are productive, respect core labour standards, provide a fair income (whether through self-employment or wage labour) and ensure equal treatment for all: workers should be able to perform their tasks under safe and healthy conditions and have a voice in the workplace. Through the IP, the sustainable management and restoration of landscapes, and the improvement of natural resource management and rural livelihoods, could address some of the adverse drivers of migration by improving the well-being and resilience of local populations, especially youth. As noted above, this will also include facilitating the efforts of national government counterparts to respond to the COVID-19 crisis in their countries in ways which support collaboration between IP participants and outreach to neighboring countries.

3. The GCP will allow child projects to tap into the particular contributions that FAO is able to make in relation to decent rural employment. In order to provide specific guidance to help improve outcomes for livelihoods and employment through country project and GCP interventions, the Decent Rural Employment Toolbox has been designed to provide assistance to policy makers and planners, rural development practitioners and FAO staff at country level on how to systemize and scale up ongoing efforts to promote decent employment in rural areas***[1]***.

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[1] Specific guidance on how FAO can promote the Four Pillars of Decent Work in rural areas is provided in the Quick reference for addressing decent rural employment (as well as in the full corresponding Guidance document). For more information on FAO's work on decent rural employment and related guidance materials please consult the FAO thematic website at: http://www.fao.org/rural-employment/en/.

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

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

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
	Low		

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

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

This project will not have direct interaction with Component 1 or 2 implementation activities or stakeholders on the ground. These responsibilities will be managed directly by individual country projects. Environmental and social risks for the 11 country projects in this Program have been assessed on a national basis and contained in the respect project submissions. Given the number of country investments in the Southern Africa region, a regional climate risk assessment was undertaken. A summary of findings and measures to address these risks is attached.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
DSL IP Climate Risk Summary	**CEO Endorsement ESS**	

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

Reference to Project Document Annex A1 - pg. 75

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

Reference to Project Document Annex B - pg. 79

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

Reference to Project Document Annex C - pg. 99

ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)

Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)

Reference to Project Document Annex D (not applicable)

ANNEX E: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

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

Reference to Project Document Annex E - Please see Section 1b, pg. 52

ANNEX F: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Reference to Project Document Annex A2 - pg. 78